

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Int'l training
workshop on
Flood Warning &
Management

10

IEEE Student
Congress in
New Zealand

08



Meet the
Scientist:
Dr. Ishfaq Ahmad

12



Paragliding
Training Course

30

INSIDE

HIGHLIGHTS

PAGE 03

01

CO-CURRICULARS CORNER

PAGE 27

04

VISITS

PAGE 14

02

SPORTS NEWS

PAGE 31

05

UPDATES FROM SCHOOLS

PAGE 17

03

ACHIEVEMENTS

PAGE 33

06

EDITORIAL

The last quarter of 2011 has been rewarding for the entire NUST community: students continued bringing laurels to the University; graduates passed out in graceful convocation ceremonies; international conferences on emerging issues held; and linkages with the world's top-notch universities progressively flourished, needless to mention the unstinting support of NUST management and hard work of both faculty and students.

Though each and every endeavour at NUST reflects rational exuberance for making a difference, the successful culmination of first ever Prime Minister's Entrepreneurial Challenge in October was a great achievement. The event, to be held annually under the direct support of the government stakeholders including MoST and HEC, kindles hope for economic resurrection of the country through the promotion of entrepreneurial culture. At a time of sheer financial meltdown, NUST has been a vibrant force in pursuing HEC's vision of attaining prosperity through building knowledge-based economy; the initiative of business plan competition being a glaring example.

In keeping with the tradition of bringing you latest university news, this edition of NUSTNEWS covers a wide range of NUST activities undertaken by faculty, students and staff. I deem it appropriate to acknowledge here the efforts of our editorial staff, which leaves no stone unturned in preparing a comprehensive newsletter for all of our dear readers. I hope that you will continue giving us your invaluable suggestions. Wishing you an enjoyable reading and a Happy New Year.

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HIGHLIGHTS

01

NUST organizes Prime Minister's Entrepreneurial Challenge-2011 Fostering entrepreneurial culture farsighted strategy to boost national economy: PM

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani has stressed the need for promoting the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship, terming it a farsighted strategy to steer the country out of a myriad of current problems in general and the economic instability in particular.

The Prime Minister made these remarks as the chief guest in the closing ceremony of DISCOVER- Business Plan Competition held on Oct 17 at NUST main campus. Federal Minister for Science and Technology (MoST) Mir Changez Khan Jamali, Chairman HEC Dr. Javaid R. Laghari, and Secretary MoST Mr. Akhlaq Ahmad Tarar were also present at the occasion.

Spanning over a period of seven months, the business plan competition, named Prime Minister's Entrepreneurial Challenge, was participated by students from over 30 Pakistani universities. The competition was held under the auspices of Offices of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), headed by NUST Pro Rector Engr. Muhammad Mushtaq. A total of 250 teams, consisting of over 1200 students, took part in the mega event. Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani distributed cash prizes among 5 teams that made it to the final round of the competition. The top winning team received an amount of Rs. 0.5 million while the second and third runners-up teams received Rs 0.3 million and Rs 0.25 million respectively. The teams winning fourth and fifth places got Rs 0.1 million each as a token of appreciation.

While addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister lauded NUST for being one of the world's leading institutions, which excel in transferring advanced



scientific knowledge to the youth. He said that the successful culmination of the first-of-its-kind business plan competition at NUST is a milestone achievement, which holds promise for the national development.

"The future of a country depends a great deal on its young innovative minds. It is fortunate for a developing country like Pakistan to have this immense potential embedded in its youth. The incumbent government is fully aware of the utility of innovation and entrepreneurship in the economic development of the country and has, therefore, keenly taken initiatives towards achieving the desired goals," he said.

The Premier highlighted, "The primary focus of the government is on empowering the youth by creating job opportunities and also by allocating ample funds to improve the quality of education in the country." He maintained that the provision of microcredit and internship programmes for the educated youth are vital steps taken towards preparing them for unprecedented future challenges.

The Prime Minister fully endorsed the idea of Prime Minister's

Entrepreneurial Challenge, and appreciated NUST for its successful implementation. He said, "The event should be held annually with the full financial support of the government as the initiative augurs well for the future of the country." He urged the Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) to facilitate the conduct of this wonderful annual event in every possible way.

The Prime Minister extended his felicitations to Rector NUST Engr. Muhammad Asghar and his team for organizing a unique event which, he said, offered implementable business strategies and solutions.

Eulogizing the private sector for its wholehearted support to make the business plan competition a great success, the Premier said that this type of industry-academia linkage is very useful for rapid industrial growth. He said that such models are worth emulating for other institutions of higher learning in Pakistan. "We need to replicate this (model) at other institutions of higher learning as well. I would urge the academia alongside the industry to take a lead in improving the situation," the Prime Minister maintained.

In the end, the Prime Minister

emphasized that there should be a proper mechanism and conducive ecosystem to commercialize the university research. In order to provide venture capital support to NUST, the chief guest directed Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST), Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Information Technology and Higher Education Commission (HEC) to prepare a comprehensive plan and present it to him at the earliest.

Earlier, Rector NUST Engr. Muhammad Asghar thanked the Prime Minister for gracing the occasion as the chief guest. He said that it was a historic day for the promotion of innovation and entrepreneurship in the country. He thanked the Prime Minister for his kind support that helped translate the idea of business plan competition into

reality. The Rector acknowledged that the business plan contest was a great learning exercise for the participating students through coaching provided by volunteer mentors from the industry.

The Rector congratulated the winning teams and offered them free-of-cost housing at the NUST Technology Incubation Centre, where they could work on their respective business projects in a very conducive environment.



International Workshop on Technological Advances and Challenges in Water Reclamation & Reuse

‘Reuse water multiple times to address water woes’

In the wake of rapid urbanization and industrialization, pollution and scarcity of water resources are now becoming more serious concerns than ever. To increase sustainability, water must be used efficiently and multiple times by cascading from higher to lower quality needs. This emerging paradigm requires establishing autonomous and decentralized water recycling systems in which diverse water resources are created, conserved and utilized effectively.

This was the crux of a two-day International Workshop on Technological Advances & Challenges in Water Reclamation & Reuse concluded here at School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (SCEE-NUST) on Dec 9. Eminent scholars from within and outside the country attended the event.

Dr Samar Mubarakmand graced the occasion as the chief guest during the

inaugural session of the workshop. Addressing the gathering, he said that the population growth rate in Pakistan is very high, which has direct impact on the water sector for meeting the domestic, industrial and agricultural needs. He further said that industrial and domestic water occupying the major portion of total water demand could be provided by high grade reclaimed wastewater using advanced technology. It is essential, he maintained, that reclaimed water satisfies physical, chemical and microbiological quality relative to reuse type.

Earlier, Rector NUST in his remarks said that Pakistan is rapidly depleting its available water resources and is on the verge of becoming a water-scarce country. Untreated wastewaters from various industrial and domestic sources are not only contaminating open water bodies and groundwater

resources but also reducing the water availability. He added that it is imperative that we improve efficiency in meeting the challenges regarding water reclamation and its reuse.

Key resource person Prof. Roger Ben Aim, in his speech, was of the view that membrane processes are regarded as a positive advancement in wastewater treatment ensuring increased water reclamation and reuse. The main advantages of this technology are no chemical requirement, relatively low energy consumption and a lower footprint. Although its use has been increased in the recent past there is, however, a need to enhance the level of knowledge and expertise pertaining to the technology.

Among other prominent speakers were Professor C.Visvanathan, Dr. Parneet Paul, Dr. Nick Hankins and Dr. Sher Jamal Khan, Dr. Zahir-ud-Din Khan and Dr. Imran Hashmi.



NUST Conference on Application and Methods of Physics

Dr. Javaid Laghari urges application-based research

A two-day NUST Conference on Application and Methods of Physics was held at the main campus of NUST on Nov 21. The conference being the first to be held at the University was organised by Center for Advanced Mathematics and Physics (CAMP). The aim of the conference was to provide a forum where the new developments occurring in the domain of Physics could be discussed on regular basis.

The chief guest of the inaugural session, chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC) Dr Javaid R. Laghari, regarded the commencement of the conference a step forward towards the promotion of Physics in the country. He lauded the growth of NUST, saying that the University is playing a leading role towards the development of science and technology. He urged other universities to conduct application-based research following the route taken by NUST.

Earlier, Rector NUST Engr. Muhammad Asghar emphasized the importance of committed leadership and the involvement of scientists in policymaking at a broad level. He also elaborated on the rapid progress of NUST as an integrated research university. While thanking Dr. Laghari for gracing the occasion, the Rector appreciated his active role in setting high standards for higher education that NUST has successfully adopted. A number of renowned physicists from the country's leading universities

participated in the conference. It is pertinent to mention here that CAMP was established in 2004. The Centre is a relatively young institute. It started offering programmes of study in Physics in 2008. CAMP runs MPhil and PhD programmes in Mathematics and Physics as well as four-year BS programme in Mathematics. The centre contributes significantly to the research output of the university and provides much needed human resources in the essential fields of Mathematics and Physics.



China-Pakistan Cooperation Conference; Beijing

Economic prosperity linked to S&T uplift

With a view to enhancing cooperation between Pakistan and China by leveraging education, a daylong China-Pakistan Cooperation Conference was held on October 24 at Beijing. A high-profile NUST delegation, headed by Rector NUST Engr. Muhammad Asghar, attended the Conference. Tsinghua University International Centre for Communication, Tsinghua University Pakistan Centre for Culture and Communication Studies, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan's Embassy in China and China's Yunnan International Cultural Exchange Centre jointly hosted the event.

Top brains from NUST and Tsinghua University gathered at the occasion to devise strategies helpful in addressing issues concerning higher education in a broad framework.

The sessions, four in total, explored opportunities for extended bilateral cooperation towards the promotion of scientific education in particular, terming it indispensable for attaining economic prosperity.

In his opening remarks, Pakistan's Ambassador to China Mr. Masood Khan said that Pakistan-China relationship had been constantly renewed, revitalized and strengthened for the past 60 years. He recalled that during the visit of Premier Wen Jiabao to Pakistan, the two sides agreed to enhance cooperation in the areas of education, human resource

development, and science and technology. Talking about the energy cooperation between the two countries, Masood Khan said that top Chinese corporations have been investing in hydro, coal-fired, thermal, alternate and civil nuclear energy projects in Pakistan.

Rector NUST in his address stressed upon the need for leveraging education to deepen Sino-Pak strategic partnership. He said that Pakistan has a great potential for excelling in education, however it needs to reorient its academic programmes and teach Chinese history, culture and language. He asserted that NUST and Tsinghua University can lead the way in promoting long-term strategic cooperation between them. He also proposed to



initiate joint degree programmes with Tsinghua at MS and PhD levels and establish a Joint Sino-Pak Institute of Science and Technology.

Other NUST delegates including Dr. Akram Sheikh, Dr. Arshad Ali and Dr. Muhammad Bilal Khan also delivered thematic speeches on specified issues.

The Conference concluded on a goodwill note, urging NUST and Tsinghua University to proactively employ resources towards promoting education, which has the potential of sustaining close-knit ties between the two brotherly countries.

One-day Workshop on Young Researchers' Skill Development

Active role of youth in scientific research stressed

NUST Science Society hosted on Nov 26 another uniquely informative event namely "One- day Workshop on Young Researchers' Skill Development" with the support of Pakistan Science Foundation. Held at NUST main campus as a result of combined efforts of NUST Science Society and National Academy of Young Scientists (NAYS), the event was attended by a large number of renowned Pakistani scientists and young researchers.

The workshop was held in the NIT auditorium, with more than 300 participants coming all the way from around 40 universities. The chief guest for the event was Mr. Manzoor H. Soomro, Chairman Pakistan Science Foundation, while Pro Rector (RIC) graced the occasion as the guest of honour.

Facilitators for the workshop included Dr. Anwar Naseem (former Member Science (COMSTECH) and Patron of NAYS), Dr. N. M. Butt (former Chairman PSF), Dr. Asghari Maqsood (Professor Meritorious, NUST), Dr. Peter Bloodsworth (University of West England), Dr. Baseer Qazi (United Nations University, Netherlands), Dr. Javad Hasan (Shifa College Of Medicine), Dr. Ghulam Abbas (University Of Health Sciences), Adnan Shahid (CIO Ideogeny Consultants) and Aftab Ahmad (President NAYS).

The workshop started with the welcome remarks by President NUST Science Society Osama Hasan, which were followed by the address of Dr. Anwar Nasim. The great scientist highlighted the importance of youth's active

role in the field of scientific research. Pro Rector NUST shared the importance of research and research breeding commercialization to support the economic growth of country. "This program has brought young people and scholars together, and I hope it will continue to do so," shared the chief guest Chairman Science Foundation in his address. He also assured his full support both in his personal and official capacities.

The opening ceremony was followed by the panel discussion on "Funding Opportunities for Research". The panelists discussed the possible sources covering government, private and industrial support opportunities. Reference was made to organizations working in the Islamic Bloc and at international forums.

The workshop was aimed at guiding university students about prerequisites, methodologies and technical

aspects in acquiring a research degree. The students were trained in producing high quality research papers, poster presentation, effective communication and other methods of presenting their work in an effective way for better chances of getting research grants and admissions in universities overseas.

The workshop was a milestone in effectively training the student community about research and pursuing a research degree. In his concluding remarks, Dr. N M Butt said that the Pakistani youth needs to be motivated towards research and development, and this gathering was one of the platforms that promote this phenomenon.



TEDx held at SEECS

NUST became the first public sector university in the metropolitan city to host TEDx here at School of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science (SEECS) on Nov 25. NUST Entrepreneurship Club and the NUST blog iRnustian jointly organised the event.

TED stands for Technology, Entertainment and Design while 'x' implies an independently organised TED event. TED is a

global community that is driven by the power of sharing ideas. The programme is designed to give communities, organizations and individuals an opportunity to stimulate dialogue through TED-like experiences at local level.

Reputed speakers from Technology, Entertainment and Design were present at the conference and delivered motivating talks to an eager and packed audience. The

speakers notably included distinguished personalities like Adnan Shahid, Azhar Rizvi, Danial Shah, Farhana Azim, Masoora Ali, director/producer Shah Sharahbeel, Puruesh Chaudhry, fashion designer Yusuf Bashir Qureshi and Badar Khushnood. The speech by Yusuf Bashir was especially good with the message to live the life following one's dream. Shah Sharabeels's speech was inspiring with his vision of practicing unflinching idealism to correct our society. Adnan Shahid (electrical engineer from NUST) shared his passion for the proper recycling of electronic waste in Pakistan in

a brilliant and innovative way. An amazing performance by Rakae Jamil, the Sitar player from Coke Studio, left the audience mesmerized.

The event was also attended by prominent personalities from the blogging industry.

TEDx was a big success marked by an enthusiastic participation of individuals from all over Pakistan. The audience appreciated the occasion which provided them with a host of inspirational ideas. The event was also a big hit on the Internet with its live streaming and live blogging.



NUST team stand out in Global Entrepreneurship Summit

Syed Muhammad Bilal Khalid and Fahad Islam Tiwana, two students from NUST, have proven their mettle by winning laurels for the country at the Second Global Entrepreneurship Challenge, Istanbul held from 2nd to 6th December.

The Nustians received international acclaim by reaching the top three, presenting innovative business ideas, out of 25 competing teams from across the world. They were also the proud winners of the grand challenges - Discover: NUST Business Plan Competition and Lean Startup Machine Conference - previously held in Pakistan.

"We feel humbled and honoured at bringing glory to Pakistan and NUST at this international platform," said the youngsters from NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE). The 2nd Global Entrepreneurship Summit featured technology ideas competition titled "GIST Battle of Ideas World cup" organized jointly by US state department and CRDF Global. It selected the best technology and business ideas on the basis of innovation and feasibility. The selected ideas were then uploaded on the Internet for global voting.

The idea presented by these youngsters from NUST topped this round of the competition becoming the 20th most watched video on YouTube.

The NUST Civil Engineering students were invited to participate in the Global Summit under the theme "Entrepreneurship, Values and Development: A Global Agenda", hosted by Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan. As many as 275 Muslim entrepreneurs from 59 countries participated in the Summit. At the occasion, U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, Endeavor Co-founder and CEO Linda Rottenberg also delivered keynote addresses. The participants received rigorous trainings with speaker sessions and mentorship from MIT professors and venture capitalists from Silicon Valley.

The NUST team was among the eleven teams to be selected for the semifinals on Dec 04. The Nustians after facing a tough competition managed to reach the final round. Grand finale was held on the next day where the finalists pitched their ideas in front of an illustrious panel of eleven judges from around the world. They came with an amazing amount of energy, passion, and commitment to see their projects through. The youngsters received immense adulation and praise for making it to the winning stand with their idea falling among the best three.

They were also among the 2 teams who were sponsored by the US State Department for a trip to Silicon Valley, California to meet with venture capitalists and technology firms. In addition to it, they were awarded cash prize of USD 5000.



SMME awarded 'Academy Status'

In a graceful ceremony held at NUST on Nov 23, National Instruments Academy (USA) awarded 'Academy Status' to School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering. SMME was awarded this Status for conducting Training Programs on modern Data Acquisition Systems authorized by National Instruments (NI). NI is valued for its contribution of Hardware and Software development for scientific research and education worldwide. International Research through the art of data acquisition/interpretation and sensor technologies is essential for a better understanding of scientific problems.

SMME is a constituent school of NUST that started off with its engineering programs in mechanical and manufacturing technologies in 2009. SMME with its valuable faculty had set up a training lab for its students in the field of Measurements and Instrumentation. Efforts were being made to invite National Instruments to conduct trainings through its academy for Pakistan Region based on the available infrastructure and

training faculty. Only those academic institutions are eligible to become NI Academy who fulfil the hardware requirements and have certified faculty. SMME managed not only to establish necessary hardware and software support but had the privilege to host the program through an NI Certified Professional faculty member Dr. Riaz Ahmed Mufti fulfilling NI's requirement of a training academy. This training academy is the First in Pakistan and Fourth in the Asia Pacific/Gulf Region. SMME will now formally introduce approved courses in the area of LabView (NI Product), data acquisition system and signal processing for industry as well as research institutes.

The inaugural ceremony for this academy was held at the NUST Auditorium. The participants of the ceremony included Mr. Ellie Abu

Nasr (Regional Sales Manager, NI Arabia), Mr. Ahmed Bilal (Fields Application Engineer, NI Pakistan), officials from constituent schools/colleges of NUST and dignitaries from prestigious universities of the country with Rector NUST as the Chief Guest. Principal SMME, Dr. Abdul Ghafoor gave a brief presentation of the NI Academy at NUST with details of its program and infrastructure. Mr. Ahmed Bilal (NI) presented a short lecture on "the importance of NI Academy in regard to university education". The chief guest for the occasion Engr. Muhammad Asghar (Rector NUST) appreciated and supported SMME's initiative for collaborative research. Later on souvenirs were presented to NI officials by the chief guest. The ceremony was also attended by NUST students.



Students Participate in IEEE Student Congress in New Zealand

Maryam Syed, a student from SEECs along with other students from NUST got an opportunity to attend the IEEE Region 10 Congress which was held in Auckland, New Zealand on July 7-10. The theme of the congress this year was "Emerging Technologies".

"I learnt about the IEEE humanitarian initiatives globally and intend to initiate those activities using volunteers from our student branch at NUST", said Maryam confidently after coming back home. She was also appointed the ambassador of NUST-SEECs and IEEE Chapter Islamabad.

The Congress provided ample opportunities for networking amongst peers from a range of countries across the Asia Pacific Region. The event hosted a diverse array of speakers from all over the engineering discipline, Dr. Peter Staecker, BS EE MIT, MS PhD Polytech Brooklyn, Dustin Murdock, BE ME Wisc-Mad, Dr. David Budgett, BE Cant, PhD Lond just to mention a few. While their stay in New Zealand, the students took part in a wide range of activities relating to

their field of study including Professional Skills Workshops, Technological Seminars, Panel Discussions, Geographic Forums, Breakout Sessions and Leadership Development Seminars besides attending general lecture sessions on topics like Mechatronics, Power and Energy and Communications.

The congress gave the students an invaluable opportunity to learn and interact with IEEE office holders.

Later on this project will be further expanded by applying for HEC grant to support the research component at NUST side.



Second Annual HR Forum

The 2nd Annual HR Forum was organized by Information Liaison Office (ILO) at NUST. "Exceeding Employability Potential" was the main theme of the event held on Dec 1. The aim was to educate students, and help them attain skills that will help them exceed in all fields. The Forum was attended by final year students from NBS, SCEE, EME, SCME and MCS forming an audience of approximately 800 students.

Highly qualified and experienced HR Gurus from some of top companies in the world graced the event as speakers. Director HR Unilever Mr. Haroon Waheed, County GM Google Mr. Badar Khushnood, Director Organizational Excellence Telenor Mr. Shan Ul Haq, Head of Learning & Development and Recruitment ICI Pakistan Mr. Hassan Tariq and GM HR Engro Fertilizer Mr. Kanwer Anwer Saeed made the event a truly successful one. The forum was a

daylong event, where each speaker was given an hour to present on their respective topic. Each presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

The chief guest of the event was Commandant of EME College. He appreciated the efforts of NUST in holding such events.



Research facility named after Dr. Samar Mubarakmand

In recognition of Dr. Samar Mubarakmand's meritorious services as a nuclear scientist and to pay him tribute for his contributions to the national development, NUST named one of its state-of-the-art research facilities after the legendary scientist. The plaque unveiling ceremony of Samar Mubarakmand Research Institute for Microwave & Millimeter wave Studies (S M RIMMS) was held at the main campus of the University on Dec 1.

Speaking at the occasion, Dr Samar Mubarakmand extended his heartiest gratitude to Rector NUST Engr. Muhammad Asghar for conferring upon him this unique honour. The great scientist also lauded the role of NUST in fulfilling the scientific as well as research needs of the country.

The chief guest also touched upon the richness of natural resources in Pakistan. He maintained that there is no dearth of technical people in Pakistan, who are well-versed in scientific knowledge with the ability to exploit these resources for the prosperity and well-being of the people. He emphasized that engineers and other scientific people should come forward and play their due role in giving a boost to the national economy.

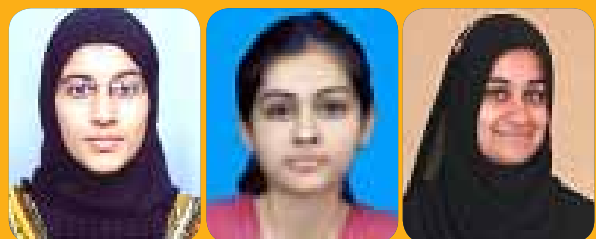
Earlier, Rector NUST Engr. Muhammad Asghar thanked the esteemed scientist for consenting to name the research facility after him. Counting the achievements of Dr. Samar

Mubarakmand as a great national hero, the Rector said the new generation ought to follow his footsteps and bring laurels to the country.

Engr. Muhammad Asghar also shed light on the importance of science and technology in the contemporary world. He said that Pakistan is facing grave challenges including financial constraints of unprecedented nature, which double the need of technical people to compete in the global scientific arena.

CPBC scholarships for NUST students

Three NUST undergraduate students of 2010 batch including Sadaf Basharat (NBS), Anam Zahid (SEECs) and Isra Mahmood (NCVI) have won the scholarship this year from Canada Pakistan Business Council (CPBC). CPBC announced to confer a scholarship of 25,000 USD on three distinguished NUST students for the complete duration of their respective Bachelor Programmes. Scholarship is awarded under Expatriate Pakistanis Talent Scholarship Programme to Undergraduate NUST students with a consistently extraordinary academic record for one academic year.



Strategic Strengthening of Flood Warning and Management Capacity of Pakistan NUST holds International Training Workshop for Stakeholders' Capacity Building

As a key component of the UNESCO Project: Strategic Strengthening of Flood Warning and Management Capacity of Pakistan, the first international training workshop for Stakeholders Capacity Building in Flood Warning and Management was held at NUST on Dec 20. NUST held the four-day event in collaboration with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA); Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD); Pakistan Space & Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) and other partner organisations. It is pertinent to mention here that the training workshop is a follow-up of the two previously held international workshops on flood management at NUST.

Mr. Hiroshi Oe, Japan Ambassador to Pakistan graced the occasion as the chief guest. Mr. Takatoshi Nishikata, Chief Representative Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Pakistan Office, was also present during the inaugural session of the workshop.

One of the key objectives of the workshop was to compile all the available Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) of various organisations, in the form of workshop workbook, for dissemination of warnings as well as for the management of floods. The workshop used three means: presentations, group discussions and group work, and visit to field to understand application of the concepts learnt during the workshop. The four-day workshop will have technical sessions on Setting the Scene for Flood Forecasting, Early Warning and Management; Tools for Forecasting and Managing Floods (GIS and Remote Sensing, Flood Early Warning System (FEWS), Integrated Flood Analysis System (IFAS), Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Guidelines for Managing Floods); Review and Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for Flood



Forecasting, Early Warning and Management.

The chief guest in his remarks termed the workshop an auspicious initiative. He said that Japan has always stood by Pakistan in difficult times. The flood of 2010 had played havoc in Pakistan and Japan government extended full support for relief and rehabilitation activities, he maintained.

The honourable chief guest was of the view that the training workshop on flood management would be very useful for policymakers, hydrologists and other stakeholders from Pakistan. He said the training, comprising different phases and spanning over a period of two years, would help devise strategies for flood defence in the country.

Earlier, Rector NUST Engr Muhammad Asghar thanked Japan's Ambassador to Pakistan for sparing some time out of his busy schedule to attend the workshop. He also welcomed other distinguished guests at the occasion. He said that the four-day event would prove to be a milestone towards developing an effective manual on flood management in Pakistan.

Among various foreign delegates, the representatives of all the stakeholder organizations like WAPDA, Federal Flood Commission, SUPARCO, Pakistan Meteorological Department, Provincial Irrigation & Power Departments, etc. participated in the workshop.

NUST Stall at QS Exhibition in Manila, Philippines

7th QS Asia Pacific Professional Leaders in Education (QS-APPLE) Conference and Exhibition were organized in Manila, Philippines from 16-18 November 2011 for international educators in Asia, Europe, America and Australia. The event was attended by 533 participants from 32 Countries. 30 universities from the Asia-Pacific and Middle East, including NUST had set up their stalls in the exhibition. The NUST stall was managed by Engr Salim Daud, Registrar, and Mr Sikandar Hazir, Manager Industrial Relations. NUST stall was visited by the Conference delegates and the local students from Manila. The visitors were provided



information about salient features and programs of NUST. Setting-up of the stall provided an opportunity to showcase NUST at the international level and to network with some leading universities of Asia.

Energy Crisis and NUST Solutions: A Technical Talk

A technical talk on 'Energy Crisis and NUST Solutions' was held at the School of Chemical and Materials Engineering on December 19. The event was organized by the NUST Science Society (NSS).

At the occasion, Dr. Mohammad Bilal Khan and Prof. Ahmed Sohail, two distinguished personalities in the field of Energy Systems, addressed the gathering on the current energy crisis prevailing in Pakistan and the possible solutions to counter this crisis.

Dr. Bilal Khan, Principal Centre for Energy Systems, talked on Pakistan's need to diversify its means of Energy Generation. He said that Pakistan's current energy crisis is not due to lack of resources but due to 'mismanagement, mishandling and lack of exploitation of resources' over the years. He stressed on Pakistan's need to reduce the burden on non-renewable sources, especially fossil fuel, and move towards the 'cleaner renewable sources of energy'. He discussed alternatives in the form of wind, solar, clean coal, micro hydel, run of the river hydel and even nano and thin film technologies.

Prof. Sohail, from National Solar Labs in Rawalpindi, stressed the need for conserving Natural Gas reserves in Pakistan for domestic use. He highlighted the need of making household applications more efficient and developing alternatives, like 'solar water heating systems'

for industrial usage.

It is worth mentioning here that the Centre is dedicated to supporting energy sector programs and projects. The objective of the Centre is to initiate and strengthen new energy related programs, especially at the national level. While maintaining close networking with relevant organizations in Pakistan, CES is also collaborating with its counterparts in other parts of the world including USA and universities in Canada, USA and South Africa.

Tech Talk is a regular feature of NUST Science Society, which provides a platform for discussion on new developments in Science and Technology. It provides a unique opportunity for the attendees to interact with scientists and engineers who have excelled in their respective fields.



Workshop on 'The Role of Assessment Teams'

Quality Assurance organized a one-day workshop on "Role of Assessment Teams", on 3rd Oct at NUST. The seminar was attended by the Directors of Local Quality Enhancement Cells (QECs) and the assessment teams from all the institutions of NUST hailing from Karachi, Risalpur, Rawalpindi and Islamabad.

Chief guest of the Opening Ceremony was Dr. Asif Raza, Pro-Rector (Academics) NUST. During his address, he emphasized on the importance of the self-assessment process and its need at NUST for quality assurance. The Chief Guest asked the participants for their full commitment

in implementation of the Quality Assurance (QA) process at NUST.

He urged the participants to adhere to the quality assurance programs to keep NUST improving its rank in the top universities of the world.

Engineer Muhammad Ismail, Director Quality Assurance NUST, was the resource person. He started with the recapitulation of Self Assessment Process and highlighted the roles of Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC), Program Team (PT) and Assessment Team (AT). He specially focused on the weaknesses usually found in

Self Assessment Report (SAR) and piloted three activities to make the assessment teams understand the whole process more effectively. These included Review of the SAR, Criteria Referenced (Rubric) Evaluation of SAR and Writing of Assessment Team Report by ATs. He emphasized upon the need for preparing the complete and comprehensive reports in accordance with the guidelines given in the HEC Self-Assessment Manual. The presentation was followed by an extended question and answer session.



Dr. Ishfaq Ahmad graces 'Meet the Scientist' programme



NUST was proud to welcome Pakistan's distinguished scientist, Dr. Ishfaq Ahmed on Dec 29 under the banner of the NUST Science Society's Meet the Scientist programme, an initiative taken by the university to encourage students to innovate, create and believe.

Stressing that the future of science in Pakistan, and around the world, 'rested in the hands of today's youth', he spoke of the passion and dedication to one's work. Dr. Ishfaq encouraged the students to pursue both 'practical and theoretical work' in their studies, emphasizing that it was only a mixture of both that led to a proper

understanding of the subject at hand. Being an esteemed scientist, and now Senior Advisor Planning Commission on Climate Change & Development, he spoke of his experience in studying nuclear particle and quantum electrodynamics of working with nuclear weapons research programs, his experience with the IAEA, and with the Planning Commission of Pakistan. An important issue he addressed was the stagnation of innovation in Pakistan. The development of nuclear technology was a landmark achievement in our history, one that was by no means easy. The level of hard work and determination that

went into that initial project was one that has rarely been seen in Pakistan since. It is just one example of what we can do if we put our hearts and minds to it. Too often, Pakistani youth are faced with stories of failure, or inability, and even of incompetence. Studying at NUST, the country's premier engineering university, each student must be aware of the immense potential they hold within themselves. There is a world of possibility. If necessity breeds invention, there is no lack of necessity here. Dr. Ishfaq further said that it is time that the youth took a serious stance on the role they play in this country. Not just to show up at political rallies, and drop some votes in a ballot box – but to supplement the weak infrastructure of the country. Innovations, patents, breakthroughs in technology – these are the things that build a country from the ground up.

Dr. Ishfaq congratulated the Rector, Engineer Mohammad Asghar, on putting the university on the path of success. The event was organized by NSS, while Ahmad Abdul Rauf was the event co-ordinator.

NUST awarded FM Radio Broadcast License

Dr. Asif Raza (Pro-Rector Academics), NUST on behalf of Rector NUST, received FM Radio Broadcast License from Dr. Abdul Jabbar Acting Chairman Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) in a simple ceremony at PEMRA head quarters on December 2011. This is the 28th non-commercial FM radio license by PEMRA to an educational institute with its frequency 100.4. Prof. Dr. Masrur Alam Khan HoD Mass Communication NBS, incharge NUST FM Radio and Mr. Mahmood Ali, Project Consultant FM Radio, were also present in the ceremony.

NUST FM Radio will prove to be another step ahead for PEMRA's mandate which aims to improve

standard of information, education and entertainment. Free flow of information will be ensured by NUST FM Radio as per PEMRA mandate.

Dr. Masrur stated that The NUST FM Radio will be starting its test-transmission in an estimated time of two to three months. The initiative of NUST Mass Communication Department to start an FM channel is a great step forward and will be another

milestone in the success of the department. The radio station will also play a great role in professional grooming of the students affiliated with the Department of Mass Communication. It will take no more than a few months to establish a successful and well-managed radio station and the city will soon be able to hear the voice of NUST.



Good Governance, Strategic Planning workshop for HoDs of NUST

“Universities in the knowledge-economy become the key player and NUST is fully prepared to play its leading role for the technological and socio-economic development of Pakistan” said Engr. Mohammad Asghar, Rector NUST at the inauguration of the 2-days workshop on Good Governance and Strategic Planning jointly organized by HEC and NUST on the 9th and 10th December 2011.

The workshop was arranged by the NUST Professional Development Center in cooperation with the Learning Innovation Division of HEC exclusively for the heads of NUST academic institutions and the management. Dr. Mary-Linda Armacost, an Adjunct Professor at the University of Pennsylvania USA and Senior Fellow of HEC conducted the Workshop while Dr. S. Mahmood Raza, VRF-NUST and former Adviser HEC served as the Coordinator. A total of 45 head of institutions including Commandants and Principals of 14 Colleges and Schools, Directors, Head of Departments and senior faculty participated in the two-day Workshop. The Workshop provided an opportunity to the participants to not only learn the theoretical and conceptual aspect of Good Governance and Strategic Planning but also to deliberate upon the NUST governance and planning practice and issues. There was a general consensus among the participants that NUST governance and planning strategy is fully cognizant of the challenges that the universities are facing all over the globe but much more is desired. The obvious impact of the Workshop is the resolve of the Participants to initiate a mechanism



of continued discussion forums at their respective institutes and to have regular internal performance reviews.

“It is a revolutionary step for the Management Cadre of universities for continuous capacity building and professional development through latest tools, techniques and international practices in university governance and leadership” said Engr. Mushtaq in the concluding session chaired by Dr. Akram Sheikh, Professor Emeritus NUST. The participants profusely thanked Dr. Armacost and Dr. Raza for conducting the Workshop which has given them new insight to further improve the existing system of governance and to have intense relook on the strategic planning of their respective departments. Dr. Akram Sheikh in his concluding address emphasized that the universities should prepare themselves for the new role as society and community builders and the faculty to champion the highest moral and ethical values to be role-model for the younger generation.

Establishment of Teaching Hospital & School of Health Sciences

The public hearing on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Review Process of NUST 500 Bed Teaching Hospital and School of Health Sciences was held at SCEE auditorium on Nov 2. Govt officials, general public and faculty, students of NUST participated in the event.

An all encompassing presentation was given by a consultant. He gave a brief introduction to the project, covering effect on environment and mitigation measures. This was followed by a question/answer session between the participants and presenters.

A number of stakeholders suggested measures to improve the environment were duly recorded by EPA team.



HR Dte organizes various training programmes

Being an integral part of NUST, the Human Resource Directorate progressively introduces/organizes various programmes towards promoting educational/developmental activities in the University.

The training programmes organized by the Directorate for faculty and other staff during the last three months included Orientation Training for New NG Staff, Training for Superintendents & Assistants (Module-3), Training for Accounts Officers, Workshop on “Good Governance & Strategic Planning” for Principals/ Deans/ HoDs and Orientation training for New Faculty.

During the period from October to December, the HR Directorate also explored 140 fully funded scholarships in the foreign reputed universities from several sources and disseminated the same to different schools/ colleges/ centres under Faculty Development Programme.

USAID delegation

A delegation comprising four members from USAID along with their consultants visited NUST on November 16 to assess the feasibility of sponsoring a Centre of Excellence in Energy.

The delegation had a preliminary session with Rector NUST Engr. Muhammad Asghar before a conference that was also attended by other senior officials of the University. Director P & D Engr. Muhammad Ashfaq Sheikh gave a briefing on the University's functioning and how NUST has grown over the years as a centre of excellence especially in the field of science and technology. While Dr Muhammad Bilal Khan, Principal NUST Centre for Energy Systems, gave a detailed presentation on the CES.

The delegates were all praise for NUST and showed keen interest in extending collaboration to the University. Later, USAID team was conducted to various NUST schools at the main Campus. The guests departed after a lunch hosted in their honour.



FFCG Students

A 45-member delegation, consisting of faculty and students, of Fauji Foundation College for Girls, Rawalpindi visited NUST on October 20. Registrar NUST gave a briefing on NUST to the visitors. He particularly apprised the second year students of the admission process. He told them that the University, offering courses in various disciplines, inducts students strictly following merit-based criteria.

Later, the visiting teachers and students were led to different schools at the central campus.



Senate Standing Committee on Science and Technology

Senate Standing Committee on Science and Technology delegation visited the NUST campus H-12, Islamabad on 26 December 2011. The delegation included Senator Mrs. Kalsoom Parveen, Senator Shirala Malik, Senator Rehmatulla Kakar, Senator Mst. Nilofar Bakhtiar, Senator Mushahid Ullah Khan, Senator Syed Zafer Ali Shah, Senator Mrs. Semeen Siddiqui and Senator Ms. Afia Zia. The team headed by Mr. Akhlaq Ahmed Tara, Secretary MoST also attended the meeting.

Director P&D Engineer Muhammad Ashfaq Sheikh gave a briefing on NUST. After the briefing, Rector NUST, Engr. Muhammad Asghar gave detailed response to the queries. The delegation then visited few Schools and Centres including NBS, SEECS, NCVI and IESE at H-12 Campus. All the members of Senate Standing Committee appreciated



the working of the University and applauded the efforts being put in by the university administration, faculty and staff in raising the quality of education and in maintaining a highly praiseworthy standard in all facets of university's functioning.

Chief of Defence Staff, Sri Lanka

An eight-member delegation headed by Air Chief Marshal WDRMJ Gonetilleke, Chief of Defence Staff, Sri Lanka visited NUST main campus on December 01. Upon its arrival, the delegation was received by Rector NUST Engr Muhammad Asghar.

Director Project and Development gave a detailed briefing on the academic functioning and achievements of the University. The delegates were pleased to note that NUST had achieved enviable growth in a very short time. On a query, Rector NUST explained to the delegation how the University had emerged as a unique model institution of higher education across the world in general and in Pakistan in particular. The Rector also apprised the guests



that more than 2/3rd of the students were civilians who were inducted on open merit. Later, the delegation visited School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

Commander-in-Chief Royal Thai Air Force

Air Chief Marshal Itthaporn Subhauuoung, Commander-in-Chief Royal Thai Air Force visited College of Aeronautical Engineering on 13th October, 2011. Air Commodore Ahmed Ejaz Nadeem, SI (M), Commandant CAE briefed him comprehensively about the academic activities of the college and showed him various classes and labs. The visiting dignitary took keen interest in the activities being conducted at CAE, and discussed matters of professional interest with Commandant CAE.



The Royal Saudi Air Force Delegation

A Royal Saudi Air Force delegation led by Air Commodore Louie Bin Yakoob Al Ali visited College of Aeronautical Engineering on 1st December, 2011. On arrival at CAE, the guests were received by Commandant and Dean CAE. Thereafter, they were briefed by Commandant CAE on the progress of Saudi Cadets currently undergoing training at CAE. Then the delegation was taken to various classes and labs of the college. The visiting guests showed keen interest in the training facilities available at CAE and thanked CAE for providing the best-possible education to the Saudi Cadets.



Turkish delegation

A delegation from Middle East Technical University (METU), Turkey visited National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) main campus on October 3. The Turkish team was in Pakistan from October 03 to 09 in connection with the establishment of a Technology Park in Islamabad. After their arrival at the University, the Turkish team was given a detailed briefing on NUST's academic and research programmes, departments, and campuses. Inspired by the rapid growth NUST has experienced in a short span of time, the METU delegates showed keen interest in pursuing extended collaboration with NUST.

Later, the guests were conducted a round to School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (SEECs) and Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE). A dinner reception was also hosted at NUST in the honour of the visiting team.



Delegation of China's PLA Air Force

A delegation of China's Peoples' Liberation Army Air Force Academy, led by Senior Colonel IIU Yanchun and Senior Colonel YAO Jinbo visited College of Aeronautical Engineering on 2nd November, 2011. They visited various sections of the college and observed the teaching and training activities being conducted there. They appreciated the arrangements made towards educating the engineering students and the quality of instruction imparted at the college. Commandant CAE, during interaction with members of the delegation, elaborated on the methodologies being employed at the college to teach and train the budding aeronautical engineers.



NUST team's visit to UK Universities

A team of senior management and faculty from NUST visited UK as part of British Council DelPHE partnership between, National Composites Certification and Evaluation Facility (NCCEF), The University of Manchester, UK and Department of Mechanical Engineering, NUST College of EME. The team consisted of Major General Muhammad Shahid (Commandant College of EME), Professor Dr. Mohammad Bilal Khan (Principal, NUST Centre for Energy Systems), Professor Dr. Mahmood Anwar Khan, Dr. Syed Waheed ul Haq, (Head of Mechanical Engineering Department, College of EME, NUST) and Project PI, Dr. Rizwan Saeed Choudhry.

The main aim of the visit was to strengthen the already existing research linkage with The University of Manchester and to explore opportunities of new partnerships with Cambridge, Nottingham and Southampton Universities. The visit marks the culmination of the activities for the first year of the DelPHE project. The British Council DelPHE (Development Partnerships in Higher Education) grants are meant for enabling exchanges that can result in building capacity within international networks to carry out projects which can help achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). The project under discussion is focused on MDG of poverty alleviation through capacity building for research innovation in the field of composites materials. Accordingly one of the core target for the first year of project was to access the level and requirements of Pakistan's composites industry through a countrywide survey and in response to these requirements formulate a plan for uplifting this sector.

Thus after successful completion of the survey, the core objective of the visit was to share the survey outcomes with our international partners (NCCEF, UOM) and discuss with them the future course of action to achieve the project objective. NCCEF which was set up as a 10 million Pound (Rupees 1.4 Billion) facility has a very successful model of working with local as well as international

industries in this sector and is currently earning in excess of 1 million pounds per annum for the University. The visit accorded the senior management an opportunity to understand the working practices and management of NCCEF. It also provided them with an opportunity to enhance their network and establish a long-term partnership.

Consequent upon the visit, it was decided that in order to further the cause of advanced composites materials research in Pakistan and its application in industry for socio-economic uplift a two pronged strategy would be pursued. This would involve on one hand incremental development of capabilities through targeted research projects and training programs and aggressively enhancing engagement with the local industry and other universities. While on the other hand it would involve floating a proposal for a "National Advanced-Composites Research and Product Development Centre" that aspires to be a national level open access, self sustaining facility that in general supports Pakistan's composites industry in the field of Designing, Manufacturing and Testing; and in particular supports industrial and entrepreneurial initiatives for development of commercializable technologies related to polymeric fiber reinforced composites through research and training activities in this field.



20th Undergraduate Convocation of Military College of Signals



A total of 145 graduating students received their degrees in the disciplines of Telecom and Software Engineering at the 20th Undergraduate Convocation held at Military College of Signals (MCS) on Nov 19. Rector NUST Engr. Muhammad Asghar graced the ceremony as the chief guest.

The students who excelled in their respective disciplines were awarded medals on the occasion. President's Gold Medals were awarded to NUST Cadet Hassan Bin Tila course TE-44 and NUST Cadet Samia Ahmed course BESE-13; Chief of Army Staff's Gold Medal was received by Capt. Abdullah Buzdar course Te-44 while NUST cadet Mahnum Maqsood TCC-19 and NUST cadet Rameez Lehasib Rehman BESE-13 were awarded Rector's Gold Medals for their outstanding performance in their degree projects.

In his address, the Rector extended his felicitations to the faculty, graduating students and their parents. The chief guest said that it was a very special day for the graduating students as they were stepping into the vast world of science and technology as

professional engineers.

"Engineering profession is synonymous with creativity, which makes it distinct from all other professions. After graduation, the young engineers become an international commodity because their activities would not be confined only to one place but their scope stretches to each and every corner of the world," he said. He advised them to live with this pride and deep rooted aspiration that they have to excel and cope with the fast changing world by readily introducing themselves to the new technologies and other scientific advancements. He further emphasized that students should know that these technologies are burgeoning frontiers which, if investigated and explored with the truest spirit of inquiry, can open up innumerable technological advancements for the progress of the nation.

Counting achievements of the University, Engr. Muhammad Asghar said that the farsighted vision of NUST has given a new direction to scientific

education and research in the country.

"The University's collaboration with reputed foreign universities and linkage with local industries is contributing significantly to national scientific and technical landscape." The Rector lauded the role of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) for promoting research culture in the universities as well as developing quality criteria aimed at enhancing the standard of higher education institutions to international level.

Commandant of the College, Maj. Gen. Shahid Maqbool presented the annual report and highlighted the achievements of the institution in terms of curricular and co-curricular activities, quantitative and qualitative increase in the faculty, improvement of physical facilities and upgradation of learning resources.

Congratulating the graduating students and their parents, the Commandant said that MCS aims to emerge as a leading research and development institution in the fields of science and technology.

CAE Convocation

Convocation Ceremony of 71 Engineering Course was held at College of Aeronautical Engineering October 12. Rector NUST, Engineer Muhammad Asghar was the chief guest on the occasion. Commandant CAE, during his address to the gathering presented a resume of the efforts being taken by CAE towards the education, training and grooming of the students. He also highlighted the improvement plans that are in the pipeline. Thereafter, the chief guest awarded degrees in Aerospace and Avionics Engineering disciplines to the graduating students and merit certificates and medals to the distinction holders. Merit Certificate for Best Aerospace Vehicle Design was awarded to Aun Muhammad,



while Merit Certificate for Best Avionics System Design was awarded to Shah Nawaz Abbasi. Rector's Gold Medal for Best Project and President's Gold Medal for winning the first position in Aerospace Engineering were awarded to Ayman Saleem. Rector's Gold Medal for Best Project

and President's Gold Medal for standing first in Avionics Engineering were awarded to Shah Nawaz Abbasi. Rector NUST praised the overall efforts of the team for having brought CAE to such a distinguished level and exhorted him to keep up the outstanding job.

Naval College Convocation

The 23rd PNEC convocation for award of degrees to 168 graduates (in the disciplines of Mechanical, Electrical & Electronics Engineering) of GL (ME & OPS) 2005-B & 2006-A and Civilian Students (ME, EE & EL) of A/2007 & B/2007 classes was held in Bahria Auditorium on November 24. Admiral Mohammad Asif Sandila, Chief of the Naval Staff, graced the occasion as the chief guest and awarded degrees and medals to the graduates. Rector NUST Engr. Muhammad Asghar was also present at the occasion. Besides faculty and students of the college, a large number of senior officers, high officials from other educational institutions and civilian guests of the graduating students attended the convocation. President Gold Medals were awarded to S/Lt Syed Muhammad Tayyab PNGL (ME) 2005-B, S/Lt Faheem Ur Rehman PNGL (ME) 2006-A, Ms Shezana Zulfiqar Ali CIV (EE) B/2007, S/Lt Muhammad Adeel Nusrat PN GL (OPS) 2005-B and Ms. Sarah Afzal CIV (EL) B/2007. CNS Gold Medals were bestowed upon S/Lt Syed Muhammad Tayyab PN GL (ME) 2005-B, S/Lt Faheem Ur Rehman PN GL (ME) 2006-A, S/Lt Muhammad Adeel

Nusrat PN GL (OPS) 2005-B and S/Lt Tauseef Ashraf PN GL (OPS) 2006-A.

Rector Gold Medals for Best Projects were awarded to Mr Saeed Ur Rehman CIV (ME) A/2007, S/Lt Adeel Ghazanfar PN GL (OPS) 2005-B, S/Lt Faheem Ur Rehman PN GL (ME) 2006-A, Mr Hasban Mehmood CIV (EL) B/2007 and Mr Sayed Tassawar Hussain Kazmi CIV (EE) B/2007



Conference on Mathematical Sciences

A three-day conference on Mathematical Sciences was organized by CAMP from 17th to 19th November 2011. The conference covered a vast variety of research fields from applied mathematics as well as pure mathematics. As many as 37

speakers from different universities around the country and from abroad presented their research work in Bio-Mathematics, Mathematical Economics, Differential Equations, Telleparallel Gravity and many other fields.

It started with the welcome address of the Dr. Azad Akhter Siddiqui, principal CAMP. He elaborated on the importance of Mathematics in modern science and technology. He also emphasized on the vital role of CAMP in the research output of NUST.



Notable figures like Dr. Muhammad Sharif (PU), Dr. Aslam Noor (COMSATS), Dr. Khalid Saifullah (BZU), Dr. Davood Momeni (Tarbiat Moallem University, Tehran, Iran), Dr. Muneer Ahmad Rashid (NUST) and Dr. Faiz Ahmad (NUST) delivered the key note talks. The conference ended with a closing address by Dr. Asghar Qadir. The conference organizers were Prof. Asghar Qadir, Dr. Mubasher Jamil and Dr. Muhammad Raza.

MoU signed between CAMP and University of Kyoto, Japan

A research agreement has been signed between Centre for Advanced Physics and Mathematics (CAMP) at NUST and Research Institute for Mathematical Sciences (RIMS) of Kyoto University, Japan. Kyoto University is a very renowned university having an overall ranking of 32 and 13 in natural sciences. NUST and the Kyoto University research centres will engage in different areas of collaboration including exchange of staff and students, joint research programmes, conducting of workshops, seminars and meetings relevant to the two universities.

CAMP and RIMS intend to exchange students and faculty for research. RIMS is already an active centre of international joint research and hosts a steady stream of long term foreign visitors.

Pink Day observed at NUST

NUST Science Society observed Oct 18 as breast cancer awareness day and organized a seminar in collaboration with Shaukat Khanam Memorial Trust and Cancer Hospital on breast cancer awareness in SCEE Seminar Hall at NUST-H12. Dr. Mehvish Baig an Oncologist from the esteemed hospital was the speaker of the seminar. She shared with the audience some very informative and eye opening facts about pink ribbon campaign-awareness about breast cancer. She specifically talked about Pakistani women and stressed that since the issue is not brought up openly, many women reach stage 3rd and 4th of breast cancer which increases the number of deaths from it.

The seminar was organized for female students and faculty members of NUST also by technical support from HEC it was broadcasted to over 140 educational institutions in Pakistan. Members of NUST Science Society also sold different souvenirs regarding the campaign and the money generated was donated to Shaukat Khanam Memorial Hospital. Chief Guest Dr. Aqduş Rashid, concluded the event and commended the efforts of the organizers. The seminar was a milestone in creating awareness about a very serious but neglected issue.



Graduation Parade of 71 Engineering Course

An impressive Graduation Ceremony of 71 Engineering course was held on Oct 28 at PAF Academy, Risalpur. Admiral Muhammad Asif Sandila, HI (M), Chief of the Naval Staff, was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The Chief Guest reviewed the parade, presented the Quaid-e-Azam Banner to the Champion Squadron and awarded trophies and Swords of Honour to the distinction holders. Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Trophy for General Service Training in the College of Aeronautical Engineering was won by Pilot Officer Taimoor, while Chief of the Air Staff trophy as well as the coveted Sword of Honour for Best Performance in Engineering discipline was awarded to Sub Lieutenant Shah Nawaz Abbasi. The ceremony concluded with an immaculate march past, followed by a thrilling display of aerobatics by the K-8 team 'Sherdils' and Para Motor Gliding by cadets.



Workshop on Anger Management

On the special request of Attock Refinery Limited (ARL) C3A organized an in-house two-day intensive workshop on "Anger Management" on November 22-23, 2011. The participants were senior level staff members of ARL. The primary focus was to identify issues related to unhealthy expression of anger and finding ways of resolving them assertively. The workshop was designed to enhance learning through an interactive and activity based approach, with role-plays to achieve workable solutions. The focus was that the participants internalize the learning and also develop group rapport.

The initial session highlighted the importance and effectiveness of communication skills and a range of behavior patterns along with their advantages and disadvantages. The focus was to encourage assertive behavior. This was followed by techniques to manage anger positively as a normal, healthy emotion and helping it bring constructive ramifications. Techniques to control anger and channelize it into positive energy were discussed along with handling and coping strategies. Emphasis was also given

to handling others' anger assertively and fortifying relationships in the process. The advantages of giving and receiving positive and healthy criticism/ feedback were highlighted so that the participants could enhance performance by building trust and team spirit.

The session was concluded with certificate distribution ceremony with highly positive feedback from the participants. The participants requested for more collaborative and informative sessions in future.



Military College of Signals & SUPARCO join hands for R&D



Military College of Signals (MCS-NUST) and Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Oct 6 to collaborate in Telecommunications sector.

The ceremony was attended by Chairman SUPARCO Major General Ahmed Bilal, Commandant MCS Major General Shahid Maqbool, along with NUST Pro Rector and other University officials, Member SARS, Chief Instructor, Dean, Head of Departments, faculty members, Scientists, promising researchers and

a large number of students of MCS NUST.

SUPARCO's, Satellite ground station, a facility located near Islamabad commissioned in 1989, has state-of-the-art capability to receive and process satellite imagery from various sources. In the past, SUPARCO has completed several projects of national importance having significant potential impact on the socio-economic well being of the people of Pakistan.

The faculty of MCS is actively engaged in theoretical and applied research in the fields of Image Processing, Computer

Vision, Pattern Recognition, Network Security etc. MCS has rich history in the field of telecommunication and a unique honour of producing first telecommunication engineer of the country. MCS being a center of excellence for telecommunication has taken certain steps towards the development of human resource in satellite communications system design and space technology.

The Memorandum of Understanding, signed between the two leading institutions, aims at opening avenues for developing joint academic projects in all relevant fields including space technology. In addition, students and faculty explore the opportunities of MCS and SUPARCO working together as collaborative partners in order to benefit from each other's expertise. MCS being an academic and research institution can benefit SUPARCO by solving their problems whereas SUPARCO can offer real world problems and data for a better solution.

NUST introduces first chapter of IMECHE in Pakistan

School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering (SMME) inaugurated the first ever chapter of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMECHE) in Pakistan on Dec 14. The ceremony was held at the SCME auditorium. Mr Hassan N. Ansari CEng, a Fellow of the Institution (FIMechE), Head of Strategic Planning for Descon Industries and representative of IMechE Pakistan was the chief guest for the ceremony.

In his address he very clearly said that IMechE is more than willing to provide a platform for young engineers to develop their careers and also play their integral part in the development of the country. Principal SMME, Dr Abdul Ghaffur was also present at the occasion and was more than happy to see another great achievement of his school and students.

IMechE is a one of the most established institutions for mechanical institutions in the world which was founded in 1847. This is the first student chapter of IMechE in Pakistan launched at NUST-SMME. IMechE NUST has already started working. It is organizing an event at LUMS Psi fi by the name of "Junkyard Wars" and for 2013's formula student competition; the recruitment has already been started. We hope that IMechE will reach other mechanical institutions as well through its chapter at NUST. With the establishment of this chapter at NUST, the students will be able to find new horizons to explore new paths for better careers.

The inclusion of this chapter will ensure that students of NUST in particular and Pakistan in general stay up to date with the latest happenings around the world in the field of Mechanical Engineering.

Opening this chapter in Pakistan will benefit the students of Pakistan. It will give them exposure in the global advertisements in Mechanical Engineering and to bring engineering talents of Pakistan to limelight through technical seminars, conferences, workshops and lectures showcasing the latest research and best practice from industry across the full range of mechanical engineering sectors. The memberships are open for students to gain maximum career advantage and to demonstrate their professional expertise.



MCS extends financial support to flood victims

Unprecedented heavy rains have caused severe floods in Sindh Province. People experienced catastrophic natural disaster that has precipitated large scale humanitarian crisis.

At this hour of dire need Military College of Signals (MCS) a constituent of National University of Sciences and Technology has come forward to support the efforts to the urgent need for relief of flood affected people. Cadet Wasim, President Telecom Society and Cadet Umer, President Software Society have presented a cheque of Rs 2 Million on 15 Nov 2011 to Commander 5 Corps Karachi on behalf of MCS.



This financial support is a humble effort on the part of MCS to help in alleviating the sufferings of flood Victims, encouraging the others to do the same.

Youth Leadership Program

NUST SEECs organized a Youth Leadership course to teach students the art of communication and leadership to help them learn speaking and leadership skills. The course based on Toastmaster International's Youth Leadership Program consisted of eight sessions held between October 21 and November 3. Mr. Mohsin Lodhi served as the instructor to help students develop their Leadership and Communication skills teaching them the secrets of public speaking and effective communication. Students from various schools of NUST H12 campus participated in this workshop under the mission of "learning by doing". The event proved to be a good learning experience.

Counselling sessions on Confidence Building and Stage Fright

Group Counselling is one of the core services offered at the Centre for Career Counselling at NUST. The students visit the Centre, located in SADA with several issues but the most pertinent of all is low self-confidence. After completion of two successful group sessions on Confidence Building, the Sessions on "Confidence Building and Stage Fright" (Code-CB03) for willing students commenced on Oct 4.

As many as eight sessions took place at NUST. The prime focus of these sessions was to introduce the participants to the concept of confidence and self esteem. The participants learned effective communication skills and techniques

to work on self-defeating thoughts. It included a number of interactive activities to enhance group bonding and introduce strategies that help internalize the learning. All participants were fully involved in the process and each session concluded with the participant's feedback.

The effort and professional capability of the facilitators helped achieve group objectives and was highly appreciated by the participants. Participants' personal progress was easily observed through higher level of self-esteem, better interaction and more optimistic approach toward life's anomalies. The group successfully concluded on December 1st, 2011. The end notes included the suggestion of holding more of such groups on different issues in future.

For updates on future activities of C³A, you may join and like the page on facebook: www.facebook.com/NUST-Centre-for-Counseling-and-Career-Advisory-C3A

SCME organized workshop on Advanced Analytical Techniques

School of Chemical & Materials Engineering (SCME) organized a one week workshop on Advanced Analytical Techniques. The informative workshop was held at NUST from November 21-25 to facilitate scientists, researchers, and engineers from services and strategic organizations.

Series of lectures and laboratory practices were arranged on analytical techniques including HPLC, GCMS, VOD, TGA/DTA, XRF, and FTIR. The purpose of this workshop was to develop not only an understanding of analytical skills,

but also to provide access to these analytical instruments and facilitate hands-on experience. The Pro-Rector RIC Engineer Mohammad Mushtaq HI (M) was the chief guest on the occasion. The chief guest appreciated the efforts and commitment of SCME for organizing this event. After the address, he distributed certificates among the organizers and participants.



First Intra MCE Olympiad

The Olympiad took place in MCE on Nov 18-21. It was a technical, arts and sports extravaganza that was organized by Science Club. As this was a college based activity, therefore students of all four Disciplines i.e. NUST Cadets, Paying Cadets, Technical Cadets and Officers of Civil Engineering Wing participated in the grand event. The day kicked off with E-Gaming where the participants had to play online games and everyone had an exciting time competing with others. E-Gaming, Bridge Competition, Futsal, Badminton, Table Tennis, Tambola, Movie Night and Tug-of-war were also

the part of intra in which everyone participated.

Among other activities, the bridge completion was highlight event of the Olympiad. Students enthusiastically took part in it and found it quite interesting and informative as well. Forming a bridge out of ice cream sticks is a thought provoking idea and technically skill based activity closely related to the discipline of Civil Engineering and portraying the mindset of today's youth as promising professional engineers. It was a unique platform for the students to showcase their skills in a diverse range of fields, showing that there is no dearth of potential in our youth.



E & ME College Olympiad

The Olympiad 2011, organized by E&ME college was a Herculean event that invited participation from around 21 universities of the twin cities. It was held at October 8-10 and everyone at the college catalyzed themselves to make the Olympiad a tangible reality once again this year.

It was an eye-catching event spanning over 3 days, filled with competitions ranging from arts, dramatics, sports, mind-battles and e-gaming. The Olympiad presented technical events including Build it, Wirathon, Team Spirit, Geekomania whereas arts competitions included Posteria, Graffiti, Sand Castles, Short cuts and t-shirt designs. For sports lovers, there were competitions ranging from E-gaming, chess to basketball and futsal. The concert by Noori and the Scavenger Hunt captivated the audience and brought the whole event to a wonderful end.

All events were held on the college premises, with the organizers seen rushing to and fro as they catered to each and every need of the events being run in parallel. The conclusion of the event was marked with an extensive prize distribution ceremony, with trophies and cash prizes in selected categories being awarded to participants. After some tough competition Bahria University came out as all-round winners for the second consecutive year.

Apart from bringing education and entertainment to the students, the Olympiad served a noble cause by summing donations of Rs 3,75,000 for flood-stricken people in Sindh.



SEECs celebrates Global Entrepreneurship Week

School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (SEECs) organised a host of activities to celebrate Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), held from Oct 28 to 30. GEW is the world's largest celebration of the innovators and job creators, who launch startups that bring ideas to life, drive economic growth and expand human welfare.

Paper Toss was one of the interesting activities carried out by the Youth Entrepreneurial Society (YES) club members. It was an instant hit among the students as well as the faculty members. This game involved tossing paper balls in three bins placed at an increasing distance from the player. A total of 60 participants of varying age groups participated in the activity.

Recycle BUZZ was held to publicize 'Recycle Mania', an initiative taken by YES-SEECs to encourage the use of recycle materials. The team's task was to build a sellable

product using the materials provided in an allocated time of one hour. This activity attracted a lot of creative students. YES also organized Gaming Mania to mark the Global Entrepreneurship Week. The games included in the activity were drinking 0.5 ml water in minimum time, pushups completion, coin stacking, and card games.

Other activities included Food Delight, Balloon Competition and Membership Campaign.



IEEE FLASH organised at SEECs

A workshop was organised by IEEE Student Chapter at SEECs on Dec 7-8. It proved to be a good learning experience for students and enhanced their skills set. As many as 45 students participated in the workshop and showed keen interest in the whole event.

In this two-day workshop, the students were given a thorough understanding of the Adobe FLASH Software and were taught to create animations which could help them in their future projects. Rohail Syed was the key instructor of the event and is currently a student at SEECs. The workshop was designed with the aim to give the students the opportunity to develop their expertise at using FLASH and so the contents of the lab was adjusted accordingly. At first they were given introduction to FLASH and were made familiar with the interface. Later on, students successfully

made a calculator in FLASH. The workshop induced healthy competition among the students.

Two students, Syed Hassan Jalil stood first and Asbah Ashfaq was the runners-up for the competition. In the closing ceremony the winners were awarded certificated by the faculty advisor, Aamir Jelani. In the end IEEE mugs were distributed among the participants.



NUST inks MoU with SMEDA

An impressive MoU signing ceremony between Small and Medium Enterprise Authority (SMEDA) and NUST was held at the NUST Business School on Nov 27.

NUST is an internationally renowned university ranked amongst top universities of the world whereas SMEDA is an autonomous body working for the uplift of SME sector of Pakistan. The main focus of the MoU is on building a platform for cooperation between the two. It was agreed that both SMEDA and NUST shall extend their cooperation, resources and expertise to each other for the promotion and development of projects falling in the categories of Trainers for SME Sector, Promotion of Entrepreneurship, Joint Research Reports and Implementation of Guidelines in focused business areas. The MoU was signed by NUST Pro Rector Asif Raza and Syed Iqbal A. Kidwai GM Outreach and Operations, SMEDA. The Principal NBS Dr. Ashfaq H Khan, Consultant NUST Mr. Asim Chishti, senior members of NUST HQ and faculty members were also present at the occasion.



Dr Ashfaq while emphasizing the importance of this collaboration highlighted the fact that entrepreneurship was the biggest driver of economic growth in the country and through this MoU, the potential entrepreneurs of NUST would be given a chance to establish themselves as successful entrepreneurs and both NUST and SMEDA will offer their platforms and expertise to make it possible

Lipton Talent Hunt initiative

Information liaison Office at NUST in collaboration with Unilever Pakistan introduced a Talent Hunt programme at the campus. The program will offer students the opportunity to test the business skills by launching a 360 degree marketing campaign in and outside the campus, this will not only give them a hands-on experience about launching a new brand in market but also to provide them with internship and job opportunities in Unilever after

graduation offering .

Unilever Pakistan gave a briefing to students at NUST on its program "Lipton Talent Hunt 2011" on 6th Oct. The Talent Hunt is open for final year students from business and engineering schools alike. 2 teams from NBS and 4 teams from Engineering Schools (EME and SEECs) were shortlisted and made it to the next level. Both teams are enthusiastically running their campaigns in order to compete with Lipton Talent Hunt teams all over the universities of Pakistan.

Korean Economic Development: Lessons for Pakistan

KOICA Alumni Association Pakistan (KAAP) arranged a seminar on “Korean Economic Development: Lessons for Pakistan” at NUST Business School on Nov 16. Korean Ambassador Choongjoo Choi graced the occasion as the chief guest. The delegates shed light on rapid economic development by Korea over the years and outlined the lessons Pakistan can learn from Korea.

The president of KAAP, Dr. M. Ashraf Moten said that KAAP is a Pakistan Chapter of Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and since its inception in 2003 has been actively engaged in strengthening friendly relations and cultural bond between Korean and Pakistani people. There were a series of lectures arranged on the occasion. Dr. Ashfaq, Principal NBS gave a lecture on H. Economic Policy Making in Korea: Can we learn from Korea, Dr. Abdul Jalil, School of Economics, Quaid-e-Azam University, talked on Korea’s Rapid Industrialization: Lessons for Pakistan. This was followed by a lecture on Korean development by Dr. Abid Aman Burki, Professor of Economics, LUMS, Lahore. Khan KAAP has been mercurial in organizing seminars on issues of mutual interest, cultural shows and sponsoring equipment or civil work at schools in neglected areas. He

thanked the ambassador and hoped for his continuing support. The technical session of the seminar focused on aspects like rapid industrialization and economic development of Korea.

Engineer Muhammad Asghar, Rector NUST lauded KAAP for taking steps to strengthen ties between the two countries. In the end, the chief guest thanked KAAP for organizing the seminar and reassured his support for the activities of KAAP for mutual benefit of the brotherly nations. The seminar was attended by academicians, government officials, luminaries from the private sector and students. The seminar concluded with vote of thanks by President KAAP to all the guests.



ICAMS 2011 Industrial Expo and UG Poster Competition

A simple yet graceful ceremony was held on Nov 28 in College of EME to mark the opening of the first International Conference on Advanced Modeling and Simulation - ICAMS2011; Industrial Exhibition and Undergraduate Poster Competition. This was a three days event from Nov 28th – 30th and was aimed at bringing together researchers, academics and industrialist who are using modeling and simulation for wide range of activities spanning various disciplines.

The conference started with an address from the Conference Chair Dr. Afzal, followed by some words of inspiration from the Commandant College of E & ME Major General Muhammad Shahid. The emphasis was towards the multi-faceted nature of the subject matter, and how it is common in our daily life without us ever being aware its importance, and how the world is advancing in this field and trying to come up with answers to all problems that yet lie unanswered.

Students in their junior and senior years were seen actively volunteering for the event in various configurations of HR, and technical departments. To involve the students further, the conference hosted an under-graduate level poster competition with a cash prize of over Rs. 15000. An industrial

fare was also set up for the students and participants of the conference to have them better understand the aspects of real-life implementation of modeling and simulation techniques in the industrial sector. The fare was dominated by renewable energy sector firms, with each portraying their respective development in this sector.

The conference attracted an overwhelming response from local and foreign researchers. Over 130 papers were received by the evaluating team and out of these, 35 were accepted to be presented at the conference. There was participation from Australia, the Middle-East, the Russian Federation and Europe. For 3 days, parallel sections were conducted across the campus with participants presenting their research and interacting with other field colleagues to discuss upon the advancement and techniques of modeling and simulation.



NBS organizes Khalbali: an organized mayhem

NUST is one of the few universities in Pakistan which are known for quality education and preparing students for practical life after completion of their education. Right from the first semester, the students are engaged in practical work in the form of semester-end projects besides formal classroom studies. On Dec 29, as many as 97 students of the MBA first semester arranged a mega event Khalbali to showcase their skills at NBS.

Khalbali was part of the 'Business Communication' subject. It included a funfair, bonfire, and musical show for in-house audience, students and faculty members of different departments and their friends and families. The students and their friends put up over 24 different stalls. They also managed to engage vendors and other entrepreneurs to host stalls. Like any other successful funfair, the stalls offered a wide variety including bangles, jewellery, dresses, and decorative items. Some stalls promoted products such as herbal utilities and the products of several corporations. A couple of stalls were providing information about admissions in international educational institutions. The bonfire was a rare opportunity for students to enjoy with their classmates in the university premises. Many swayed to the amateur rendering of songs and other funny items. It was a fun filled evening with entertainment for all.

The main attraction of the musical was rabab performance by Farhan Bogra. Several other students also played different musical instruments to enthuse the audience. A replica of truck art b Shakira Mansoor also pleased visitors. Samar Saqib, another student, was responsible for the marketing and creative side of the event.

Hamid Nawaz, Assistant Professor at the NBS helped the students in organizing the event said, "The success of the event has contributed to shine their skills, and the event has certainly encouraged them to take up some financially viable events in the future. This type of event matures the thinking planning, and execution skills of the students, and enables them to face the real life market challenges".



Launching of Eco-internship Program

The NUST Environment Club held its Launching Ceremony on Tuesday the 29th of November, 2011 and introduced their first event to NUSTians. The Associate Dean of the Institute of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Dr. Ishtaq Qazi was the chief guest of the Launching Ceremony. He appreciated the efforts of NEC and hoped they would continue with the same zeal in the future. The aims, objectives and future goals of the Club were presented by Ms. Hina Umer Hanif, the President of NEC, in the opening ceremony of the Club's first event. Eco-internship Program was an activity-based awareness program held in collaboration with WWF Pakistan with City FM 89 as the official media partner. The Programme spanned over a period of 4 weeks, and gave students an insight into the "eco dynamics" and "eco challenges" of Pakistan. The sessions included talks by renowned environmental experts, group work, hands-on activities, screening of documentaries, interactive discussions, creative challenges and inspirational exposure visits. Over 150 students took part in the Program and "Got smart by going green". This event broadened the scope of the participants as responsible custodians of valuable natural resources and inculcated a sense of civic responsibility. This initiative of the NUST Environment Club has echoed a very positive message in all circles that our students are eager to make their voice count and come forward for our planet Earth.

“Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new.”
Albert Einstein

NUST triumphs at IIT Bombay Techfest Qualifiers

The Department of Mechatronics Team participated in the Qualifiers for IIT Bombay Techfest 2012, an international event taking place in India in January. 120 teams from around the globe will compete in the international arena for the Magneto Robotics Competition. The Pakistan Qualifiers for the event took place at the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), in which 7 teams from Department of Mechatronics College of E & ME participated along with top names such as CASE and Punjab University. A knockout theme for the qualifiers was selected in which two robots had to race against each other towards a single finish point. The Robot Ulysess from EME won the competition by completing the task in 6.3 seconds defeating CASE by 0.5 seconds in the final round, thus achieving the honor of bearing the country's color for representation in the international competition. On a note which should make us all proud of our alma mater, all of the College of E & ME's teams were ranked in the top 10 teams of the qualifiers.

The winners, team 'Ulysess', in the semis were one on one against another team 'Al-Beruni' from College of EME and during this run 'Ulysess' detracted from the path and 'Al-Beruni' was about to cross the finish the line but Kamran Sial of 'Al-Beruni', realized that even though his robot would

proceed into the finals but would not be able to compete with CASE's robot. So in an unparalleled moment of self-sacrifice for the sake of the College's pride, Kamran Sial made the most excruciating click by tapping the kill switch on his robot Al-Beruni. Ulysess took a rerun and completed the task where Al-Beruni harbored near the finish line just so that his College fellow robot could finish and proceed to the finals, where it went on to triumph.

The Department of Mechatronics Team exhibited excellent teamwork, sportsman spirit and a great sense of owning up to the prestige of the college. The College of E & ME team heralded three cheers for themselves as well as for CASE at the end of the event cultivating a friendlier and healthier atmosphere among the two institutions.



First Intra-NUST Bilingual Elocution Contest

NUST Literary Circle organised the first Bilingual Elocution Contest at School of Chemicals and Materials Engineering (SCME), NUST on Oct 22. Students from different colleges at NUST participated. The competition was intended to promote confidence and the art of elocution in students so that they could express themselves fluently and effectively before the audience. Mr. Tauqeer Nasir, Director General of Pakistan National Council for Arts was the chief guest on the occasion.

Mr Tauqeer Nasir expressed his delight on the initiative taken by an educational institution for holding a literary cum artistic competition. He said that speaking without elocution may not deliver the real meaning of any prose or poetry. But speaking clearly and correctly, especially in public and pronouncing the word in a way that the message of the author or poet becomes clear was the real art which made the speech effective in its essence. He added that our youth should promote and express themselves effectively through their language, art and literature which are an



indivisible part of the cultural heritage of Pakistan. The Pro-Rector Academics, Asif Raza, appreciated the hard work of students and faculty members, Dr. Asghari for making such an event possible and hoped more such events will take place in the future.

Students from different schools participated in the English round, "The King's Speech". Jawad Qureshi(AMC), Ammar Gillani(AMC), and Ahmed Salman(SMME) clinched the top three positions respectively and the consolation prize went to Anum Shafique from SCME. . Whereas, Afaq Ali (AMC), Huma Tauqir (NCVI) and Abubakar Daud (C of E&ME) came out winners in the Urdu round "Andaz-e-Bayan" . The nustians simply mesmerized the crowd by their majestic

performance.

Pro Rector NUST, Dr. Asif Raza, termed Elocution as a healthy and intellectual activity. He thanked the participants for the enthusiasm shown by them in the competition and gave souvenir to the chief guest. The chief guest awarded prizes and shields winners of the competition.



Allama Iqbal Shield Debating Contest

NUST Drama and Debating Society (NDDS) at NBS organized the first Allama Iqbal Shield Intra NUST Bilingual Debate Contest on Nov 27. The contest brought together talented public speakers in both English and Urdu across diverse schools from NUST, including SEECS, SCEE, AMC, MCE, EME and NBS itself. The fiery declamation was presided over by Dr Ashfaq Hassan Khan (Dean and DG, NBS) Mr Shakeel Ahmed (Head SDPI, Climate Change Pakistan) and Ms Izzat Jahan (Motivational Speaker and Corporate Consultant, NBS). Shafa'at Gilani and Zainab Ahmed chaired the contest. Following a recitation of the Quran, Sadaf Basharat from NBS laid the premise for the day's debate. She contended that Pakistan's "dismal democratic structure", weak political institutions and unstable leadership were equally culpable in Pakistan's present corrosively dependant state. As our future doctors, engineers and businessmen all debated whether "Pakistan Can Survive Without Foreign Aid", the balance of the argument was undoubtedly tipped in the topic's favor. All proponents of the topic cited numerous statistics on Pakistan's wealth of coal, gas and oil reserves, as well as its agricultural and human potential. Although opponents of the topic were few and far between, they defended their stance well by reminding the audience that possessing resources alone was insufficient for any country, and that it is far more important to intelligently extract and apply said resources- something Pakistan has failed to do so far.

Zain Khan, President NDDS, spoke on the aims of his society and thanked the judges and participants for their time. Chief Guest and Registrar NUST, also spoke on the occasion, asserting "we are much bigger than our hurdles." The winners for the English section were Sameeh Sajjad (NBS), Sadaf (AMC) and Ahmed Gondal (EME) in first, second and third positions respectively. As for the Urdu speakers, Ehtesham Tanvir (NBS), Abu Bakr Daud (EME) and Haider Sultan (MCE) bagged the first, second and third prizes respectively. These deserving winners will represent NUST at the national level in the competition's next stage.



NBS student wins silver in climbing contest

Rabia Parveen Sakhi; a student from NBS has won Silver medal in 1st National Climbing Competition held on Dec 10. She also was a runners-up in IMD All Pakistan Open Climbing Competition, 2011 held on Dec 11. Previously Ms. Rabia Sakhi was successful in securing a runners-up trophy in Independence Day climbing competition on August 14 along with a number of other wall climbing competitions.

She did so well in both the speed and difficulty portions of almost all the events, that the audience kept their fingers crossed as positions were secured by fractions of seconds only. It is a great honor that one of our own students secured trophies and medals in these competitions reflecting the true sportsman spirit. The courage and skills shown by the NUSTIAN are commendable and mirror the hard work being put in by the NUST Adventure Club in polishing the skills of the students of NUST.

Also this year Mr. Zaki Uddin Kazmi; student of Civil Engineering, NICE-SCEE and the head of NUST Adventure Club's Adventure Body was supported to represent Pakistan on International Level in China for Adventure Olympics.



Fawltly Towers Reopened: Entertainment for a cause

On the 13th of October 2011, StageAblaze Productions held the first ever play performed at NBS in a noble attempt to generate funds for the flood affectees of 2011. StageAblaze Productions is an initiative of a few ambitious students of NUST Business School to promote theatre culture in NBS. An overwhelming response was witnessed at StageAblaze Productions' most recent effort of 'Fawltly Towers - Reopened'.

Fawltly Towers is basically an old comic British sitcom and this particular play was one episode of it. The main idea centers around a small hotel named Fawltly Towers after the owners Mr. and Mrs. Fawltly. The plot of the episode revolves around a deaf, old woman Mrs. Richards who decides to stay a few days at the hotel and the mayhem that then follows. The twist comes through when she loses some money and Mr. Fawltly is busy hiding his horse betting



winning from his wife. The money keeps switching hands and this eventually leads to mass confusion. The twist and turns of the plot, the seamless integration of the scenes, the perfectly timed punch lines and the powerhouse performances of the actors kept the audience enthralled throughout.

This effort not only provided clean, humorous entertainment to the students, but also contributed towards the noble cause it had associated itself with. It managed to raise Rs. 19,260 for the flood victims of the devastating floods of 2011 and donated the amount to the NUST Community Services Club (NCSC) as part of the club's flood relief efforts.

Scavenger Hunt: NUST Adventure Club's flood relief campaign

The NUST Adventure Club headed by its ex-president Anam Rathor arranged a Scavenger Hunt with the aim to gather flood relief fund. The event took place on Oct 19 in which as many as 30 teams from various colleges at NUST participated. The teams came up with most interesting names like Numerical Analysis, Lycan, Mengineers, The Shokha Tareen Group, Atomic 5 and Wehshi Nustians.

The teams were assigned a clue set and were asked to report back to IESE as soon as they are done with all of their clues. Later they could be seen running around the whole campus from the Medical Center to the laboratories in SEECs and SCME looking for the clues. As it was fun for the participants to look around for the clues and complete the assigned tasks by the clue managers, it was equally entertaining for the spectators around the campus. Those two hours were full of hit-or-miss fun around H-12.

Smurfs, a team from SEECs managed to find all their clues well in time and were declared the winners of the event. Apart from all the fun and entertainment, NAC raised funds and handed them to NUST Community Services Club.

All Pakistan 15th Bilingual Declamation competition

The contest was held at Army Burn Hall College for Boys, Abbotabad from Oct 11-13. As many as 30 prestigious educational institutions including Pakistan Military Academy, Pakistan Naval Academy, Pakistan Air Force Academy, Cadet Colleges participated. After a close contest in the final rounds of the Urdu debates, Hamza Ishtiaq from MCS was declared the Best Urdu Speaker of the declamation contest and stood first in Urdu serious category and overall Military College of Signals team from NUST stood 3rd in the competition.

Speaking on the occasion, Commandant Pakistan Military Academy Kakul, Maj. Gen. Mazhar Jamil said that skills of speech can play vital role in building character and leadership quality among the youth who have to shoulder future responsibilities. Later, he distributed prizes and medals to the winners and runner-ups.



PAF Declamation Contest

As many as 44 teams from all over Pakistan participated in the declamation contest held at Pakistan Air Force Academy from 22-25 Nov. PAF Academy Risalpur is known for organizing the biggest "All Pakistan Declamation Competition" on annual basis. For this competition, 4 best teams and 2 individual speakers were chosen for the finals.

NUST team stood first among the participating teams in the initial round and qualified for the final round. Students from SEECs, Hashim Mufti clinched the first prize in English serious category and Usman Abdullah secured second position in Urdu humorous category. Whereas, COMSATS secured the second position. MCS- NUST team comprising Hamza Ishtiaq and Asad Mehmood clinched the third position respectively. The Chief Guest, Chief of Air Staff, Rao Qamar Suleiman presented the certificates and the winning trophies to the winners.

Paragliding Training Course

NUST Adventure Club in collaboration with Shaheen Air Adventure Pakistan on December 16-18, gave NUSTIANS a chance to soar through the winds and touch the sky at a 3-day training course of Paragliding – Glide through the Air. The event was planned to provide all the participants with the basic training on how to steer the parachutes. On the first day of the training, the participants were addressed by the CEO of Shaheen Air Adventure Pakistan on how to use the equipment and how to prepare for the flight. Afterwards a ground training of one day the participants were taken to Mang near Khanpur Dam where all of them had the first real time flights of their life; from a cliff; around 100 ft. high. Two trainers at the top of the cliff and two at bottom were there to help out the participants. These events are planned to be held every month to give the students hand on experience of such situations.



Short story writing contest

The human mind is a wondrous creation and the power of the imagination is one of its manifestations. Through this blossoms the ability of a person to form a story using one's personal experiences and observations of people around him/her. This is the medium that the Nust literary Circle from SCME chose for its online Short Story Writing (English) competition which was held in the months of July and August. The competition was open to all schools of NUST, the ones on H-12 campus as well as the military colleges. NLC conducted an 'Intra NUST Short Story Writing Competition'. Participants were asked to write submit stories not exceeding 3000 words on three topics: 'Epiphanies in the Shower', 'I now knew it was time to let go...' and 'He hesitated at the mailbox, not knowing if he should really send the letter'.

Cash prizes were announced for the three best stories. Three faculty members from the humanities departments of the different schools of NUST H-12 were requested to judge the entries based on a predetermined criterion. More than a hundred entries were received and this was proof that the students were indeed eager for an opportunity to express their talent.

The winners of this competition were announced at the Bilingual Elocution and were awarded cash prizes. The first position was secured by 'Taibah Jaffery' a student of SCME, the second prize went to Amna Jehan Aqdas from NBS and the third prize went to Beenish Azhar of NCVI.



Gun shooting competition

A couple of decades back there used to be a compulsory NCC training in all the schools and colleges. Self-defence is not only a part of adventure sports but also a matter of concern for all citizens in these hard times. But the training is offered no more. Keeping this in mind, NUST Adventure Club organized first ever Shooting Competition at NUST on Nov 20 at the Gun and Country Club, Sports Complex Islamabad in collaboration with the management of the Club. Almost 30 participants from different colleges including College of E&ME and MCE, Risalpur participated.

The participants were given a tour of Gun and Country Club in which they were given a chance to view the Gun Club heritage which included different rifles from 18th and 19th century and different open air and indoor shooting ranges including 10 meter indoor range, 25 meter range, 50 meter range and the Skeet shooting range. After the tour, the participants were seated in the 10m indoor shooting range.

Participants were given a shooting practice session in which each participant was allowed to shoot a total of ten pellets using a rifle, to sharpen their shooting skills. After an hour, each participant was to shoot 10 pellets at a paper target placed 10 meters away. Participants were only allowed to shoot at their respective turns under strong supervision and scrutiny of the trained personnel of the Gun Club. Each participant took its turn while a staff member of the Gun Club assisted in handling, aiming and advising the shooter.

Zainab Abbas and Rabia Mazhar from MCS, Esha bint e islam and Rabia Sakhi from NBS were the winners and were awarded shields and certificates at the end of the event.



MCS clinches First Football Jinnah Cup

Military College of Signals won Inter-university Football Competition on Dec 29. Mohammad Ali Jinnah University. (M.A.J.U) organized the first Jinnah Cup in which a total of 14 teams from various universities in the twin cities participated. MCS outplayed IST (Institute Of Space

Technology) in the quarterfinal round while defeating M.A.J.U in the semi-final. The toughest of all matches for MCS was the final in which it took on Preston University. The final was a nail biting competition but MCS managed to outclass the rival team.

MCS team played very well throughout the competition. The team scored 15 goals while conceded only one. Dr. Abdul Qadir, Dean of Computer Science Department at M.A.J.U, was the chief guest at the finals. MCS was awarded the winner's trophy.

MCS seals basketball trophy

MCS team participated in the intra-NUST Basketball Championship held on Nov 26. The team rose to the occasion to seal the coveted winners' trophy. The event was held at EME College in which all teams displayed exceptional skills. The MCS team took a brilliant start by winning against Army Medical College, which was being considered hot favourite for the competition. In the second match, the MCS team was pitched against the defending champions, CAE Risalpur team. MCS once again displayed a spirited performance and outclassed the defending champions after a closely fought game.

The final match was played between MCS and NUST H-12 campus teams on Nov 26 2011. The MCS team played remarkably and haunted their opponents in the final both with their tactics and stamina. MCS team remained unbeaten throughout the tournament. The MCS team comprised Officers, GCs and NCs.

Inter NUST Hockey selection Championship organized at MCE Risalpur from 15-16th oct 2011.. MCE, CAE, College of E&ME, MCS Institute participated in the Championship. CAE won the Championship and MCE was Runner up.



Intervarsity Hockey Championship

Intervarsity Hockey (Zone 'C') competition was held on Oct 24 2011. Bahria University hosted the said competition. The hockey team of Military College of Engineering (MCE), Risalpur represented NUST in these competitions. Final match of the said competition was played between Bahria University and National University of Sciences & Technology. NUST came out runners-up in the final.

Intra-NUST Women Basketball Championship

Intra-NUST Basketball Competition (Women) was held in College of E&ME Rawalpindi on Nov 30, 2011. Three teams from NUST Headquarter, College of Electrical & Mechanical Engineering, and Military College of Signals (MCS) participated in the event. Final match was played between NUST HQ & E&ME in which the former defeated the latter.



Intervarsity Men Basketball Championship

Intervarsity Basketball (Men) Zonal Championship Zone 'C' 2011-12 was held in NUST, H-12 Basketball Court from 21-23 Dec, 2011. NUST hosted the said championship. Pakistan Sports Federation sponsored the event. As many as ten teams participated in the championship, while nine matches were played in total. Semifinals were played in ISRA Apartments Court. Final match of the championship was played between Bahria University and NUST (MCS). Bahria beat NUST in final and NUST came out runners-up in the tournament.



Athletics Competition

Physical activities mark an essential component of university life, providing students the opportunity to attain the skill and knowledge for staying physically active and leading a healthy life style. This year Inter NUST Athletics Competition was organized by MCS on Dec 28. It was held at MCS Cadets Hostel under the arrangements of MCS Training Battalion. Chief Instructor (E) Brigadier Muhammad Inayat Ullah Khan graced the event as Chief Guest. Students from MCS, College of EME and SEECS NUST H-12 Campus participated in the competition.

In field events, SEECS secured 1st Position in Shot Put. Long Jump was won by MCS after a tough competition with E&ME College. MCS athletics team performed exceptionally well and stood first in 100,200 and 800 meters race.

First Position in ICDAR-2011

Samabia Tehsin a PhD student from Military College of Signals (MCS) and her PhD supervisor Maj Dr Asif Masood won the first place of performance in the Text Localization Task ICDAR 2011 Robust Reading Competition- challenge 1 – ‘Reading text in Born Digital Images (web and email)’. The award ceremony was held in Beijing, China from September 18 – 21.

The International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR) is the most popular conference on Analysis and Recognition of text in images. Researchers from all over the world submitted their research work and participated in various categories of this competition.

Research competition is an important segment of this conference. The research papers are evaluated and shortlisted and less than 10 submissions are accepted in each category. It is a matter of pride for NUST that the research work submitted by its student and faculty member stood first in the competition.

Best Paper Award

Maj Rizwan Ghaffar, FM from Military College of Signals was awarded best paper award in Chairs and the Technical Committee of the 17th European Wireless Conference (EW 2011). The award ceremony took place in Vienna, Austria on April 27-29 and was hosted by the Vienna University of Technology.

Rizwan from NUST along with Umer Salim, Irfan Ghauri, and Raymond Knopp were awarded for their research paper entitled “Mixed CSIT DL Channel: Gains with Interference Aware Receivers”. They were presented with 1000 Euro for this achievement. The research work carried out at Intel Mobile Communications received funding from the European Community’s Seventh Framework Programme.

NBS scholar gets PhD degree

NUST has awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree in Business Administration to Fahad Abdullah Rizvi. Dr. Fahad became the third scholar from the NUST Business School (NBS) to have been awarded the degree on December 30, 2011.

Dr. Raheel Gohar (NBS) and Dr. Abdullah M. Iqbal (NBS) supervised his thesis. The thesis defence was attended by Dr. Syed Tahir Hijazi, (Pro-Rector & Professor, University of Central Punjab Lahore), Dr. Atta Ullah Shah (Institute of Management Sciences, Peshawar), Dr. Syed Zulfiqar Ali Shah (Warwick Business School), and Dr. Saeed Akbar (University of Liverpool). The thesis defence committee

NUST faculty included in Marquis Who’s Who

Lt.Col Dr Manzoor Hussain, a faculty member at MCE has been listed in Marquis Who’s Who in America 2012, 66th edition and also in Marquis Who’s Who in the World 2012, 29th edition for his outstanding achievements. His inclusion distinguishes him as one of the leading achievers from around the globe. It is a testament to his hard work and dedication to success that he has earned a place in Who’s Who in America And WHO’s WHO in the WORLD. Lt. Col Dr Manzoor Hussain has also been included in the HEC Approved Supervisor List.

Dr. Raziuddin Siddiqui Prize awarded

Dr. Mubasher Jamil, a faculty member at Centre for Advanced Mathematics and Physics (CAMP) has been awarded Dr. Raziuddin Siddiqui Prize for Mathematics 2011 on December 10, 2011 at Pakistan Academy of Sciences by Dr. Atta-ur-Rehman. The prize is awarded quadrennial in a particular discipline to acknowledge the contribution of young researchers.

Dr. Mubasher Jamil completed his PhD in Mathematics in December 2010 from NUST. At a young age of 30 years, he has already published 74 papers in ISI journals with cumulative impact factor of 138. He is also a reviewer of two Springer (USA) journals and one Institute of Physics (IoP-UK) Journal. He has collaborated with more than thirty researchers from USA, Kazakhstan, South Africa, Italy, Greece, Finland, India and Iran. In February 2012, he will be visiting Eurasian National University, Astana, Kazakhstan as a Visiting Professor.

Dr. Mubasher Jamil has recently published a book titled “Black Holes in an Accelerated Universe” with Lambert Academic Publications, Germany, 2011. The book is available on amazon.com and other online sites.

was chaired by Dr. Ashfaq H. Khan (Principal and Dean NBS) who thanked all the supervisors for the successful defence of the PhD thesis.

Dr. Arjun Chatrath (Professor of Finance, University of Portland) and Dr. Arif Khurshid (Manchester Business School) were the external examiners for Fahad’s thesis.



NUST faculty member's book published in Germany

Renowned German publishers 'LAP' has published a book titled "Indexing and Retrieval of Text Images in Digitized Printed Documents" written by a Pakistani scholar. According to the details, German leading publications house, Lambert Academic Publications (LAP) acknowledged the research work



of NUST faculty member. The book would be very useful for the engineering students in the fields of 'Computer Vision' and 'Image Processing'.

The author, Syed Muhammad Ali Abidi holds Bachelors and Masters degrees in Telecommunications from National University of Sciences and Technology and he is presently serving as a faculty member in Military College of Signals (NUST) as assistant professor.

It is indeed a matter of great pride for the faculty and NUST that quality research work done in a Pakistani university has been acknowledged at international level. Published book will be very useful for the students, teachers and professionals in this field. The said book is available on amazon.com and other online sites.

First PhD scholar in Energetic Materials

School of Chemical and Materials Engineering (SCME) was established as CCE & MS (Centre for Chemical Engineering and Materials Science) and admitted the 1st PG batch for MS in Sep 2006 to impart education in the field of Energetic Materials. NUST is the sole university in Pakistan to take lead in this area.



Apart from being the first PhD of SCME, Mr. Ghulam is also the first PhD scholar to be awarded PhD in the field of Energetic Materials by any University of the Pakistan. The title of the PhD Thesis is "Potential Parametric Analysis and Multi-disciplines implementation of Self-forging Devices (Explosively Formed Projectiles & Shaped Charges)". The self forging devices are extensively used in conventional anti-tank weapons, sea mines neutralization, oil and gas exploration etc. The PhD Thesis was supervised by Dr. Abdul Qadeer Malik (PoP). Mr. Aslam Hayat (SI, PoP) Director General (PAEC) attended the Thesis defence as an External Examiner. The scholar visited Cranfield University, UK for conducting some experimental work. During the PhD research, scholar succeeded in publishing 31 papers in the international and local journals or conferences.

NUST receives joint funding of USD 5,35,000 from KACST

Red Sea Coral Reef Sensing Project, a collaborative effort of Pakistani and Saudi researchers—Dr. Saad Qaisar (NUST) and Dr. Emad Felemban (UQU) — qualifies for King Abdul Aziz City of Science & Technology (KACST) research funding worth USD 0.535 million under National Program for Science and Technology on Nov 10. The project got 'highly recommended' near ideal evaluations (a rare score of 14/15) by international arbitrators in the domain of underwater sensing and communication.

KACST, the parent body of King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) is a selective forum. It is a matter of great prestige for any researcher to be awarded a project by the agency.

In the evaluation of the review board: "The panel was extremely impressed with the quality and innovative nature of the research proposed, as well as with the proposal itself. The central nature of the study and the

strategic location of the region with regard to the natural resources at stake make this type of work feasible, important, and of international interest."

The funding spans a period of two years and the project is expected to go in execution phase during the last quarter of 2012. It is pertinent to mention here that Dr. Saad Qaisar and Dr. Emad Felemban have another joint effort already approved under September, 2010 round of NPST in the domain of Oil and Gas infrastructure. These fresh approvals would take Dr. Saad Qaisar's total attracted funds to the university to USD 1.4 million appx. Dr. Saad Qaisar is successfully leading eight international collaborations with Korean, Australian, British, Saudi, American and Italian counterparts. He joined NUST School of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science (SEECs) in July, 2009 after completion of his Ph.D. degree from Michigan State University, USA under supervision of Dr. Hayder Radha (Fellow, IEEE). Dr. Emad Felemban earned his Ph.D. from Ohio State University, USA and currently serving as vice-Dean (Research) at College of Computer and Information Systems (CIS), Umm-ul-Qura University (UQU), KSA.



NCSC celebrates New Year's Eve in SOS village, Rawalpindi

We should all think to do something good and special for those who are less fortunate to give them new hope and to make them believe in happiness once again. Keeping this in mind, NUST Community Service Club from NUST- School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering (SMME) decided to celebrate new year eve with the little children of the SOS Village, to give them good memories and to make the new year special and worth remembering both for the SOS children and also for the NCSC team.

Various stalls were installed including those of BBQ, face painting, etc. The students and the families from NUST H-12 were also present on the occasion to celebrate the new year with the children. NCSC thanked Ms Shamaa, the head of the SOS Village and NCSC Faculty Advisor Dr Irtiza Ali Shah and NCSC Patron in Chief Principle SMME Dr Ghafoor for their support in arranging the event.





On New Year's Eve

*... have the opportunity
Once more to right some wrongs
To pray for peace, to plant a tree
And sing more joyful songs.*

William Arthur Ward

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