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25<sup>Years</sup> of Academic  
Excellence

ICoBM-2016

International Conference on  
Business and Management

05

47<sup>th</sup> ACM

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*Grass is always  
greener at our side..*

**NUSTNEWS** is a bi-monthly publication of Publishing and Student Affairs Directorate, covering various activities from across the University.



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# 1 IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Combined SMME, ASAB, SNS convocation

## Over 300 graduate with a promising future

A unique mix of over 300 undergraduate and postgraduate students received degrees at the combined convocation of School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering (SMME), Atta-ur-Rahman School of Applied Biosciences (ASAB) and School of Natural Sciences, at the main campus of NUST on October 3, 2016.

Chairman Pakistan Engineering Council Engr Javed Salim Qureshi graced the occasion as chief guest. Among others present were luminaries from different walks of life, management and faculty of the university, and students and their parents.

The undergraduate students, 158 in total, were awarded degrees in the disciplines of Mechanical Engineering, Biosciences and Mathematics. Whereas, the other 152 graduate students were presented with degrees in the subjects of Mechanical Engineering, Design and Manufacturing Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Biomedical Sciences, Robotics and Intelligent Machine Engineering, Healthcare/Industrial/ Plant Biotechnology, Mathematics and Physics.

President's Gold Medal was awarded to overall 19 students (i.e. eight from SMME, six from ASAB and five from SNS) for best academic performance. Chancellor's Silver Medal was awarded to three students (i.e. one from each school) for being second best in academics. In addition, two students (i.e. one each from SMME and ASAB) got Rector's Gold Medal for best projects.

In recognition of their meritorious services in teaching and research, the best performing faculty (i.e. two each from the three schools) were conferred "Best Teacher" and "Best Researcher" awards. Community Service Award was also bestowed upon faculty and students for their extraordinary contributions to community service.

In his address, the chief guest felicitated the graduates and their parents on the realization of their long-cherished dreams. He also lauded NUST for having risen to global prominence in a very short span of time, adding that it had been possible only because of the sustained high teaching and research practices pursued at the university.



## SCME holds 5<sup>th</sup> UG, 7<sup>th</sup> PG convocation

School of Chemical and Materials Engineering (SCME) held its 5<sup>th</sup> Undergraduate and 7<sup>th</sup> Postgraduate Convocation at the university's Islamabad campus on October 29, 2016. The event was held in collaboration with School of Art, Design and Architecture (SADA). A total of 80 undergraduate students and 40 postgraduate scholars received their degrees at the auspicious occasion.



On the occasion, Dr Tayyaba Noor and Dr Ahmed Nawaz received Best Teacher Award and Best Researcher Award, respectively. Addressing the august gathering, Rector NUST Engr Muhammad Asghar congratulated the graduating students and wished them all the best for their future endeavors.

## Third batch of young army officers graduates from NUST

The convocation for awarding bachelor's degrees in Military Art and Science to the third batch of young Army officers, from 128 and 129 PMA Long Courses, was held at the main campus of NUST on September 8, 2016. Rector NUST Engr Muhammad Asghar graced the occasion as chief guest, while (then) Inspector General Training and Evaluation (IGT&E) Lieutenant General Qamar Javed Bajwa, HI (M), was the guest of honor. A large number of parents and dignitaries attended the ceremony.

Congratulating the young officers, the chief guest said that the armed forces had the very important responsibility of guarding the country's geographical frontiers. He called upon the young officers to lead by personal example and to inspire the men with their knowledge, competence, character, fortitude and perseverance. He further said that he was greatly pleased to note that Pakistan Army was according top priority to education of its officers and that NUST was making significant contribution in that national endeavour.



Principal NIPCONS Major General (R) Mazhar Saleem Khan, earlier in his welcome address, said that the focus of the program was to provide a solid base of an all-encompassing education and grooming to the officers, with a view to helping them on the road to further learning and higher education.

Rector NUST Engr Muhammad Asghar and IGT&E Lt Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa, HI (M) then distributed degrees and awards amongst the graduating officers.



## ICoBM-2016

# International Conference on Business and Management



The 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Business and Management (ICoBM) was held at NUST from October 26 to 27, 2016. NUST Business School (NBS) organized the conference in partnership with IBA Sukkur, IM Sciences Peshawar, IoBM Karachi and UMT Lahore. Prof Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms, attended the inaugural session as chief guest.

The aim of the conference was to bring academia, corporate and government on one page through a single platform for the exchange of ideas to create indigenous knowledge. A wide range of papers ranging from Foreign Direct Investment and Trade to Leadership styles and Innovative HR practices, from Entrepreneurship and Healthcare models were presented during the two-day event.

Addressing the audience, the minister emphasized that the nations benefit from the phenomena of positive self-image, optimistic view of the future and self-belief. He acknowledged the role of the academia and premier universities like NUST in spearheading initiatives related to R&D and collaboration with the industry. He also encouraged the researchers, faculty and students to think creatively and proactively to lead nation towards sustained and indigenous growth. The minister informed the audience that after the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) initiative, the government would soon launch the Knowledge Corridor by sending faculty and students for PhD to the top 200 universities in the United States of America.

Delivering the keynote address,

Rector NUST Engr Muhammad Asghar explained the role of entrepreneurial universities in the uplifting of any economy. He elaborated on NUST as a case in point and highlighted the core components of the Quadruple Helix Model, i.e., academia, industry, society and government, adding that the offices of R&D, Technology Incubation Centre, Global Think Tank Network and NUST Community Service Club were operating within the NUST ecosystem.

Earlier in his welcome address, Principal NBS Dr Naukhez Sarwar, highlighted the need for collaboration between the academia, industry and government for reaping the synergetic benefits they present. He also stressed upon the need for promoting multi-disciplinary education.

## Nustians shine at IROS-2016

A team from NUST College of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering and Technology Incubation Center has clinched runner-up position in “Robotics Entrepreneurship Forum” at the world’s biggest robotics event – International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS-2016). Team from Cambridge University seized the top slot.

It is the first time that Pakistan has won an award at this forum. Over 1500 researchers from more than 70 countries participated in various categories of the event. It may be mentioned here that IROS has the highest H-index in “Robotics” in the world.



## Inauguration of Microsoft Office Specialist Training Lab at SEECs

Inauguration ceremony of Microsoft Office Specialist Training Lab took place at SEECs on October 28, 2016. An introductory seminar preceded the formal inauguration of laboratory at Sherazi Lab. Mr Nadeem Malik, Country Manager Microsoft, was the chief guest at the occasion. He congratulated NUST on the launch of lab, terming it a value addition to the existing setup of state-of-the-art research facilities. Engr Rukhsana Zuberi, President TEC Education, joined in through a video link and talked about the significance of Certiport Testing Centre in Pakistan.

It is pertinent to mention here that NUST, till now, has become part of more than 16,000 Microsoft Imagine Academies around the world.





## SEECs project secures US \$100,000 grant

SEECs has secured a funding of USD 100,000 against a three-year project titled: "Modeling & simulation of electricity demand profiles in Pakistan for mix strategy decision making." The proposal was submitted under the Joint Research Grant between Arizona State University and SEECs, NUST.

Dr Imran Mahmood is the principal investigator whereas Prof George Karaday, Associate Prof

Hessam Sarjoghian, Arizona State University, Dr Moazam Fraz of SEECs, and Dr Kafayat USPCASE are the Co-Principal Investigators of the project.

Moreover, a collaboration with Arizona Centre of Integrative Modeling and Simulation (ACIMS) and Centre for Research in modeling, Simulation & Vision (CRIMSON)- SEECs has also been initiated through the Co-PIs.

## Book titled "Organic Food & Farming for all" launched

Institute of Environmental Science & Engineering (IESE-SCEE) hosted a book launch with the theme "Let's go Organic" on October 6, 2016. NUST Environment Club (NEC) organized the event in collaboration with The Network for Consumer Protection. The book is a translated Urdu language version of the report titled, "Organic Food and Farming for all." The report is aimed at giving easy-to-understand learning of organic food & farming, particularly to the students of Environmental Science

& Engineering. The ceremony was inaugurated by Associate Dean IESE, Dr Imran Hashmi, and key speakers included Dr Sher Muhammad (Sr. Director



NARC), Dr Hassan Orooj (DG Health Services, CDA), Dr Shahid Zia (Managing Director RBDC), and Mr Tariq Sattar (CEO The Network).

## ASAB becomes biotech research resource center

Islamic Development Bank (IDB), in collaboration with Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan, has initiated a project to streamline and declare Resource Centres (RCs) of Pakistan in leading technologies and industries, considered to be the backbone of any economy.

In this connection, Atta-ur-Rahman School of Applied Biosciences (ASAB-NUST) has been selected as a resource center from Pakistan in the field of biotechnology. The two other national institutions making it to the list of nominees are Dr Panjwani Center Karachi and Amson Vaccine Islamabad

These centres will participate in projects of capacity building and technology transfer across the Muslim world. They will also provide services and products to 56 Islamic countries under the umbrella of IDB and HEC, Pakistan.



## VISITS

# Italian Defense Minister speaks at NUST

The Defense Minister of Italy, H.E. Roberta Pinotti, visited NUST on September 19, 2016, to deliver a keynote address on the past and present of Italian contributions to peacekeeping and stability around the world. She talked at length about the pioneering role Italy had played in the formulation of internationally recognized and respected definitive humanitarian principles of humane conduct during conflict. She was speaking from the platform of Global Think Tank Network (GTTN) Lecture Series. The keynote took place as part of a distinguished panel consisting of GTTN Senior Fellows: Riaz Khokhar, former Foreign Secretary of Pakistan; Humayun Gauhar, renowned intellectual and noted man of letters; and Brig (R) Mujahid Alam, Principal Lawrence College and former senior Pakistani commander in UN peacekeeping missions. The panel was moderated by Owais Ghani, GTTN Senior Fellow and erstwhile Governor of Balochistan and KPK. National Security Advisor, Lt General (R)



Nasser Khan Janjua also graced the occasion with his presence.

Rector NUST Engr Muhammad Asghar made the closing remarks and stressed upon the need for harmonious development of inter-state relations. He drew attention towards the transformed nature of security and terrorism, adding that the global peace required a mindset irreducibly committed to peace as well as courageous enough to venture out for discovering new, creative but sustainable solutions to conflicts of varying nature.

## Delegates seek enhanced NUST, Belarusian HEIs cooperation

An eight-member Belarusian delegation visited NUST on September 23, 2016. The delegation comprised officials from Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus, National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Belarus Institute of System Analysis and Information Support for Scientific and Technological Sphere, State Committee on Science and Technology of the Republic of Belarus and Commercial Counselor Belarusian



Embassy of Belarus. Upon arrival, a briefing was given to the delegation about the institutions, programs, research initiatives and future plans of NUST. The delegates in their remarks greatly admired the NUST teaching and research programs along with infrastructure and facilities provided for its faculty and students to ensure quality teaching, learning and research. They also expressed desire to enhance

collaboration between NUST and top universities of Belarus in the areas of joint research, fellowships and exchange of faculty and students.

The delegates also visited NUST Atta-Ur-Rahman School Of Applied Biosciences (ASAB) and NUST Institute of Geographical Information Systems (IGIS) where they were briefed about various research equipment, laboratories and other facilities.



# Sejong University (Korea) delegation interviews NUST students for scholarships

A three-member delegation from Sejong University, Korea visited NUST on September 26, 2016. It included Professor Park Sangsik, Professor Kim Deok Kee and Mr Kwak Sujin, Associate Coordinator Sejong University International Office. Director Quality Assurance and International Collaborations Dr Riaz Ahmad welcomed the guests prior to a detailed briefing on NUST.



NUST holds an MoU with Sejong University for mutual cooperation and the aim of visit was to interview NUST students who have applied for scholarships at Sejong University. The selected students will be offered fully funded scholarships

for postgraduate programs. It may be mentioned here that a few NUST students are already studying at Sejong University under the scholarship arrangements.

## NCSC hosts USEFP-EducationUSA delegates



A delegation of EducationUSA, an international network of career advising centers that promotes American education worldwide, visited NUST as part of its Fall 2016 South Asia Tour along with the reps from United States Educational Foundation in Pakistan (USEFP) on September 26, 2016. NUST Community Service Club (NCSC) hosted the event held at the NBS seminar hall. After a brief introduction to the higher education system in America, the students, aspiring to pursue postgraduate studies in the United States, fielded questions regarding procedures and criteria involved in getting a Masters or PhD degree from any reputed university. The esteemed panel of speakers included Ms Fatema from New York University, Amir

Sadafi from the University of Colorado - Boulder and Raza Tiwana from Western Kentucky University alongside Ali Agha and Heba Al-Adawy from USEFP.



## NUST hosts delegation from Guangdong Intellectual Property Office, China

NUST hosted a delegation of Chinese officials from Guangdong Intellectual Property Office on October 17, 2016. Irfan & Irfan, Attorneys at Law, facilitated the visit, led by Ms Xie Hong, Deputy Director General at GIP. Engr Salman Absar, Director Research Innovation and Commercialization (RIC), received the delegation. Ensuing was a briefing on the university followed by a visit to NUST Centre for Entrepreneurship (CIE). The delegates expressed their desire to work more closely with NUST in the future and to develop mutual collaboration in the field of Intellectual Property Law.



## PEC re-accreditation visit to SEECs

A three-member PEC team completed a re-accreditation visit of SEECs for Bachelors in Electrical Engineering program with regard to OBE Paradigm from September 5 to 6, 2016. The team comprised Dr Nisar Ahmed, Professor GIK Institute and Convener, Inayatullah Babar, Professor at UET Peshawar and Dr Iftikhar Azim Niaz, Assistant Professor at COMSATS. After a briefing on SEECs and ensuing question & answer session, the team visited the school building and labs to review the facilities. The team then headed to document exhibit room where they judged the processes and implementation of

various methodologies at Department of Electrical Engineering. During the second day, the team interviewed students, faculty and staff.

Pro Rector Academics, Dr Asif Raza attended the concluding session. The team head, in his remarks, was all-praise for the facilities at SEECs and commended the commitment of the faculty and staff for ensuring quality education and implementation of OBE. The indigenous implementation of QOBE as an analytics tool for outcome-based education was recognized as the major milestone towards implementation of OBE in Pakistan.

## PEC team at SMME

A team from Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) team paid a visit to School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering (SMME) on September 22. They critically inspected the labs, safety hazards and the ongoing projects in different disciplines of Robotics and Artificial Intelligence, Design and Manufacturing Engineering and Bio Medical Engineering. They also interacted with the faculty besides going through the course folders. The visit was concluded with a debrief that highlighted the areas of improvement.





# Balochistan varsities' students at NUST

As part of the youth mobilization campaign under the auspices of DEVOTE Balochistan, a delegation comprising students and faculty of various universities of Balochistan visited NUST on September 19, 2016. Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Resources Jam Kamal Khan joined the interactive session as the chief guest. Upon arrival, the students were given a comprehensive briefing on the establishment, institutions, programs, research initiatives and future plans of NUST.



Speaking on the occasion, the minister expressed his gratitude to Rector NUST Engr Muhammad Asghar for affording Baloch students an opportunity to visit NUST: one of the premier universities of Pakistan. Talking about China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), he said that it was a golden opportunity in general and for Balochistan in particular. He said that there was a dire need of investing in the education sector, which had remained dormant over the years, particularly in Balochistan. He urged the students to pursue their education and subsequently serve the downtrodden of the province. He maintained that NUST had set a precedent in imparting world-class education, and that the universities across the

country, especially Balochistan, needed to follow suit.

Responding to the queries of visiting students, Rector NUST said that it was a misnomer that NUST was the university only for the rich. Contrary to this, he added, more than 50 per cent of students hailed from the middle and lower middle classes who were being supported through need-based scholarships. He said that he himself had spent a lot of time in Balochistan, which has a special place in his heart. He offered to support financially challenged students, who would get selected in NUST on merit. The Rector also informed the audience that NUST planned to establish its campus in Quetta in near future.

Later, the delegation was conducted to various institutions and research facilities on the campus.

## Cargar introduces Pakistan's first motorbike taxi service

With the aim to provide efficient, secure and inexpensive mode of transport to the people of Islamabad and Rawalpindi, Cargar, an incubatee at Technology Incubation Center of NUST, has recently introduced Pakistan's first "motorbike taxi service." Cargar also plans to expand to other major cities of the country in near future. The startup is a brainchild of Mr Faran Ahmad, who is the CEO of Cargar and a NUST graduate in Software Engineering. Whereas, Dr Faisal Shafait, a SEECS faculty member, is the Chief Strategy Officer, who provided the seed money for executing the project.



Cargar with its unique service has attracted media attention with the likes of BBC News Urdu, Pro-Pakistani, Express Tribune, SAMAA News, Dawn News bringing the initiative into the limelight.

## 47<sup>th</sup> Academic Council Meeting

The 47<sup>th</sup> Academic Council Meeting (ACM) of NUST was held at the main campus on September 22, 2016. The meeting was chaired by Engr Muhammad Asghar, Rector NUST and attended by the senior management of the university. It commenced with the recitation from Holy Qur'an. In his opening remarks the Rector gave a detailed account of the major milestones achieved by the university in the last quarter. The agenda included discussion on Outcome-based Education / Assessment (OBE/ OBA); Emphasis on Increasing NUST Publications; Sharing of Resources / Software; Launch of New Academic Programs; UG / PG Handbooks; and Employability of NUST graduates.



At the occasion, Dr Qaiser Hameed Malik, Director Academics, presented 21 working papers. The council approved 2 new PhD programs, i.e., Aerospace and Avionics Engineering) at CAE, apart from restructuring of 6 existing programs, amendment in NUST Statutes and Selection/Promotion of NUST Faculty. In the end, the Rector thanked all the participants for their valuable contribution.

## EME College faculty conferred SATHA Innovation Award

Mr Saheeb Ahmed Kayani, serving as Assistant Professor in Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of E&ME, has received SATHA Innovation Award for his research and development work related to indigenous design and fabrication of fleshing and shaving blades used in leather goods manufacturing industry in Pakistan. This award is sponsored by South Asian chapter of Triple Helix Association, Italy, an international organization devoted to bringing together universities, government, and industries for effective academia-industry linkage. The faculty member received the award in the "2nd Invention to Innovation Summit," from November 16 to 17, 2016. The event was organized by the Office of Research, Innovation, And Commercialization (ORIC) of University of Engineering and Technology, Peshawar.



## Paper Presentation

**Dr Muhammad Hanif**, Head of Basic Sciences and Humanities Department at College of EME, presented his research paper titled, "Optical Emission Studies of Indium Plasma Produced by an Nd: YAG Laser" in the "9th International Conference on Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS)." The conference was held at Chamonix-Mont-Blanc, France from September 12 to 16. Dr Hanif is an officer from Army Education Corps and has recently joined the college.



**Dr Qaiser Hameed Malik**, Director Academics presented a research paper titled "Actualizing Students' Prior Knowledge in Engineering Education" in 46th Annual Frontiers in Education (FIE) Conference held from October 12 to 15, 2016 at Erie Pennsylvania, USA. The FIE 2016 is one of the biggest conferences on Engineering Education Research (EER) around the globe and provides excellent and rare opportunities to the EER experts to share and appreciate the innovative teaching and learning practices in the field.





## 2 CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

### Workshop on EEG Data Acquisition and Signal Processing held at SEECS

A two-day hands-on workshop on “EEG Data Acquisition and Signal Processing” was arranged from September 22 to 23, 2016. It was jointly arranged by Neuroinformatics Lab and IEEE-SEECS.

The workshop was conducted by a team of scientists from Germany and the UK, in order to give participants a chance to explore the fields of neuroscience and neural-engineering network with leaders in the domain; add a new skill-set; and get ideas for research projects and theses.

First day of the workshop on EEG and Neuro-Informatics saw a tremendous response from participants, from fields as diverse as electrical engineering, psychology, mechanical engineering, computer science and psychiatry.

Principal SEECS Dr S. M. Hassan Zaidi, welcomed the guests and participants of the workshops. Professor Stefen Debener then gave an introductory lecture on



applications, current status, and future directions of EEG.

Pro-Rector Academics Dr Asif Raza praised SEECS for being the leading institution of NUST, and urged the participants to pursue goal-oriented research. He also praised the Neuro Informatics Lab for organizing the event.

### Workshop on Risk Management in Construction at MCE

A one-day workshop on “Risk Management in Construction” was held by Dr Sohail Malik at Military College of Engineering (MCE), Risalpur on September 24, 2016. Dr Sohail Malik, who has done Masters and PhD in Engineering Management from UET Taxila, has 15-year experience of managing diversified projects including residential construction, building, highway and infrastructure development projects. During the workshop, Dr Sohail Malik talked at length about risk planning, risk identification techniques, risk analysis techniques, risk response techniques and risk monitoring and control techniques. The workshop focused on developing a detailed risk management

plan to guide risk management activities, developing a risk register that is complete and accurate, qualify and quantify project risks and prepare risk response strategies to control the risks and maximize the opportunities.

A total of 11 professionals in the field, along with postgraduate students of the college participated and benefited from the workshop.

Certificates were awarded to all the participants. The workshop was approved as a CPD activity by Pakistan Engineering Council and participants earned 1.0 point each.

## Workshop on “Best Practices in Research” held at SEECS

The second series of workshops on “Best Practices in Research” was held on October 6, 2016 in SEECS seminar hall. Dr Faisal Shafait, Dr Syed Ali Hassan, Dr Khawar Khurshid, and Dr Imran Mahmood shared their research experiences and initiatives.

Informing the audience about the activities of Center for Research in Modeling, Simulation & Vision (CRIMSON), he talked at length about the key research challenges in the area of modeling and simulation. The talk also covered the impetus, vision and goals of the CRIMSON research lab.

Dr Syed Ali Hassan of Electrical Engineering Department at SEECS mentioned his research collaborations with Dr Nalin Jayakody, a professor at Tomsk Polytechnic University, Russia. He also talked



about his summer visit to Cisco Systems in California, USA where he was involved in designing multi-hop networks for home units.

## Preparatory Workshop for PMP Certification Exam

PDC organized a 35-hour preparatory workshop for Project Management Professional

Certification Exam of PMI, USA from September 5 to 8, 2016. The participants were representatives of various public and private sector organizations. The course covered all the nine basic areas of PMBoK, i.e., Scope Management, Time Management, Cost Management,



Quality Management, Human Resource Management, Communications Management, Risk Management, Procurement Management and Stakeholders Management.

## PDC organizes workshop on “Dyslexia”

Professional Development Centre (PDC) organized a one-day workshop on “Dyslexia” on October 28, 2016. The workshop focused on diagnosis, remediation and practical teaching skills to facilitate dyslexic students. The area experts conducted the workshop with participants representing Federal Board of Education, KRL and Roots School System.



Dyslexia is also known as a reading disorder. It is estimated that up to 10 percent of children in every classroom, who are otherwise intelligent, struggle with the acquisition of literacy skills.



# Orientation session for new PG, UG students at SMME

An orientation session was recently arranged for the new batch of postgraduate students at School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering (SMME). The new entrants were briefed about the school and its accomplishments in various fields like Robotics and Artificial Intelligence.

Meanwhile, SMME also held an introductory session for new undergraduate batch. Principal SMME Dr Abdul Ghafoor congratulated the newcomers on getting admission at the top engineering university of Pakistan.



## Lecture on Entrepreneurship “Opportunities and Challenges”



A guest lecture series on entrepreneurship has lately been initiated at SMME to create awareness among students regarding its significance and urgency. Dr Khalid Asghar, HoD Mechanical Engineering at the school, is the focal person in this perspective. In the first lecture, the guest speaker, explained how entrepreneurship had emerged as the defining factor in the development of any economy. He, therefore, urged the students to turn their creative potential into startups and eventually into large-scale businesses. The participating students showed their keenness to discover opportunities in the area.

## Talk on “The Need for Innovation in Education in Pakistan”

Ms Shahida Saleem, the senior technical advisor to UK AID, ILM Ideas Education Innovation Program, visited SEECS on October 26, 2016.

The purpose of her visit was to learn about the



MS ITE program and guide on possible collaborations with industry players on the areas of mutual interest. She expressed her interest in connecting the master's students with firms working on areas coinciding with their research theses, and in having the MS ITE faculty on board in consultancy projects with the industry.

One major outcome of the visit was the agreement that ITE-SEECS will hold an annual international conference wherein stakeholders viz educationists, innovators, content developers, policymakers, and investors could all come under one roof and try to solve problems of access, retention, and quality in the education sector of Pakistan.

Ms Shahida Saleem showed willingness to support SEECS in arranging conference on the subject sometime before summer 2017.

## Seminar on “Psychological First Aid” held on World Mental Health Day

Center for Counseling and Career Advisory (C<sup>3</sup>A) arranged a seminar on “Psychological First Aid” in connection with World Mental Health Day at NUST on October 6, 2016. The renowned psychiatrist, Dr Mowadat Rana was the guest speaker at the occasion. Psychological first aid is a humane, supportive and practical assistance to fellow human beings lately suffering a serious stressor. Right after a negative incident, immediate emotional and social support counts a lot in the treatment of a person before professional help is sought. Faculty and students from NUST attended the seminar. The participants appreciated the interactive talk and encouraged the idea of bringing such issues forward.



## Workshop on Patient Safety

Professional Development Center (PDC) organized a two-day intensive certificate course on “Patient Safety” at CIE building from October 26 to 27, 2016. The course aimed at providing knowledge of tools to implement and monitor patient safety practices in hospitals. The workshop was conducted by Dr Mati-ur-Rehman, who has done a certificate course in “Patient Safety” from John Hopkins, USA and is a master trainer of TEAMSTEPPS from AHRQ, USA.



## Training on “Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, Microskills” held at C<sup>3</sup>A

Centre for Career Counselling and Advisory (C<sup>3</sup>A) arranged a five-day training workshop on “Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT),” certified from Psychotherapy & EMDR Clinic and Mills Psychology, Professional Corporation, Canada.

The resource person was Dr Nighat Gilani, a renowned psychologist in Pakistan and a licenced psychotherapist registered from Canada. The participants were psychologists from several organizations such as military, counselling clinics and universities.





## Workshop on “Professional Grooming & Principles”

Professional Development Centre (PDC) organized a one-day intensive workshop on “Professional Grooming and Principles” on October 21, 2016. The workshop covered all the basic etiquettes from dressing to dinning, social to business and verbal to non-verbal communication.



## Counseling camp at FAST

Besides offering various on-campus activities, C<sup>3</sup>A is involved in providing community service through various informative activities in other national institutions. Recently, C<sup>3</sup>A organized a counseling camp at FAST, which has become a trademark of C<sup>3</sup>A.

The purpose of arranging such events is to help students better deal with their issues related to either their career or general anxieties.

The camp was inclusive of different activities such as Signature Analysis, Emotional Counseling, Personality Assessment and Career Counseling. Information regarding different scholarship programs was also provided to the students including HEC scholarships, USEFP, Common Wealth etc.

Around 300 students were registered for participating in these activities. FAST faculty members and officers also participated in these activities and appreciated the work of C<sup>3</sup>A for spreading awareness in community.



## Lecture on “Data Analytics and Impact Analysis” at NBS



CEO PeerNova, Dr. Naveed Sherwani recently delivered a lecture on “Data Analytics and Impact Analysis” at NUST Business School (NBS). With over 35 years of experience in entrepreneurship, technical engineering, and general management, Dr. Sherwani has served in boards of various high-profile companies.

The lecture was attended by NUST officials and alumni. It aimed at highlighting the importance of “Big Data” and “Analytics” in today’s digital world. Dr. Sherwani provided insights from his own entrepreneurial setup, PeerNova, a company focused on providing financial data analysis services for informed and intelligent decision making to the major banking sector organizations of the United States. Inculcating Big Data, and change impact analysis with the aspects of education, Dr. Sherwani stressed upon the much required reforms in the educational sector of Pakistan, indicating how the data of the children, teachers, and schools could play a vital role in the scalability of education and the learning process.

## Lecture on “Modern Managerial Challenges in the Construction Industry”

A lecture on “Modern Managerial Challenges in the Construction Industry” was arranged at NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE-SCEE) for the 2013 Civil Engineering Batch on October 5, 2016. The guest speaker for the occasion was Dr Jamal ud Din Thaheem. He is currently serving as HoD Construction Engineering and Management Department of NIT (SCEE). In his lecture, he explained the issues and challenges faced by construction industry stakeholders.



## Roundtable on Role of Diplomacy

Roundtable on Role of Diplomacy was held at the Centre for International Peace and Stability (CIPS) Islamabad on 05 October, 2016. Prominent among the speakers were Ambassador Fauzia Nasreen, Ambassador Ali Imam Naqvi, Ambassador Zamir Akram and Ambassador Shafqat Kakakhel. Mr Mobeen Mehar, Director Research at Ministry of Foreign Affairs, also attended the roundtable. The speakers recounted their experiences with regard to conflict resolution and management during their diplomatic careers. A large number of MS and PhD students attended the event. Towards the end, Principal NIPCONS Maj Gen Mazhar Saleem Khan (Retd) gave his concluding remarks and presented souvenirs to the guests.

## MCE faculty member participates in “International Conference on Transportation Infrastructure and Materials,” China

Dr Anwaar Ahmed, Head of Department of Basic Sciences at MCE, attended “International Conference on Transportation Infrastructure and Materials” in Xian, China and presented his paper titled, “Estimation of Highway Project Cost Using Probabilistic Techniques.”

The conference provided a unique forum for sharing the latest industry technologies, solutions and best practices from all over the world. The technical sessions featured experts and researchers.

Dr Anwaar’s presentation focused on estimation of highway project cost using probabilistic techniques. A comprehensive framework has been proposed that duly incorporates key project risk factors. Applicability of the proposed framework is demonstrated using a case study of a highway project.





## PNEC official represents Pak at WiSTEM, UAE

Some of the “world’s most influential female leaders” from the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) joined hands with the Meera Kaul Foundation (MKF) to bring on the



third installment of the Women in STEM (WiSTEM) Conference in Dubai, UAE from October 25 to 26, 2016.

Ms Sayada Yusrah Shah, Executive University Advancement Office at PNEC, was the sole representative speaker from Pakistan in the conference. She with her charismatic character and immense knowledge highlighted efforts being put in by Pakistan for the enhancement of Pakistani women in stem fields.

The two-day forum provided networking opportunity with up to 500 women from across USA, UK, Europe, Africa, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Pakistan, Egypt, China, Kazakhstan, Jordan and India. The event started with the introduction of first ever interactive workshops, targeting students and budding entrepreneurs, to discuss queries and misconceptions pertaining to STEM careers and start-ups showcasing stellar women from across these domains ensuring the content of the conference to remain rich, vibrant and everlasting.

The event concluded with the exclusive Women In STEM awards night, honoring exceptional women in STEM fields from all over the world.

## Conference on “Climate Change – Challenges & Opportunities for Youth”

A team of NUST Environment Club (NEC) represented the university at the Conference on “Climate Change: Opportunities & Challenges for Youth” held at Margala Hotel, Islamabad on October 14, 2016. It was organized by "Brot für die Welt", in collaboration with Lok Sanjh and other local organizations. The team from NUST was led by Engr Izhar Hussain Shah, Faculty Sponsor NUST Environment Club, along with students from the Institute of Environmental Sciences and Engineering (IESE-SCEE).

The main objective of the conference was to provide a platform for organizations and environmental professionals to discuss climate change resilience and its adaptive capacity building among the youth of



Pakistan. The team from NUST actively participated in group discussions and were able to enhance their understanding and share knowledge in the context of “Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience.”

# 3 CO CURRICULARS

## NUST observes Pink Day

Upholding the tradition of past years, NUST Science Society (NSS) took the lead to observe Pink Day at the university on October 7 in collaboration with Chughtai Labs. The breast cancer awareness event was a raging success as Muneeba Mazari was in attendance along with 150 people. The session proved to be very informative for the audience.



## NEC Registration Drive kicks off with a message



The registration drive of NUST Environment Club (NEC) for general and executive memberships started on September 21 and continued for the next four weeks. Innovative marketing techniques were adopted to attract students to the NUST Environment Club.

Globe-shaped piñatas were suspended in mid-air and the students were asked to break the piñata

open in order to get free candies.

Once everyone was done amalgamating candies, the registration drive team explained how humans are destroying the earth for their own benefit just like we ruined the piñata for the sake of free candies.

The activity was successful in creating a sense of responsibility within each individual.



## NAC registers newcomers

NUST Adventure Club (NAC) Registration Drive was launched at Concordia I&II in the month of October. A huge number of freshmen thronged the booths to get themselves registered with one of the most exciting clubs of NUST. The drive drew to a close on October 19, 2016.



## TABA Executive Membership Drive 2016-17

NCSC-TABA team conducted its Executive Membership Drive 2016-2017 in the month of October. The drive started on October 4, 2016 and lasted throughout the week. The purpose was to recruit new members for the operations of the society from across the H-12 Campus. Extensive social media and ground marketing was done to invite interested candidates for the executive positions in several different teams, including HR, Publications, Admin events, Décor, Media, Graphics, Operations, Marketing, Finance and Logistics.



The team now houses a council of 63 members dedicated to the noble cause of community service. The council is already in action and plans to start its activities soon.

## NEC Orientation and Green Hunt

An orientation session was held for all the new general members of NUST Environment Club (NEC) on October 7, 2016. The purpose was to formally welcome the freshmen aboard. On the day, a campus-wide scavenger hunt (NEC Green Hunt) was also arranged to keep things interesting. The winning team "Anhaar" from SCME stood first, and was awarded with certificates, gift vouchers and a basket full of goodies.



## SEECs orientation for 2016 batch

The orientation ceremony for the batch of Fall 2016 was held on September 19, 2016, to familiarize and formally welcome the new students to SEECs. The freshmen of Electrical Engineering BEE8, Software Engineering BESE7 and Computer Sciences BSCS6 formally joined SEECs on the day. Later, the Dean and Principal SEECs, Dr S M Hassan Zaidi congratulated the freshmen batch on successfully passing an important step of their lives. He informed students about the NUST knowledge ecosystem. Later, the students attended presentations on various departments of the school.



## NSS launches “Guideline Series” for newbies

Once the admission process of NUST ended and the lists of the newly admitted students finalised, NUST Science Society (NSS) launched its “Guideline Series.” The aim of the event was to publish information online in order to inform the freshmen batch about NUST, its schools and the life at NUST. Pictures along with key information were posted on the NSS Facebook page. The event disseminated important information with regard to both academic and non-academic pursuits of NUST.



## Study tour to cement plant at Sang Jani

The final-year students of Bachelors in Electrical Engineering (BEE 5D), visited a cement plant at Sang Jani along with Dr Ammar Hasan, a faculty member at SEECs. At the plant, the students were given a brief presentation on various functions and operations of the plant by the respective representatives.

## PNEC students experience paragliding

IMechE student PNEC chapter arranged an exciting paragliding tour to entertain young engineers in their monotonous routine on October 13, 2016. A group of 35 students took part in the paragliding event. The one-day adventure was set at Mubarak Village, Karachi, under the supervision of the professional EMAC para team.



## NAC arranges cliff diving event at Khanpur Dam

NUST Adventure Club (NAC) arranged a cliff diving event at Khanpur Dam on October 1, 2016. As many as 80 students joined in to experience the adventure at the picturesque spot. The trip was a pleasant change in the students' routine, who otherwise remain very busy in their academic activities.





## Pakistan women football team visits NUST

NUST *Bazm-e-Pakistan* (NBPK) provided the students of NUST a chance to meet the women football team of Pakistan on October 10, 2016 at the NBS seminar hall.

The guests included Abiha Haider, Mahpara Shahid, Roshnan Ali and Malika-e-Noor. The event was organized by NBPK on the fourth day of its recruitment drive. Red Bull was the sponsors for the event.



## NDS holds Fortnight Debates VI



The 6<sup>th</sup> installment of the fortnight debates, hosted by the NUST Debating Society, took place on October 19, 2016, at the NBS seminar hall. The topic for the session was, "This house believes that the democratic system of government is not suitable for the third world countries." The team opposing the assertion was adjudicated winner in the light of their forceful arguments.

## Waste Reduction Week arranged by NEC

An online social campaign was organized by NUST Environment Club (NEC) through its Facebook page from October 17 to 23, 2016. People were asked to create beautiful and useful items out of trash and then submit their pictures to the page.

The post with the maximum number of likes was to be announced as the winner. Along with this, many videos were shared that helped people better understand the three Rs, i.e., Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, the three key techniques to address and build on waste related woes.



## CAE team participates in UPC, Karachi

A team from College of Aeronautical Engineering (CAE) represented NUST at University Project Competition (UPC) held at Karachi from October 22 to 23. The competition was arranged by SUPARCO in connection with World Space Week (WSW) 2016. The CAE team, comprising one faculty member and two students, put on display included "Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM), System and Subsystem Design of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) Observation Satellite, Detailed Design of Detachable Photo-Voltaic Power Generation Panel for PNSS-1 and Satellite Tracking Analysis and Propagation (S-TRAP). "The WSW drew to a close with a prize distribution ceremony. CAE project "SLAM", presented by Pilot Officer M Shajeeh Mustafa, earned the third position.

# SPORTS

## PNEC Olympiad 2016

Dearth of talent is something alien to the sports of Pakistan. All what the sportsmen need is a playingfield with necessary toolkits to showcase the talent of sublime proportions. Mindful of the potential sprawling across the City of Lights (Karachi), PNEC Olympiad 2016 excited a huge number of gamers to converge on the college premises and be a part of one of the biggest sports extravaganza in the town. With the slogan “Stand tall and play ball” the Olympiad afforded the teams with an opportunity to partake in the sport of their choice.

The event, spanning over four days from October 27 to 30, registered players for as many as 11 sports viz. cricket, futsal, basketball, volleyball, throwball, tennis, squash, badminton, table tennis, e-Gaming (Fifa/Dota2) and chess.

The Olympiad culminated with a colourful closing ceremony on the final day. The excelling performances of individuals as well as the teams from all sport competitions were acknowledged through



the award of trophies and certificates. The winners were awarded cash prizes upto Rs 250,000. Director Academics NUST Dr Qaiser Hameed Malik graced the closing ceremony as chief guest.

Where the event entertained a large pool of youngsters, it helped promote the importance of sports in the lives of students; as the healthy minds dwell in healthy bodies. Besides, the activity attracted more sponsors for later events; turned out to be a



great management learning experience; as well as helped improve relations with other universities.

The organizing team included a total of 92 hardworking individuals without whom the event would not have seen the light of day. Though behind the curtains, the PNEC administration provided all the support required to hold the event of such huge magnitude.





# Intra-NUST Badminton Competition

Intra-NUST Badminton Competition 2016-17 was organized at the Islamabad campus from October 28 to 30, 2016. A total of 4 teams from CAE, MCS, College of EME and Islamabad Campus participated

in the men's category. In the final, Islamabad Campus defeated College of EME by 2-0. Brig Tariq Javed, Commandant College of EME, was the chief guest at the occasion.



Meanwhile, 3 teams from College of EME, MCS and Islamabad Campus participated in the women's category of Intra-NUST Badminton Competition played on leagues basis. The last match was played between Islamabad Campus and College of EME

which Islamabad Campus won by 2-0.

Lt. Col Ambreen Tariq (Mrs. Brig Tariq Javed, Commandant College of EME) was the chief guest of final match and presented the trophy to the winning Islamabad Campus team.



## On-campus Badminton

As many as nine teams – including S<sup>3</sup>H, SNS, ASAB, RCMS, NBS, SCEE, SCME, SADA, and SEECS – participated in On-Campus Badminton (Men) Competition 2016-17, organized at the Islamabad campus from October 14 to 16. SCEE faced SEECS in the final match and managed to register a 2-0 win over the opponents.

Meanwhile, a similar number of teams from the

same nine schools took part in the women's category. SEECS and S<sup>3</sup>H competed for the title in the final, wherein the former managed to reach the victory stand after an entertaining contest.

Dr Azad Akhter Siddiqui, Principal SNS, was the chief guest at the occasion and presented the winning sides with the trophies.



## Intra-SCEE Futsal Tournament



Intra-SCEE Futsal Tournament was organized for the undergraduate classes from October 17 to November 2, 2016. A total of ten teams from all SCEE schools participated in the tournament. The chief guest was Principal SCEE Dr Tariq Mahmood. He presented cash prizes worth Rs 10000 and Rs 6000 to the winning team and the runner-up, respectively.



## On-campus Squash Competitions

On-campus Squash Competition 2016-17 was organized at NUST Squash Courts, Islamabad campus from October 21 to 23, 2016. As many as 32 players participated in the men's event. Mr Zain-bin-Illays of SMME took on Mr Haseeb Taj (NICE-SCEE) in the final, beating the latter by 3-1 after a very thrilling contest.



Meanwhile, a total of 6 players took part in the women's competition. Ms Faiza Zafar of S<sup>3</sup>H and Ms Rukhsar Amaima of NICE-SCEE competed in the final. In what appeared to be a one-sided match, Faiza claimed the trophy after a decisive 3-0 win.

Dr Abdul Ghafoor, Principal SMME, was the chief guest at the occasion and handed over trophies to the winners from both the categories.



# 4 COMMUNITY SERVICE

## Workshop on Social Entrepreneurship

As part of the community service learning course, "Workshop on Social Entrepreneurship" was held at the seminar halls of NIT-SCEE and SMME from October 25 to 27, 2016. The audience comprised final-year students of SMME, SNS, SCME, NBS, S<sup>3</sup>H and ASAB. It incorporated talks on social entrepreneurship, micro financing, society building, talent management and capacity development causes around the world. The

speakers included AM Community Service NUST Ms Maheen Mumtaz and Mr Ahsaan Rizvi from Design for Pakistan.

A team of Fulbright alumni under the banner of Design for Pakistan also arranged an interactive group activity. They held interesting activities in which each participant was encouraged to propose a solution for energy or health crisis of Pakistan.



## Workshop on "First Aid and Firefighting"

A community service learning workshop on "First Aid and Firefighting" was conducted in NIT seminar hall from October 18 to 20 for students of SNS, ASAB, SMME, NBS, S<sup>3</sup>H and SCME. A comprehensive presentation was given on the topic prior to a very engaging interactive session. Ms Amna from AMC

and a team from Rescue 1122 also delivered talks during the course of workshop.

Towards the end, a practical demonstration was given on firefighting. A fire was lit in a controlled environment and was later put out by using fire extinguishers and pouring water from a fire truck.





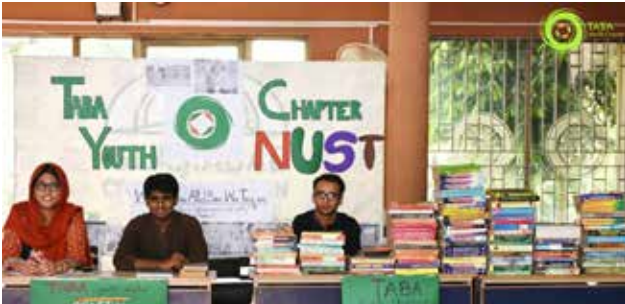
## NCSC-TABA holds book fair

Every semester NUST Community Service Club (NCSC) TABA team organizes a book fair to facilitate students in getting text and reference books at nominal prices for academic purposes.

Following the tradition, this year the biannual book fair was held from September 23 to 26, 2016. The aim was to provide the students with low-price

textbooks and in the process generate revenue for other community service projects like free tutoring and skill workshops for the underprivileged children.

The team collected hundreds of books from students and hostels all over the campus. The response was overwhelming as a number of students converged on the venue to benefit from the opportunity.



## Book donation drive

With a view to facilitating the needy students with access to free course books, the students of CSL-4 held a book donation drive. As a large number of students find it hard to buy course books, such drives allow them not to stay behind academically. The books can be used over and over again by different students as long as they are not worn out.

It is pertinent to mention here that students collect these books from their senior fellows, residing in various hostels of NUST, H-12 campus. This time around, the collected books were handed over to NBS, SMME and SNS libraries for further distribution among the deserving students.



## NCSC distributes bags at EDH Trust School

NUST Community Service Club (NCSC) distributed school bags with books and stationery items in a trust school being run by Education, Development and Health Foundation (EDHF). The school is located in a slum (Meharbadi) within the F-12 sector of Islamabad. The bags were distributed among the needy students.



## Teaching underprivileged children at Taah Jee School



The participants of Community Service Learning Course (CSL-4) extended free tutoring to as many as 15 underprivileged students at Taah Jee School, located in a slum of Islamabad. The Nustians employed non-conventional teaching methods to develop interest of

the children in their course books. The class activities included plays, a puppet show, story-telling, etc. The effort was impactful and drew appreciation of the school administration and the parents alike.

## NUST students spread smiles at Aagosh Orphanage

A group of NUST students visited Aagosh Orphanage, Rawalpindi on October 16, 2016. The purpose was to entertain children with a set of engaging activities, such as huddling them together for a game called "Pass the Parcel," painting to bring out their creativity potential, etc. Afterwards, they amused them with a puppet show using a whiteboard as a wall. The show was aimed at indirectly providing them with career counseling. The activities culminated with a quiz followed by prize distribution among those who gave correct answers. Before bidding the children adieu, NUST volunteers set up a photo booth for the kids.





## List of Abbreviations (NUST Institutions/Directorates)

<b>NBS</b>	NUST Business School
<b>ASAB</b>	Atta-ur-Rahman School of Applied Biosciences
<b>SADA</b>	School of Art, Design and Architecture
<b>SCEE</b>	School of Civil & Environmental Engineering
<b>NICE</b>	NUST Institute of Civil Engineering
<b>NIT</b>	National Institute of Transportation
<b>IESE</b>	Institute of Environmental Sciences & Engineering
<b>IGIS</b>	Institute of Geographical Information Systems
<b>SCME</b>	School of Chemical & Materials Engineering
<b>SEECs</b>	School of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science
<b>SMRIMMS</b>	Samar Mubarakmand Research Institute of Microwave and Millimeterwave Studies
<b>SMME</b>	School of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering
<b>S<sup>3</sup>H</b>	School of Social Sciences & Humanities
<b>SNS</b>	School of Natural Sciences
<b>CAE</b>	College of Aeronautical Engineering
<b>CEME</b>	College of Electrical & Mechanical Engineering
<b>MCE</b>	Military College of Engineering
<b>MCS</b>	Military College of Signals
<b>PNEC</b>	Pakistan Navy Engineering College
<b>NIPCONS</b>	NUST Institute of Peace & Conflict Studies
<b>C<sup>3</sup>A</b>	Center for Counseling and Career Advisory
<b>USPCAS-E</b>	US Pakistan Center for Advanced Studies in Energy
<b>RCMS</b>	Research Center for Modeling & Simulation
<b>CIPS</b>	Centre for International Peace & Stability
<b>CIE</b>	Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship
<b>CDC</b>	Career Development Center
<b>CIE</b>	Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship
<b>PDC</b>	Professional Development Center
<b>TIC</b>	Technology Incubation Center
<b>ILO</b>	Industrial Liaison Office
<b>PSA</b>	Publishing & Student Affairs
<b>Acad</b>	Academics
<b>HR</b>	Human Resource
<b>P&amp;MR</b>	Press & Media Relations
<b>QA</b>	Quality Assurance
<b>P&amp;D</b>	Planning & Development
<b>CAC</b>	Corporate Advisory Council
<b>ORIC</b>	Office of Research Innovation & Entrepreneurship
<b>TIC</b>	Technology Incubation Center

# *The NUSTIAN 2017*

*Bilingual Literary  
Magazine*

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Students, faculty and staff of all the campuses of NUST are encouraged to send their Essays, Poems, Book Reviews, Caricatures, Short Stories and Quality Jokes for inclusion in the forthcoming issue of the magazine.



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