



National University of  
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Latest HEC University Ranking

# NUST declared top engineering university of Pakistan

National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) has been declared the best engineering and technology university of Pakistan, as per the HEC university ranking list released on May 25, 2015. The ranking lists have been prepared on the basis of statistics pertaining to year 2013-14, which include the implementation status of quality assurance, teaching quality, research produced at the universities, finance and facilities for social integration and community development.

Rector NUST Engr. Muhammad Asghar has lauded the efforts of directorates at NUST Main Office and management, faculty and students of NUST institutions for implementation of quality standards, high quality teaching and conducting research of international level to bring this honour to the university. He has urged them to continue their efforts in their respective fields to take the university to even newer heights.





# NUST, Tus-Holdings (China) ink MoU for establishment of NSTP



National University of Sciences and Technology and Tus-Holdings (the operating company of Tsinghua University Science Park), China, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on June 27 for the establishment of National Science and Technology Park at NUST. The MoU was signed by Mr. Jiwu Wang, CEO Tus-Holdings Co. Ltd., and Engr. Muhammad Asghar, Rector NUST. Under the MoU, both sides shall consider to set up a joint venture company for the establishment of NSTP at Islamabad.

The MoU shall enable Tus-Holdings to transfer its experience of consolidated innovation space formation to the creation of NSTP, well modified to suit the demands and realities of innovation in Pakistan. The MoU signing ceremony was attended by Prof Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms; His Excellency Sun Weidong, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan; Prof Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan; Mr. Kamran Ali Qureshi, Federal Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology; and other senior government officials. From the Chinese side, Mr. Herbert Chen, Mr. Xiang Chen and other notable members of Tus-Holdings were present on the occasion. The agreement with Tus-Holdings is the latest in the series of cooperative initiatives that NUST has developed since 2011 with different Chinese universities, research institutes and policy centres. The partnership between NUST and TusPark will pave the way for the incorporation of NSTP as a flagship program for S&T, innovation and higher education components of the CPEC.

The NSTP is NUST's capstone program for the development of Pakistan's first university-based STP. It

was conceived as a means to harness the intellectual prowess of NUST's faculty and students, and exploit their innovative research potential and entrepreneurial spirit to create a dynamic knowledge ecosystem facilitating high-tech R&D. The NSTP concept is in line with the proven models of technology clusters built around eminent universities like Stanford University in the USA, Tsinghua University in China and the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) in South Korea, to name a few.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms, highlighted the significance of the MoU in the con-



text of expanding economic cooperation between Pakistan and China. It would help further the objectives of Pak-China Economic Corridor and Vision 2025, he added.

His Excellency Sun Weidong, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, congratulated NUST for taking the initiative of establishing science and technology park in Pakistan, which would strengthen the existing friendly ties between the two countries.

# Finding Innovative and Creative Solutions for Society 2015, grand finale held

National University of Sciences and Technology is one of the leading institutions of higher learning in the country. The University lays special focus on enhancing the application of science and technology for the betterment of society. As part of its mission to inculcate the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship, NUST makes concerted efforts to ensure that the students participate in a wide array of activities that blend scientific knowledge with innovative technologies and come up with solutions that can bring about a positive change in the life of a common man.

"Finding Innovative and Creative Solutions for Society (FICS)", a three-stage, Intra-University Competition, was thus conceived in the year 2013 to encourage NUST students to get actively involved in social problem identification, and think innovatively to devise technology-based solutions for them. The premise behind this competition was to capitalize upon the intellectual strength of the students enrolled in all 23 constituent schools and colleges of NUST across Pakistan and collectively strive for community uplift and socioeconomic development through deployment of scientific skills and tools. NUST, by its very mandate, strives to contribute not only to the economic development of Pakistan, but also to sustainable social development.

The concept of FICS fully conforms to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), proposed by the member states of Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), which was launched by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in August 2012.

The competition is open for Undergraduate, MS and PhD students. Stage 1 of the competition requires participating teams to submit a synopsis of their project ideas, which are then short-listed on the basis of their novelty, social impact, technical viability, commercialization, deployment potential, etc. In stage 2, students present, to a panel of judges from industry, a video or a presentation of their project ideas.

NUST always lays special stress in engaging with the industry in more meaningful and productive ways

as academic advances must be aligned with national socio-economic needs. A very unique facet of FICS is thus enhanced industry interest and engagement, which is not only visible in the industry providing complete patronage in the form of financial support for organizing all three stages of this competition, but is also clearly evident in the industry coming forth and giving unique project ideas to the students at the very onset of the competition, to encouraging students to form multi-disciplinary teams and providing active mentorship throughout the lifecycle of the competition.

Pakistan Software Houses Association for IT & ITES (P@SHA) Fund for Social Innovation was the lead partner in organizing FICS 2015, whereas Australian Education Office (AEO)-Pakistan, Interactive Group of Companies, National Instruments, Oracle Corporation-Pakistan, Ufone Pakistan, Channel 7 Communications Pvt. Ltd, Pakistan Innovation Fund (PIF),



Winning teams and FICS organizers with the guest of honor, Mr. Sarim Sheikh-President and CEO GE, Pakistan and chief guest, Rector NUST Engr. M Asghar.

Gillani Research Foundation, Teradata Corporation-Pakistan, Sybrid Pvt Ltd, Central Asia Cellular Forum, Trans Tech Group of Companies and Architech Pvt Ltd also extended generous financial support in organizing the competition.

The 3rd and final leg of the competition, the FICS grand finale in which the shortlisted teams present working prototypes of their project ideas, was organized at NUST on June 5, 2015.

Mr. Sarim Sheikh, President and CEO of General Elec-

tric (GE), Pakistan was invited as the guest of honor at the closing ceremony of FICS. GE is undoubtedly one of the global leaders in innovation; the presence of Mr. Sarim Sheikh was thus a source of great motivation and encouragement for the student teams participating in the FICS competition. Mr. Sheikh along with Engr. M Asghar, Rector NUST, lauded the efforts of participating teams and presented cash awards to the winners.

The project titled “Lithomatic” won the first prize in FICS 2015. This project involves indigenous design and fabrication of a cost-effective, safe and smart intra-corporeal pneumatic lithotripter which can be used to treat the urinary stone disease without surgical incisions. Lithomatic is the only team ever from Pakistan to make its place among the top 30 teams from all around the world in the prestigious PolyU Global Student Challenge. To reach there they have beaten the teams from the top universities including Virginia Tech, Cornell Uni, Georgia Institute of Technology, North Carolina State Uni and University of Technology, Sydney.

The second prize went to the project namely, “Tremquant”, an ergonomic wearable device developed for better diagnosis and effective tracking of tremors in

a patient’s activities, tasks and pattern. “HealthHub”, a solution aiming to revolutionize the healthcare sector by redefining the manner in which diagnostic reports from clinical labs are shared with doctors and patients by using interactive visualizations and smartphones, won the third prize. The consolation prize went to the project, “Glucosmart” a standalone non-invasive blood glucose monitoring device that accurately measures blood sugar level in real time, in a pain-free manner.

This year, a special category of “Applications for Counter Terrorism” was also added to this competition. This category was specially added after the Dec 16, 2014 APS tragedy to encourage students to come up with innovative solutions to tackle the growing menace of extremism. This prize was given to the project titled, “OMNES”, a device designed to use smartphone and accompanying devices to easily verify all different documents (like CNIC, drivers and arms license etc) using sensors for barcodes, QR codes, magnetic strips and facial recognition.

It was indeed heartening to witness the creative potential of the youth, which, given the right platform and opportunity, can prove wonders.



Rector NUST Engr. M. Asghar presenting NUST memento to the guest of honor, Mr. Sarim Sheikh.



# NEED Initiative receives enthusiastic response from donors, alumni



**Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman, founding chairman HEC, speaking at the launch of NEED Initiative.**

National University of Sciences and Technology successfully launched its Scholar's Support Program under "NUST Endowment for Educational Development (NEED) Initiative," at the University's main campus on May 16. The event was attended by philanthropists, donors, faculty, staff, and NUST alumni. A good number of alumni studying or working abroad also joined the launch through live video link. Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman, the founding chairman of Higher Education Commission, was the chief guest. The online donations and pledges touched the figure of PKR 20 Million by the close of the event.

The event was jointly organized by NUST Alumni Association and University Development Office. Special feature of the event was the launch of online donation management system. The software facilitates payment of donations and transparent monitoring of funds and expenditure by the donors.

Earlier, Rector NUST Engr. Muhammad Asghar, welcomed the participants, including those connected through internet and other media. He was of the view that the education sector had remained dormant for most part of the country's history, and it was high time that concrete measures were taken for its spread to every nook and corner. "Pakistan has a youth with immense potential. However, many of the brilliant students cannot get quality education for want of financial resources," he said. It was a matter of grave concern, and only initiatives, like NEED, held the promise for a better tomorrow, he added.

General Manager, NUST University Development Office, Maria Qadri, explained various facets of the NEED Initiative and its potential to help the talented but financially challenged students. NEED is a nationwide educational outreach campaign, in which NUST will reach out to promising students with weak financial background. After three-tiered merit system, the selected students will be provided free education from the endowment the NEED program generates.



The President of NUST Alumni Association, Amar Ahmed Khan, who is also Managing Director Middle East Division at Nexus Telecom and a graduate of NUST Military College of Signals, batch of 1999, opened the stage for interactive session and live pledging. He explained that the program aimed at financially supporting the underprivileged parents and guardians of the students, so that their children could pursue education at NUST under fully covered

need-based scholarships. Ammar took live calls of the Nustians overseas, who pledged donations for the endowment campaign.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Dr. Atta ur Rahman, termed it a “beginning of a fantastic journey,” adding, it would go a long way in bringing a positive change in the overall educational scenario of the country. “The world is changing fast in a way that the truth has be-

come stranger than fiction. Only those countries are making rapid progress, which are investing in education, considering it as the only resort for survival against the backdrop of fast-paced global advancements,” he said. He praised NUST for its meritorious achievements, while pinning high hopes that it would continue growing to even greater heights.

## NUST students benefitting from Prime Minister’s Fee Reimbursement Scheme

Prime Minister’s Fee Reimbursement Scheme focuses on enhancing higher education opportunities for the bright students belonging to the remote and far-flung areas of the country.

Areas included in the scheme are: Balochistan, Gilgit Baltistan, AJK, FATA, Interior Sindh, South Punjab, Malakand, Kohistan, D.I. Khan, Tank, Buner, Swat, Shangla, Upper Dir, Lower Dir and Chitral districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Attock, Khushab, Mianwali and Bhakkar of Punjab.

Prime Minister’s Fee Reimbursement Scheme for

less-developed areas has been successfully executed in the year 2013-14 in which almost 50,000 students belonging to less-developed areas have been benefited.

As many as 11 PhD students of NUST, who belong to the specified less-developed areas, have been paid 1st installment amounting to Rs.1.905M in the last FY 2013-14 and now they are being paid their 2nd installment (Rs.0.835M), whereas 06 new students of Spring semester, 2015, have been included afresh, who are being paid their 1st installment (Rs. 0.69M).

### Two RCMS students secure fully funded PhD scholarships

Mr. Samar Hayat Khan Tareen, MS student of RCMS, secured fully funded PhD Scholarship in the area of Systems Biology from Maastricht University, Netherlands. Similarly, Misbah Razaq has secured fully funded PhD Scholarship from Ecole Centrale de Nantes (ECN), France. She will proceed to France to do her PhD in the area of Systems Biology at Institut de Recherche en Communications et Cybernétique de Nantes (IRCCyN), ECN. Their MS thesis was supervised by Assistant Professor Dr. Jamil Ahmad at RCMS.

### RCMS student wins poster presentation award at 3rd Annual National Computational Science Conference

Tabeer Fatima, student of MS CS&E, presented a poster at the 3rd Annual National Computational Science Conference held from May 13 to 15 at Institute of Space Technology (IST), Islamabad. In this poster titled “Catalytic Mechanism of 6-Phosphogluconolactonase: The Second Enzyme in the Oxidative Pentose Phosphate Pathway”, she presented her preliminary results on 6-Phosphogluconolactonase enzyme, which is an active drug target against African sleeping sickness. She obtained third best poster presentation award in the conference. The research work was supervised by Dr. Farooq Ahmad Kiani, Associate Professor at RCMS, NUST.



# PTA Mobile Application Awards 2015

Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) launched a national level competition "Pakistan Mobile Application Awards 2015" in partnership with all mobile operators, Internet Society (ISOC) Asia-Pacific Bureau and Samsung. The competition was aimed to encourage young innovators and entrepreneurs to develop new mobile applications. A pre-defined criteria was announced by PTA for the submissions which included innovation, ease of use and reach, impact of the application when used by people, businesses and society, tangible business benefits, ability of the application to drive change, growth and empowerment for people, businesses and society in the agriculture, entertainment, children, security, community and business domains.

A total of 100 submissions were received by PTA for Pakistan Mobile Application Awards 2015, which were later on scrutinized and evaluated by a committee of information technology and software experts through a transparent procedure of marking. The committee selected the top three applications for the awards. Students of Computer Software Engineering, Military College of Signals (MCS) actively participated in this competition and showed very en-



couraging results. Mobile application "Catch the Bus" developed by a student syndicate of Military College of Signals comprising Major Waqas Ajmal Khan, Major Amir Munir and Captain Ali Zohair Kazmi attending BESE-17 Course and supervised by Brigadier Fahim Arif, secured 2nd position in Pakistan Mobile Application Awards 2015. The student syndicate was presented an award of Rs 75000/- by Ms. Anusha Rahman, Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunications in a ceremony for the announcement of winners of "Pakistan Mobile App Award 2015" held on April 27, 2015 at Islamabad.

Chairman SUPARCO Major General (Retired) Ahmed Bilal, Chairman PTA Dr. Syed Ismail Shah, representatives from the government, industry, academia and media attended the event. The awards proved to be well acknowledged and reflected an evolution of innovation in Pakistan duly supported after introduction of 3G / 4G services in the country.

## Faculty member granted robotics patent

Mr. Saheeb Ahmed Kayani, serving as assistant professor in Department of Mechanical Engineering, NUST College of E&ME has been granted a national patent in robotics by the patent office (IPO-Pakistan), Karachi. The device invented by the faculty member is called 'Mini Wheel for Mobile Robot' and is a miniature wheel arrangement intended for use in direction control and navigation of wheeled mobile robot platforms. This device actuated by a stepper motor can be employed in a tricycle configuration to steer a mobile robot for precise navigation tasks (i.e. involving but not limited to line-tracking applications). The hallmark of the device is its simple design, and quick assembly and adjustment with the actuator and ro-

bot chassis. Combinations of two or more of these mini wheels can also be used for fine-controlling any other type of mobile robot movement in a structured environment.

Mr. Saheeb Ahmed Kayani is a graduate of NUST and has published many research papers in the field of robotics and mechatronic system design and analysis. He has served on the editorial board of International Journal of Advanced Robotic Systems and as invited reviewer for various international journals and conferences of repute.



## ASAB faculty attends prestigious conference on cancer medicine in Luxembourg

Dr. Amjad Ali of ASAB has had the privilege of recently attending one of Europe's prestigious conferences jointly organized by European Association for Cancer Research and Organization of European Cancer Institute from March 1 to 4, 2015 in Luxembourg.

The theme of this conference was "Precision Medicine for Cancer" and it brought together researchers, clinicians and healthcare professionals from various different countries including USA, UK, EU, Singapore, Taiwan, Turkey, Pakistan and India. This conference provided an opportunity for the participants to share their research and create a critical mass of expertise

with a view to building and maintaining a consensus on the best models and solutions to improve the quality of life for cancer patients both in the EU and around the world.

The poster presented by Dr. Amjad Ali described the ongoing collaborative project between ASAB (Dr. Amjad Ali and Dr. Shahzina Kanwal) and RCMS (Dr. Jamil Ahmad and Dr. Tariq Saeed) titled "Apoptosis pathway and its behaviors (induced and normal) in cancer" with a focus on breast cancer. Dr. Amjad Ali secured a participation grant worth €1000 for full time attendance.

## Human resource development at NUST

Human Resource Directorate plays a key role in the overall university growth through professional development programs, trainings, workshops and short courses, both nationwide and abroad, for faculty as well as support staff. In this connection, the training activities recently held included: Workshop on "Stress Management" for Faculty/ Officers on May 12; Workshop on "Stress Management" for NG Staff on May 13; and Orientation Training for New NG Staff on May 27.

Faculty development programs are run at NUST and abroad to prepare its faculty to meet their research and instructional responsibilities in a befitting manner. In this regard, two scholars have proceeded abroad for PhD studies in highly reputed foreign universities of the world during May-June 2015.

NIO (HRD) has shared information on several scholarships in the reputed universities with different schools/ colleges/ centers for further dissemination to faculty members.

## *Khatm-e-Qur'an* ceremonies held

The enlightening *Khatm-e-Qur'an* ceremonies were organised by the University's Administration Directorate with zeal and religious fervor at the three mosques of NUST Main Campus, i.e., *Masjid-e-Noor* (July 10), *Masjid-e-Taqwa* (July 12) and *Masjid-e-Rehmat* (July 14).

All these mosques were beautifully decorated, and the congregations were attended by overwhelmingly huge strength of NUST employees, residents and students. Congregations entailed recitation of the Holy Quran, *Naat* and sermons that focused on enlightening the audience with the significance of '*Shab-e-Qadr*' and finally culminated with prayer (dua) for all muslim ummah in general and prosperity of NUST in particular.



# Tribal Fest enthralls audience at NUST



National University of Sciences and Technology held a first-of-its-kind event, Tribal Fest: The Art of Fire making, on a Friday evening. Organized by NUST Fine Arts Club, the event aimed to acknowledge all the practices and traditions in Pakistan, employing fire as a medium of expression. The event also showcased diverse flavours of cultural performances that enthralled the audience comprising students, faculty, staff and their families.

Welcoming the gathering, Aaminah Shahid, President Fine Arts Club, said that the event was in fact an effort to pay homage to artists, who keep the local culture alive with their unique performances through a variety of art forms. Ashraf Kamal, a renowned fire juggler and fire breather, performed daring acts of juggling with enflamed objects. A performance group Dittu Bheel, which is a Lok Virsa regular, followed with unique dances and various unusual performances. Another

performance was by Gungan Saeen, a drum beater by profession. Saeen cannot hear and speak but makes his beats heard through the vibrations of his drums. Lastly, Khumariyan, a well-known Sufi band from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, performed with its soothing beats.

On the occasion, a total of six sculptures were set on fire, adding to the entire ambience already decorated with various fairy lights and handmade cardboard lanterns. Besides, some talented students from NUST also staged dance and music performances to the delight of the packed audience.

The event drew to a close with a lucky draw in which a student from School of Civil and Environmental Engineering won a return ticket to Dubai. It is pertinent to mention here that a workshop was also held prior to the event, which taught participants about various techniques in making fire sculptures.





## International seminar on “Sustainable Urban Transport System” held at NIT, SCEE



A one-day international seminar was held on “Sustainable Urban Transportation System: Challenges and Opportunities in Developing Countries” at National Institute of Transportation (NIT) on May 14, 2015.

The purpose of this seminar was to provide a platform to bring together professionals with diverse experience to learn more about the urban transport issues in the context of urbanization in developing countries and to develop a clear vision statement for vital sustainable solutions to the emerging urban

transportation problems like affordable transport or mobility, congestion and environmental impacts of transport, energy efficient transport, mass transit systems, road safety and parking and sustainable transport planning.

As many as 5 distinguished speakers addressed the audience including Dr. Eric C. Bruun (Aalto University, Finland), Dr. S.M. Asghar Bukhari (Transport Planning Unit, Lahore), Mr. Tahir Shamshad (NESPAK), Dr. M. Irfan (MCE, NUST) and Engr. S. Sajjad Khan (Urban Policy Unit). Peshawar).

## Seminar on Dissertation and Thesis Databases

A seminar on ProQuest Dissertation and Thesis Databases and SUMMON was held at SEECS Seminar Hall on Wednesday July 8, 2015.

This seminar was organized by Directorate of Research. Mr. Anas Abdul Hadi, Senior Manager of ProQuest, was the resource person and guest speaker. Mr. Hadi has been working with ProQuest as Area Sales Manager since 2008 and is currently in-charge



of Middle East including Jordan, Lebanon, UAE, Egypt, Bahrain, Libya and Pakistan. The seminar was well attended with representation from all NUST institu-

tions. It started with recitation from the Holy Quran followed by an introduction to ProQuest.

Pro-Rector (Academics) Dr. Asif Raza was the chief guest on this occasion, who in his opening remarks welcomed the guest speaker and urged the researchers to extensively utilize the ICT tools. He further highlighted NUST efforts to eradicate plagiarism and anticipated that participants would greatly benefit from the seminar.

Thereafter, Mr. Hadi demonstrated various features and utilities of ProQuest. He emphasized that it would help researchers by enabling them to access vetted content from various publishers worldwide. He further added that it was the only agency in the

United States that published dissertations and theses for all American universities. Moreover, he also talked about various applications of SUMMON and expressed his joy over HEC initiative to implement its trial version.

Later on, the Pro-Rector presented souvenirs to the guest speaker and representatives from A&J Def Tek Consultants.

In his closing remarks, the chief guest thanked Mr. Hadi and appreciated Research Directorate for the informative session and expressed his hope that NUST would look forward to implementing some of its utilities for giving global access to students to publish their work.

## BioMoS-I workshop held at RCMS

Research Center for Modeling and Simulation (RCMS) organized a four-day workshop on "Bio-molecular Simulations" from May 4 to 7, 2015. A total of 21 faculty members and research students from Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad, University of Gujrat, GC University Faisalabad, COMSATS Abbottabad, and International Islamic University Islamabad attended the workshop.

The workshop was sponsored by Hewlett Packard, Pakistan and contained both theoretical and practical sessions. In addition, two keynote lectures were delivered by guest speakers Prof. Dr. Farzana Latif Ansari and Prof. Dr. Rumana Qureshi from Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.

The purpose of the workshop was to acquaint the participants with the state-of-the-art biomolecular modeling and simulation techniques currently being used in the disciplines of computational chemistry and computational biochemistry. The participants learned the theory and application of force-field methods, and implemented molecular dynamics simulations on Bovine Pancreatic Trypsin Inhibitor (BPTI) protein. The workshop was rated highly by faculty members as well as students. The faculty members of other universities discussed possibilities of collaboration with the RCMS faculty.

The concluding ceremony of BioMoS-I, held on May 7, 2015, was presided over by Pro-Rector Academics Dr. Asif Raza. In concluding remarks, Dr. Asif Raza



said that the launch of first computational chemistry stream in Pakistan at RCMS, NUST was a milestone in the development of theoretical and computational sciences in Pakistan. Certificates and souvenirs were distributed among participants, guest speakers, organizers and the representative of the Hewlett Packard Pakistan.



# Workshop on “Omics of Begomoviruses and its impact on National Economy”

Begomoviruses are a group of plant viruses that have plagued the agricultural sector on a large scale and are the major cause of the cotton leaf curl disease in the country's largest cash crop (cotton). Pakistan being a predominantly agricultural country is thus facing a plethora of challenges which manifest in the form of these diseases leading to a significant impact on national economy. Selected research groups around the country are working towards finding possible solutions to this problem. The department of Plant Biotechnology at Atta-ur-Rahman School of Applied Biosciences, under the guidance of Principal Peter John and leadership of Dr. M Tahir is one of the most prominent groups working in this area. The project worth \$ 292,000 is funded by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and ICARDA.

In a recent and related effort to highlight the potential impact of this virus, a three-day workshop was conducted by ASAB in collaboration with USDA and ICARDA. The workshop titled “Omics of Begomoviruses and its impact on National Economy,” was mainly

intended to promote awareness regarding the virus's role in causing economic losses. Another purpose of this workshop was to provide hands-on training to students and researchers in this field by highly skilled faculty at ASAB in order to develop effective control



mechanisms. It was ensured that researchers from far-flung areas of the country like Balouchistan and KPK were given preference in order to give them the necessary exposure, essential for intellectual growth. The participating universities included University of Swat, University of Azad Jammu Kashmir, University of Baluchistan, and other universities from KPK and Southern Punjab.

## Seminar on scholarship opportunities at ASAB

A seminar on scholarships and future pathways in academia was organized by Atta-ur-Rahman School of Applied Biosciences, on May 5, 2015, in collaboration with Erasmus Mundus Association (EMA)—the representative of Erasmus Mundus scholarship beneficiaries. The speaker, Mr. Rizwan Mumtaz, President of South Asian Chapter, EMA, introduced the participants with different actions of exchange studies and full degree and short term scholarship opportunities that Erasmus+ provides. In addition, there was also a small session with the ASAB management in which different aspects of credit mobility, bilateral agreements, and capacity building for higher education under Erasmus+ program were discussed to highlight the benefits for NUST in the coming years.

Dr. Hussnain A. Janjua, ASAB coordinated and liaised this event with Erasmus Mundus Association, while Ms. Tahira Khan, an MS student at ASAB, took care of the organization and promotion of the event across NUST.





## Engr. Muhammad Ismail presents paper at APQN Conference

Engr. Muhammad Ismail, Director Quality Assurance (QA) NUST, presented a paper titled "A Model Internal QA System" at Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN) Conference 2015. The conference was held on April 17, 2015, at Kunming, China, and attended by 240 delegates from 30 countries. The paper briefly introduced the QA Framework prescribed by Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan, which comprises External and Internal QA measures. However, it deliberated, in detail, on the activities in the realm of Internal QA as undertaken at NUST. These activities included Self-Assessment of Programs and the University's Internal Quality Audit of the constituent Institutions of NUST. It was also highlighted that NUST undertakes the internal quality audit of its institutions, although it has not been declared mandatory by the HEC. Engr. Ismail elucidated the procedures for both Internal QA activities and mentioned the benefits accrued by NUST in terms of improving the governance, processes, teaching, learning, faculty and student support services and research. He informed the audience that the Internal QA system followed at NUST received APQN's Best/ Model Internal QA Award-2014 and was recommended for adapting by other APQN members. The paper has also been selected for publishing in the proceedings of the conference.



## MCS faculty member participates in 17th International Conference on Plasma Physics, Dubai

International Conference on Plasma Physics (ICPP) is the premier interdisciplinary forum for the presentation of new advances and research results in the fields of Plasma Physics. The conference was organized by World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology (WASET) at Hotel Crown Plaza, Dubai (UAE) from June 18 to 19, 2015. Dr. Muhammad Hanif, a faculty member of MCS participated in the conference with the financial support of NUST. He presented his research paper titled "Spectroscopic Characterization of Indium-Tin Laser Ablated Plasma". The presented research has been published in the "International Journal of Mathematical, Computational, Statistical, Natural and Physical Engineering" Volume 9, Issue 6, July 2015.



## Seminars at Department of Behavioral Sciences, S<sup>3</sup>H

Department of Behavioral Sciences (DBS) organized two seminars in the month of April 2015 for post-graduate students, so that they could interact and learn from senior professionals. Prof. Dr. Murad Musa from Agha Khan University Hospital visited DBS on April 23, 2015, and gave a presentation on "Suicide and 'Suicide' Bombing in Pakistan: Do They Have a Common Pathway?" During his presentation, he shared that in the recent years both suicide and 'suicide' bombing (SB) have shown a dramatic increase in Pakistan. Understanding the common pathway in both suicide and SB in the context of Pakistan is important for their prevention. He stressed that prevention programs should focus on improving the social conditions in the country, the absence of which leads to frustration and anger in the youth, contributing to a pool from which both the future suicides and 'suicide' bombers are drawn. There is also need for more research in both suicide and SB. Postgraduate students, faculty members from S<sup>3</sup>H and C<sup>3</sup>A, HoDs and Dr. Ashfaq Hassan, Dean School of Social Sciences, also attended this seminar and greatly acknowledged its importance and relevance.

Ms. Shehzi Yusuf (an experienced Clinical Psychologist from Westmead Hospital in Sydney, Aus-



tralia) visited DBS on April 27, 2015. She conducted a session on "Third Wave Therapy: Mindfulness and its Therapeutic utility". Third wave psychological therapy are treatment approaches for psychological disorders which aim at helping people to become more aware of their thoughts and treat them in a non-judgemental way. Ms. Shehzi Yusuf is practicing as a clinical psychologist for last 27 years and thus shared her knowledge and valuable experiences during the seminar with students enrolled in MS Clinical Psychology Program and clinical psychologists who came from other institutions to attend this seminar. A very positive feedback was received from participants and appreciated the efforts made by DBS to hold this seminar.

## Course on "Supporting Humanitarian Action in Responding to Emergencies and Disasters," Indonesia

Mr. Ajab Khan (HoD PKT) and Mr. Sher Akbar (faculty member at Centre for International Peace and Stability) attended a course on "Supporting Humanitarian Action in Responding to Emergencies and Disasters (SHARED)" in Indonesia from May 25 to 29, 2015.

The course was organized by the UN Office of Coordination and Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in collaboration with Centre for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (CFE-DMHA).





## PDC organizes “Preparatory Workshop for PMI, USA, PMP Certification Exam”

Professional Development Centre (PDC) organized a training programme for industry professionals from April 19 to 26 and May 2, 2015. The course was designed for the working professionals who were planning to appear in PMP Certification exam of PMI USA. In this 35-hour program, participants were empowered with essential knowledge on the nine areas of PMBoK (Project Management Body of Knowledge) 5th edition of PMI of USA. The participants were issued certificates for completing the 35-hour PMP training to earn PDUs required for PMP examination.



## RCMS faculty publishes article in reputed journal

Current Opinion in Structural Biology is a prestigious journal committed to bringing forth the most recent interdisciplinary advances in biological research. Dr. Farooq Ahmad Kiani, Associate Professor at Research Centre for Modeling and Simulation and Dr. Stefan Fischer, Head Computational Biochemistry at IWR, Heidelberg University jointly published an invited review article titled “Advances in quantum simulations of ATPase catalysis in the myosin motor” in the journal. In their article published on May 22, 2015, the authors have provided an in-depth overview of the current computational methodologies used to study ATP hydrolysis in myosin motor and related biological systems. The journal has an impact factor of 8.7.





## Counseling camp for promoting psychological health

Everyone has a sense of how to be happy or contented in their own way. Eventually, it helps a person maintain their psychological and emotional health. At times, due to busy life schedules and pressures of daily living, we restrain ourselves from happiness. Being mindful of the importance of emotional wellbeing, C<sup>3</sup>A organized a counseling camp for students, faculty and staff. One of the key objectives was to raise awareness about mental health and ways to reduce self-created stressors from our lives. The camp was inclusive of different activities such as dream interpretation, signature analysis, on-the-spot counseling, career counseling and testing. Around 300 students were registered for different activities. NUST faculty members and officers also participated in this activity and appreciated the work of C<sup>3</sup>A for spreading awareness in the NUST community. The media coverage of C<sup>3</sup>A Counseling Camp was done by PTV, WAQT and NEO TV Networks.



## C<sup>3</sup>A psychologist presents paper at ICMH 2015

A research was recently conducted on "Determinants of Perceived Stress during Pregnancy". Based on this research, a paper was presented by a C<sup>3</sup>A psychologist, Annum Khan at 2nd International Conference on Mental Health (ICMH) by International Islamic University, Malaysia (IIUM). The conference was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from May 5 to 6, 2015. The paper reviewed and discussed key concepts of working women's role in managing their dual life careers in professional and personal capacities. The research also explored the extent to which this female group



is susceptible to stress when it begins to start its family lifecycle. Considering the distinctiveness and quality of work, the presentation received appreciation from the scientific committee. The research has unquestionably added to the body of knowledge in psychology and to C<sup>3</sup>A's contribution to research at NUST.

## Stress Management: a student's perspective

Stress can be a positive event that helps us feel motivated and focused. Many students allow their stress to go unchecked, causing a negative experience. It has been regularly observed that by the end of a semester, students undergo various levels of stress due to academic, social and personal issues. In order to address this issue, Center for Counseling and Career Advisory (C<sup>3</sup>A) arranged a series of interactive seminars on "Stress Management: A Student's Perspective" for NUST students. These sessions were conducted at SCEE, SEECS, SMME–Islamabad, AMC–Rawalpindi, MCE and CAE–Risalpur. The students appreciated this learning experience which involved case studies and checklists for individual stress assessment. The seminars received positive feedback from the participants and emphasis was given on having more trainings on such life management skills.



## Symposium on "Contributions of Psychology to Peace in South Africa"

Dr. Zahid Shahab Ahmed (Assistant Professor, CIPS) participated in the 14th International Symposium on "Contributions of Psychology to Peace in South Africa" from May 29 to June 5. The conference was organized by University of South Africa (UNISA).







# MCS Myriad 2015

MCS Myriad 2015 was recently organized at Military College of Signals. It was held for the second time after the tremendous popularity of first ever MCS Myriad held in 2011. Myriad 2015 comprised variety of events in categories of creativity, aesthetics, sports, technology and entertainment. This exclusive student-oriented extravaganza has successfully provided a platform where not only competition and creativity are encouraged among university students but leadership and management skills are also fostered.



In this year's three-day event, as many as 1178 contestants from 27 different universities across Pakistan participated enthusiastically in 24 events. The events included Carnival/Fun Fair, Marathon Cross MCS, T-Shirt Painting, Tennis, Futsal, Table Tennis (Boys), Table Tennis (Girls), Badminton, Chess, Ludo, Solo Singing, Scavenger Hunt, Dumb Charades, Mini MUN, Cooking, Essay Writing, Parliamentary Debates, Declamation, e-Gaming, Photography, Speed Programming, Movie Night, Tam-bola, Sand Castle, and Wall Graffiti.





# Amcolians' Dramatics Competition 2015



The theme for this year's dramatics competition was "*Main Jahan Hun*" or "I in the moment" which was interpreted differently by almost every batch as they stepped onto the stage with another beautifully structured narrative.

Firstly, the audience were introduced to the story of Wahab (enacted by Ammar Yasir of 3rd year BDS), a successful athlete with arrogance knowing no bounds as he kept on being discourteous to his parents and friends which landed him in deep trouble. After being crippled and realizing that he had been pushing away the people who supported him the most, Wahab makes amends and the crowd applauds his safe passage back to reality.

Next up came 4th year MBBS with another heartrending story of sorrow questioning our taboos and cultural norms. The story was an intricate tangle of a poor villager (presented by Najaf Abbas) whose daughter (Hajra Maryam) secretly marries the son of the Chaudhary who refuses to publically acknowledge her, leading to her suicide. Her brother murders the police officer who refuses to write a complaint against the landlord's son leading him on to the dangerous road of terrorism and devastation. The script was a perfect balance of tragedy and humor as people kept laughing at the crispy dialogues.

Subsequently, another thought-provoking performance of students won the applause of the audience. The play had a deep impact on the audience completely spellbound by the beautiful verses quoted by Ahmed Cheema who depicted the strength of a real Muslim, showing us what path Allah had chosen for us and how we overlooked those values in this self-proclaimed modern era of 21st century!



# Annual Inter-company Parliamentary Debate at AM College

Under the banner of Amcolian Debates and Literary Society (ADLS) at the Ayub auditorium, laden with the crowd all cheery and energetic, there began the much-awaited "Annual Parliamentary Debate Competition-2015" on March 24, 2015. The event was graced by Maj General Jawad Khaliq Ansari as chief guest, Head Department of Medicine, Military Hospital. The event was presided over by Hamza Jahang-eer and Wardah Faridi, the presidents of the ADLS. Moreover, the panel of judges comprised a highly esteemed group of individuals. Madam Ishrat Hayat, was the chief judge. She frequently accedes to the ADLS request to be the judge at the occasion. The second judge was Lt Col Gulnaz, currently serving as the Director Medical Education AFGMI, one of the most accomplished debaters produced by Army Medical College. The third judge was Dr. Qamar Khushi (PhD Linguistics) currently working as the Professor of English language and literature at Fatima Jinnah University.

The topic chosen for the competition was "This house will ban all the social networking sites." The house was divided into the two houses, i.e., proposition and the opposition group. The famous saying 'there are always two sides to a coin' fitted perfectly onto the occasion, as the speakers from both the sides raised very logical and relevant points, highlighting the pros and cons of the social networking. While the proposition tried to convince the audience and the jury to their arguments that the social networking does more harm than good, the opposition however vehemently attempted to prove otherwise.

Logic, confidence, statistics and clarity were the



traits each speaker possessed. But as is always the case, there were some who proved their mettle better than the others. From the proposition, Bilal Sikander Nagra (Ayub Coy) won the 1st prize, Aleena Khalid (Fatima Coy) got the 2nd Prize and Fahad Farooq Ashraf (Razi Coy) bagged the third prize. From the opposition side, Daniyal Kamal (Razi Coy) won the 1st prize, while Mahad Qureshi (Sina Coy) and Desaar Zahra (Ayesha Coy) got the 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

Moreover, Daniyal Kamal (Razi coy) was declared the best debater of the event for bringing the best overall arguments with decent speaking style and statistical backing. Razi Company was successful in defending the Champion's Trophy for the second consecutive time with Sina company being the runner-up.

The chief guest Gen Jawad Khaliq Ansari awarded shields to the winners of the competition. He congratulated the champion company and handed over the trophy to the team captain.







## Annual Intercompany Bilingual Declamation Competition at AM College

Annual Intercompany Bilingual Declamation Competition took place on March 25, 2015 at LH1 Army Medical College. The event showcasing the true skills of poetic speaking comprised two speakers from each company for both the English Serious and Urdu Serious Categories. They were to speak on diverse topics with both a humanitarian as well as a social impact in view. It was one of the most awaited events of the sports week and was opened by the presidents, M. Hamza Jahangeer and Wardah Faridi under the esteemed guidance of the officer in command, Col Khadija Qamar, amid loud cheers from the audience. The contest aimed to hone the oratorical skills of students and to encourage them battle the 'stage fear'.

The esteemed panel of judges comprised Brig. Asif Haroon Raja, Musarat Jabeen, Maria Kazmi and Faheem Sabri. The presidents announced the rules and thus began the ultimate face off between the company's fighting for one trophy and the coveted best speaker award. It was a battle of the language and content, a fight to give goose bumps to all the audience and a fight to win over hearts with public speaking at its peak. The rise and fall in the enthusiastic speakers' voices set the entire audience in thundering applause.

After a shimmering contest between all the companies college colors were awarded to individuals with esteemed contributions to Amcolians Debates and Literary Society by Brig Nuzhat Mushahid. These cadets had notable contributions to the development and grooming of speaking abilities amongst their juniors and society members. They also harbored numerous achievements on both regional and national levels representing Army Medical College outside the college. This token of appreciation was provisioned to the cadets after selection and approval by the OIC.

The moment unveiled itself as the results came to the podium to steal away the hearts of many and to gratify the coveted few. 1st position in Urdu category was bagged by Ahmed Cheema for the second consecutive time representing Sina coy whose topic was "*Aye Khuda, tera arsh bhi roya hoga*" highlighting the plight of mothers who lost their children to terrorism, the famine in Thar that left the masses starve to death and the recent blood-curdling Yoochanabad incident. 2nd position in Urdu category was claimed by Arsalan Ahmed from Ayub coy. He spoke wonderfully on the topic "*koi tou aye nayi rutoon ka payaam le kar.*" Maryam Sibghat from Ayesha company was awarded the 3rd position in Urdu category, her topic being "*barra dushman bana phirta hai jo bachon se larta hai*" her speech delivery was very powerful and motivating."

In the English category, Fahad Farooq of Razi coy was awarded with 1st position as he debated on "None but the brave deserve the fair." He made a very fair point by mentioning Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Iqbal's spirit. 2nd position was won by Hamza Zaheer of Ayub coy who chose to debate on the topic "Hands drenched in blood pleading innocence." Zainab Javed Qadri, from Fatima coy, got 3rd position. Her topic was "The era of misery will end soon." She made references to the "cities drowning in sorrow, schools flowing with blood" implying that this was not the purpose of creation of Pakistan.

The coveted best speaker honor went to Fahd Farooq Ashraf (Razi Coy) for bringing forth the best content and representing his topic with utmost clarity and adequate style of speaking. The team trophy went to Ayub Company by a close contest with Razi Company being the runners-up.



## All Rounder Competition at RCMS

The literary society of Research Centre for Modeling and Simulation organized “All Rounder Competition” on June 11, 2015. The participating teams had to qualify through numerous challenging rounds, i.e., Bait Bazi, Visual Round, Dumb Charades, Kasauti and Extempore Speech. Four teams participated in this competition.

Dr. Ahmed Ejaz Nadeem (Principal RCMS) inaugurated the event. Engr. Taufique-ur-Rehman and Engr. Sikandar Hayat Mirza (HoD Computational Engineering) judged the competition. The first round was the Bait Bazi round



which gave an enthusiastic start to the whole event followed by Visual Round, Kasauti, Dumb Charades and Extempore Speech respectively. The wide assortment of contest proved to be a platform for students to explore their abilities. An interesting and enthralling All-Rounder Competition proved to be a great success.

## SPE-NSC organizes inaugural event

The Society of Petroleum Engineers, NUST Student Chapter (SPE-NSC) organized its inaugural event “Drilling Techniques and Their Significance” at SMME’s seminar hall on May 14, 2015.

Mr. Danish Aman, the guest speaker, is an MWD engineer currently working at Eastern Drilling Services, a multinational company, and has worked for petroleum sector giants Schlumberger and OGDCL in the past, after graduating from UET Lahore. He made the seminar an interactive session comprising a presentation and animations followed by questions asked by zealous students during and after the lecture. Around 200 persons attended the seminar.



The enlightening presentation started with the classification of industries followed by diverse topics relating to drilling. The topics covered were directional drilling and its applications, types of directional wells, and various tools which aid the drilling process. In the end, Dr. Khalid Akhtar (HoD Mechanical), on behalf of NUST-SMME, thanked Mr. Aman and his team for sharing their valuable time and knowledge.

## Job fair at NUST Institute of Civil Engineering



The fourth job fair of NUST Institute of Civil Engineering, SCEE was organized on July 1, 2015 for the graduating batch of 2011. It was organized to provide an opportunity to the civil engineering firms to meet graduates of the Institute to discuss career employment and other associated opportunities. All the graduating students showcased their final year projects at different stalls. Some of the engineering companies also set up their stalls in the job fair to display their products. The job fair was formally inaugurated by the Principal SCEE. He inspected all the 29 laid down projects of graduating students.

The highlight of the event was the selection of best industrial project. It was picked up by a panel of the judges including: Brig Dr. Muhammad Naseem (GHQ E in C's Branch), Col Shadab Lodhi (GHQ E in C's Branch), Col Khurram Malik (HQ, FWO), Lt Col Dr. Abdul Quddus (CWO, Rawalpindi)

The Project titled "Design of Municipal Waste (MSW) Repository/Landfill for ICT" supervised by Dr. Kamran Akhtar was declared the Best Industrial Project and the syndicate leader Mr. Sumair Gomez was awarded with a cash prize of PKR 10,000.00. The project titled "Application of BIM to establish green building" supervised by Asst. Prof Sana Khan was declared runners-up and the syndicate leader Mr. Muneeb Afzal was awarded a cash prize of PKR 7,000.00. The project titled "Analysis of Public Transportation Accessibility in Islamabad supervised by Dr. Muhammad Bilal Khurshid was declared third and the syndicate leader Mr. Muhammad Fawad was awarded a cash prize of PKR 5,000.00.

In the second stage, a panel of judges selected top 11 final year projects of graduating batch 2011 on June 24, 2015, after a careful and a detailed evaluation of all 29 projects of the entire course. The panel shortlisted 5 projects for further evaluation. Thereafter, on 30 Jun 2015, in the 3rd stage, an external panel of judges finally selected one project. The panel of judges included: Dr. Brig (R) Nasarullah Abeer (HQ, FWO); Lt Col Dr. Sarfraz Ali (MCE, Risalpur), Dr. Maqbool Sadiq Awan (MCE, Risalpur) and Lt Col Dr. Abdul Quddus (CWO, Rawalpindi).

The project titled "Material and Mechanical Properties of Translucent Concrete" supervised by Associate Professor Dr. Wasim Khaliq was declared the best project of the year and nominated for the Rector's Gold Medal.





## Educational tour to University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

In order to enhance the knowledge of ASAB students regarding livestock management, an educational tour to the faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF), was arranged on April 23, 2015. The visitors mainly comprised bachelors students at ASAB, who are studying livestock management course as part of their undergraduate degrees. These students were accompanied by ASAB faculty members including Dr. Kashif Asghar, Dr. Nasruminallah, Dr. Shahida Mushtaq and Miss Yasmeen Badshah.



The guests were welcomed by the Dean of School of Veterinary Sciences and were provided a guided tour to various different departments and laboratories at the school including Department of Anatomy and Parasitology and Histology, Mastitis and Pathology labs. The students had a chance to witness and perform a number of basic scientific procedures employed in these labs.

## Hobby Day celebrated at MCS

To bring out a variety of talents and interests along with a change from everyday routine for its faculty and student body, Military College of Signals devoted a day to celebrate hobbies. Hobby Day was celebrated on Friday, March 20, 2015, to showcase numerous creative ensembles and collections. Students from MCS and other NUST constituent campuses, faculty members and their families participated in the event. Personal collection of stamps, coins, books, bus and train tickets, pets, wrist watches, perfumes, pens, sports gear, board games, jewelry, music and movies CDs were meticulously displayed on individual stalls. The second major category of participants displayed personal creations like sketches, glass paintings, accessories, handmade toys, flower arrangements, poetry, photography, hand-made candles, greeting cards, and wood work.

Creative and personal collections were evaluated separately. Students' stalls were evaluated by faculty judges, while the students were given the task of judging faculty and their families' stalls. The chief guest for the event was the renowned artist, columnist, director, puppeteer, script writer and voice actor Farooq Qaisar. He, along with Commandant MCS Maj Gen Ali Farhan, visited each stall and interacted with the participants.

Towards the end of the hugely successful event, the chief guest distributed prizes among winners of different categories and judges. He expressed his admiration for the spirited participants and highlighted the importance of activities aimed at the personal expression and creative talent. Commandant MCS, Maj Gen Ali Farhan thanked the chief guest and presented him with the college souvenir.





## ASAB students visit Coronet Foods Pvt Ltd, Haripur

An educational tour to Coronet Foods Pvt Ltd, Hattar Industrial Zone was arranged on June 5, 2015, for ASAB students studying "Food Analysis". The visit was aimed at enhancing the knowledge of these students regarding food processing and analysis. The students were accompanied by ASAB faculty members including Dr. Najam us Sahar Sadaf Zaidi, Dr. Amjad Ali and Dr. Abdur Rahman. The visitors were welcomed by Production Manager of Coronet Foods and facilitated with a guided tour to various units of processing plant and quality assurance laboratories at Coronet Foods Pvt Ltd. The students had a chance to witness various steps in biscuit manufacturing and a number of basic analytical techniques employed in labs. Overall the tour greatly served in expanding the knowledge and expertise of the students.

## NUST staffer wins bronze at Third Asian Team Event, 6 Red Snooker Championship 2015

Third Asian Team Event and 6 Red Snooker Championship 2015 was held in Kish Island, Iran from May 24 to 31, 2015. Hamza Akbar (Pakistan No.1), Shahram Changezi (Pakistan No. 2), Muhammad Asif (Pakistan No. 3 and former world champion) and Muhammad Sajjad (Pakistan No. 4 and World No. 2) represented Pakistan in these events. The events had two parts, i.e., the individual (6 Reds) and the team event. The championships kicked off with the 6 Reds (individual) Event in which 30 players from 10 countries took part. Shahram Changezi performed best among all four Pakistani players, who in 6 Reds (individual) event, after defeating Hamza Akbar in a pre-quarter final, lost to the Iran's Sohail Vahedi in the quarter-final and stood 5th. Muhammad Sajjad, Muhammad Asif and Hamza Akbar were ranked 8th, 9th and 10th respectively.



In the team championship, Shahram and Hamza were paired as Pakistan "B" and Asif and Sajjad were paired as Pakistan "A". Shahram and Hamza took a flying start, where they whitewashed the defending champions India "A" by 3-0.

In the quarter-final, Shahram and Hamza met India "B" team. This was the most thrilling match as it went to full stretch last deciding frame. Shahram outclassed his Indian opponent in the final frame and clinched the match on final black ball. Shahram and Hamza finished 3rd in the event and won the Asian Bronze Medal. Shahram once again proved his mettle in international arena and brought laurels to the country.

## MCE Basketball Championship

Military College of Engineering organized Inter-course Basketball Competition, which started on May 4, 2015. All CED and OD courses participated in the event. All the teams participated with sportsmanship, comradeship and display of physical fitness.

A total of six teams participated out of which two best teams OD-80 and OD-82 managed to qualify for the final. The final match was played on May 7, 2015 in which OD-80 stood victorious. The chief guest on the final match was Major General Anwar ul Haq Chaudhry, Commandant Military College of Engineering, who distributed prizes among the winners and runners-up.



## 04 COMMUNITY SERVICE

# Tree plantation drive

Pakistan's forest cover is only 2.5% with an annual deforestation rate of 2.1%, which is the highest of any Asian country. One of the feasible solutions to combat deforestation is to plant saplings in large numbers. Starting from the very neighbourhood, to foster greener environment, tree plantation drive was carried out alongside KRL Road, Rawalpindi in the month of May. It will provide the natives with civic sense of environment protection noise immunity (from road traffic), shade and a greener place to be used as a local park for leisureliness.

The project was a mutual collaboration between NUST Community Service Club and KRL Foundation.

Saplings were provided and placed by NCSC representatives, while hole excavation, caring and watering services were provided by KRL Foundation, hence making it a sustainable project. A couple of meetings were arranged between KRL and NCSC to discuss the project idea and its sustainability. A written document regarding watering to plants was issued from KRL ensuring project's sustainability.

The surrounding community was also briefed about the benefits of planting trees and caring them. The locals showed keen interest in providing the viable solutions to such issues and, of course, the simple yet efficient one was tree plantation.



# Footy Mania '15

NUST Community Service Club (NCSC) has followed its tradition of holding its last mega event of the calendar year. Footy Mania '15—a yearly futsal tournament, was held from May 15 to 19 at NBS futsal ground.

The futsal tournament comprised 25 teams from all over Rawalpindi and Islamabad. After many grueling matches, finally, there were two - Thuda FC and PAF Blitzkrieg. As the dust settled, it was Thuda FC who came out on top with a 3-1 score line and won the Rs.30, 000 prize. PAF Blitzkrieg, played admirably as well and were deserving winners of the Rs.15,000 runner-up prize. Besides the team prizes, it was Noshyrwan, from Warriors FC, who walked away with the top scorer of the tournament (7 goals).

Various stalls of drinks and snacks were also set up to facilitate the teams and the audience. A profit of Rs 30,000 was made from the event which went to the NCSC Endowment Fund.

The event was a big success and the NCSC family promised to make this event an even bigger spectacle next year.





# NCSC installs water well at Umerkot, Sindh



NUST Community Service Club (NCSC), in collaboration with Association for Water, Applied Education and Renewable Energy (AWARE), has successfully finished installation of a water well for the residents of village Hyder farm. Located in Ratan Bheel Paro of union council Khejrari, district Umerkot, Sindh, the desert village is home to a population of resilient people who have been grappling with issue of inadequate safe drinking water for themselves and their livestock for last many decades. The newly-installed water well will provide safe drinking water to 350 people from 50 households, contributing to improved health and hygiene in the area.

NUST's initiative seeks to address the issues of health and hygiene, education, women empowerment and economic well-being. The project, fully funded by Principal SMME Dr. Abdul Ghafoor and implemented by AWARE, was



completed in a month on a budget of PKR 46,000.

After the successful installation of water well, further 15 locations have been identified where extreme water shortage exists. The areas include 11 villages of UC Khejrari, Faqeer Abdullah and Umerkot 1, Tehsil and District Umerkot. On May 22, two students from NUST belonging to Thar area visited the 15 sites and met community partners. The project is expected to be completed in three months.





◀ Dr. Shahid Ahmad Hashmat, Principal NIPCONS, attended 3rd International Middle East Congress under the theme "Sects, Ethnicity and Conflict Resolution" from May 7 to 9, 2015 in Hatay, Turkey.



▲ An evening with famous poet Anwar Masood on May 19 at MCE.



▲ Annual Floral Exposition 2015 at MCS from April 14 to 17.



▲ An orientation training for newly inducted faculty of NUST was held from March 26 to 27.



▲ PDC organized a specialized training on “Finance for Non Finance Managers” from March 26 to 27.



▲ Seminar on “Green Building Design” on May 20.



▲ Mr. Ahmad Ali was declared Employee of the Month (April 2015) at SMME.





▲ Closing ceremony of SMME Sports Gala 2015 held on June 3.



▲ Farewell party at SMME, May 15.



▲ Salman Shifa and Ahmer, C<sup>3</sup>A students, conducting career development workshops during a camp at Khanaspur, Balochistan.





▲ Seminar on “Green Energy Efficient Building” at SCEE on May 13.



▲ Seminar on “Image Building of Pakistan” at SCEE on May 27.



▲ Workshop on “Inventory, Stock and Warehouse Management” was held from March 12 to 13 at PDC.



▲ Meet the Scientist 2015:  
Dr. Samar Mubarakmand graced the occasion as guest speaker.



▲ NEBOSH International General Certification Workshops were held from April 6 to 17 at PDC.



▲ Seminar on "Mineral Resources Potential of Pakistan and its Economic Significance" was held on May 19 at SCEE.



▲ 11th National Neuro-Psychon Conference 2015 on Neuropsychiatric Updates and Media, Public Awareness from April 24 to 26.



▲ Professional Development Centre (PDC) organized a specialized training program on "Achieving Personal Effectiveness" from April 14 to 15, 2015.



▲ Session on "Mindfulness Techniques" by C<sup>3</sup>A Psychologist at DBS.





▲ PDC holds “Workshop for Statistical Package for Social Sciences” from April 28 to 30.



▲ Peacekeeping Training Department at CIPS conducted two courses: United Nations Military Observers Course-8 and UN Staff Officers Course-7 for Pakistani peacekeepers from May 4 to 15.



▲ Prof Mohan DeSilva, Chairman University Grants Commission, Sri Lanka visited NUST on June 17.



▲ Talk on Turbo Machinery May 21.



▲ Global Cleantech Innovation Program on May 22.



▲ Workshop on Writing Clear and Concise Policies and Procedures at PDC from April 29 to 30.



▲ Under "Career Counselling & Education Program", a career development workshop was conducted for students of Grade 8 to Grade 12 on May 10.

◀ Group photo with the children of NG Staff.



# *The NUSTIAN*

2015

## *Bilingual Literary Magazine*

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.

### **CONTRIBUTE IN THE LANGUAGE OF YOUR CHOICE**

Urdu or English

Mail your contribution to the  
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