

MONTHLY  
**NUSTNEWS**

Volume IV / Issue X



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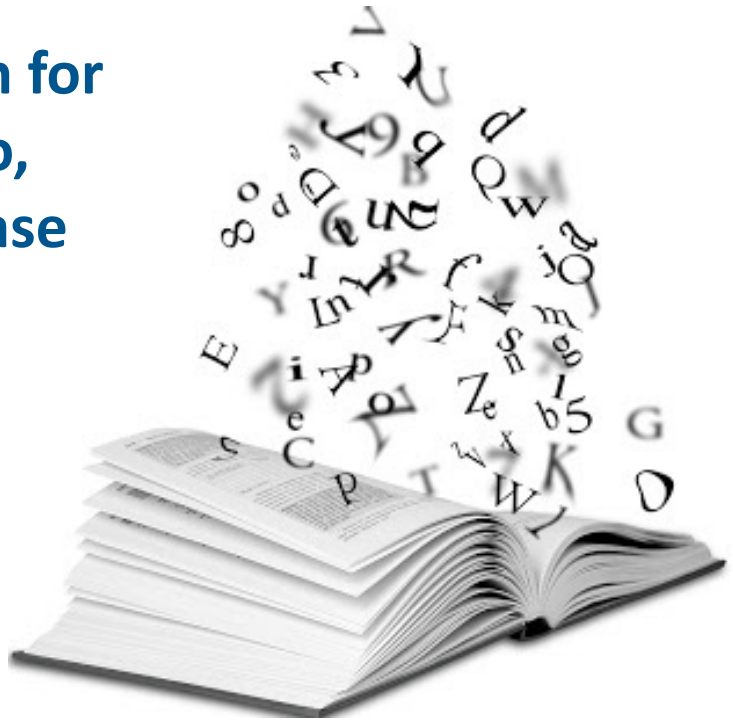
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“Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow.”

Anthony J. D'Angelo



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**NUSTNEWS** is a monthly publication, produced by Student Affairs Directorate, covering various events across the entire University. It will be appreciated if the focal persons send reports right after the events so as to give them timely coverage.

# 01 HIGHLIGHTS

## International Seminar on Peace and Conflict Resolution Pakistan committed to regional, international peace: Mamnoon



President Mamnoon Hussain has said that Pakistan stands firmly committed to peace at regional and international levels and will continue to support all efforts aimed at restoring peace and stability in the world.

Addressing the inaugural session of a two-day International Seminar on Peace and Conflict Resolution at the main campus of National University for Sciences and Technology (NUST), the president said Pakistan had always been at the forefront in complementing the efforts of the United Nations for peace and had been actively engaged in various peace missions. President Mamnoon said Pakistan's commitment to international peace had been duly acknowledged by the international community and the world leaders including UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

He said Pakistan considered peace and stability a key towards promoting socio-economic stability and a source of promoting a sense of security among societies. The president said Pakistan had been contributing soldiers, policemen and civilians for peacekeeping in 41 countries over the last 53 years. At present, about 11,000 Pakistani peacekeepers are engaged side by side with the international peacekeeping forces in various countries, he added. The president said it was only through developing greater understanding of various dynamics involved, and through dialogue and negotiations that durable and long-lasting solutions to the longstanding issues could be worked out.

President Mamnoon said that the international situation had drastically changed in the recent past, particularly in the post 9/11 scenario. "Being a part of one of the most volatile regions of the world and being a direct affectee of various developments at regional as well as international level, peace and

stability is of great significance to us," he added. He felicitated NUST for establishing Centre for International Peace and Stability and initiating academic programmes in peace and conflict resolution. He also commended NUST for imparting training to the peacekeepers who had participated in various peacekeeping missions of the United Nations.

President Mamnoon expressed confidence that the forum would not only help them develop greater understanding of various issues involved in Peace and Conflict Resolution but would also help them appreciate Pakistan's role towards facilitating peace and conflict resolution. He hoped that the seminar would be of great relevance to the country's policymakers, intellectuals and students to develop comprehensive understanding of the issues and finding durable solutions to the existing issues and the emerging situations.

Earlier, Rector NUST Engineer Muhammad Asghar welcomed the esteemed guests to the international seminar. He quoted a Congressional Research Service Report that pointed out that the cost of Global War on Terror to the US till 2012 was about 1.4 Trillion dollars.

He also mentioned a RAND Study that stated a non-military option by the US to 9/11 attacks would have cost the US much less than what they had actually spent. It showed that several alternatives to military response had been more effective in eliminating future attacks. He said there was a significant space for peace and conflict resolution strategy, provided the peace-making effort takes into account the ground realities, socio-economic imperatives and cultural sensitivities of the people involved in the conflict.



## *Pictorial highlights of the International Conference on Peace & Conflict Resolution*





# Consultation on HDR 2014



The Human Development Report Office of the UNDP New York, UNDP Pakistan, and National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) jointly organized a two-day South Asian Regional Consultation on Human Development Report HDR 2014 and Accelerating Human Development in South Asia. The Regional Consultation was attended by senior government officials, eminent social scientists, parliamentarians, civil society from South Asian countries and faculty and students of NUST. Mr. Timo Pakkala UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative for Pakistan, Mr. Khalid Malik, Director HDRO, UNDP New York and Engineer Muhammad Asghar, Rector NUST welcomed the guests.

Tariq Fatemi, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs inaugurated the Regional Consultation. The theme for the HDR 2014 was Sustaining Human Development: Addressing Vulnerabilities and Building Resilience. Ever since its launch, some two decades ago, the Human Development Report has contributed immensely in highlighting the importance of human development, sensitizing member states, civil society and social scientists around the world towards improving the various indicators of human development.

Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary General of the United Nations, also sent his greetings and message for the participants of this Consultation. The Secretary General stated that despite rapid economic growth throughout South Asia, the region was still plagued with widespread poverty. As global leaders and citizens are working towards defining post-2015 agenda, it is the appropriate time to reflect on priorities.

Asad Omar, a prominent politician and a former CEO and President of Engro Corporation, chaired the concluding session. This was followed by the closing remarks by Marc-Andre Franche, Country Director UNDP Pakistan.

In his closing remarks at the consultation, the Rector NUST acknowledged the joint and concerted efforts of all the panellists for the Consultation. He also announced the establishment of

NUST Centre for Human Development Studies, to be located at the University's School of Social Sciences & Humanities. Later, Dr. Ashfaq H. Khan gave a vote of thanks to the guests for making the event truly productive.



# All Pakistan *Mazahiya Mushaira* - NLC

NUST Literary Circle arranged the 3rd All Pakistan *Mazahiya Mushaira* on Oct 8, inviting a number of renowned poets from across Pakistan. The main auditorium of CIPS was packed with students, faculty and staff.

A thunderous applause welcomed the poets as they entered the hall and took their seats on the beautifully decorated stage. Centre stage sat the legendary Anwar Masood with celebrated names such as Sarfraz Shahid, Salman Gillani, Dr Inam ul Haq,

Later, Dr Inam himself recited his verses on topics of love and friendship in his crisp Punjabi accent. Most entertaining was the 'Bakra Mandi' in which he drew a funnily accurate picture of the state of price hike in bakra mandees. Dr Khalid Masood then took comedy to a whole new level. With a mixture of Urdu and Punjabi, he hooked the audience with such entertaining lines that the hall laughed and clapped even after he had taken his seat. Long awaited Mr Salman Gillani came up next and within the next couple of minutes he grasped the audience's attention with his unique style of singing. His melodious voice and youth orientated poetry earned him a standing ovation. Another acknowledged name in the field of comic writing, Mr Sarfraz Shahid presented his 'International Love Affair' and was cheered with cries of 'dobara dobara.'

In the end and amidst the loudest cheers the crowd welcomed Mr Anwar Masood who was certainly the most awaited personality of the evening. Within seconds, his sarcastic, mocking and humorous poetry stole the show. Not only was his poetry comical but also thought provoking and left indelible prints on every heart. His pun-packed 'Aaj ki khabrain,' 'Nak jai



Khalid Masood, Dr Badar Munir and many others at his either side. After the recitation of the Holy Quran, Asjad Naeem Mukaddam, President of NLC formally welcomed the guests and the audience. He stated the importance of such events along with the academics and hailed the faculty for their help and support.

Dr Inam Ul Haq then took charge and steered the show in his own unique style. First up was Mr Jawad Hassan who, through his poetry narrated his feelings upon his entry into the NUST campus. His amusing verses related to student life enthralled the hall-full audience and his poem 'Mathematics' won him a healthy round of applause. Mr Idrees Qureshi came up on the dice and provided yet another hilarious few minutes in his Pure Punjabi accent. Mr Muhammad Arif, from Wah Cantt, followed suit with his witty verses and gripped the listeners using an amalgamation of English and Urdu languages. His poems were focused on education and the prevalent fashion customs.

Next in line was a famous personality from Lahore, Dr Zahir Sheikh, who is also the script writer for the well known TV show, Hasb e Haal. Dr Shiekh read pieces related to student life in his Lahori twang. His poem 'International Bachelor' amused the listeners who chanted at the top of their voices 'wah wah' and 'mukarrar'. Dr Badar Munir, from Khushaaba, was up next and thrilled the audience with humour-coated lines. Dr Syed Iqbal Saadi came all the way from Gujranwala and presented such a comical poetry, that even the faculty couldn't resist showing appreciation.



mathay utay hunda,' 'Pani,' 'Wapada' and all-time hit 'Bunain' turned the audience upside down with bouts of laughter. In the end, Rector NUST, Engr M. Asghar presented mementoes to all the guest poets.

# IBRO-APRC Neuroscience Workshop



Atta-ur-Rahman School of Applied Biosciences hosted the IBRO-APRC Associate Neuroscience Workshop from September 30 to Oct 5. The international workshop was themed 'From Basic Neuroscience to Advanced Applications.' International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) is an amalgamation of neuroscience organizations with the aim to promote and support neuroscience training and collaborative research around the world. APRC is the Asia Pacific Regional Committee of IBRO.

The workshop commenced with an opening address by Pro Rector NUST, Dr. Asif Raza who talked about the focus NUST places on inter disciplinary research and termed the workshop its reflection. Principal ASAB Dr. Peter John welcomed the audience which was comprised of international scientists, clinicians, researchers and students. The keynote speaker of the event, Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal, an eminent scientist from USA, spoke on his pioneering work on the involvement of the tau protein and its malfunction in Alzheimer's disease. The conference allowed the participants to discuss the various techniques being employed in curing neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's and Dementia, and the hurdles encountered in their usage. Laboratory

training sessions of Neuro Assessment were conducted via practical demonstrations. Speakers from New York State Institute for Basic Research, Tarbiat Modares University, Iran and Aga Khan University delivered lectures on their research work. Another element of this workshop was the poster competition which invited the researchers to present their work to an expert faculty panel.

The closing ceremony was graced by Rector NUST, Engr Muhammad Asghar who gave an insightful address regarding the blending of sciences, intellect and the soul. He said that everything had a purpose in creation, which humans might not realize initially but research helped us identify it. He endorsed interdisciplinary studies saying that the bigger answers were revealed when scientists working in diverse disciplines come together. He expressed hopes that this workshop was just a beginning saying, 'I hope it has given some food for thought to the researchers.' Certificates were distributed to participants and souvenirs awarded to winners of poster competition by the Rector and Principal ASAB.



## Akhter Hameed Khan paid tribute at NBS

To honor the legacy of Dr. Akhter Hameed Khan's vision and dedicated service for community development, an annual session was held in NBS Seminar Hall. Rector NUST, Engr. Muhammad Asghar was the chief guest on the occasion. The session started with recitation from the Holy Quran. After welcome speech by Mr. Fayyaz Baqir, Director Akhtar Hameed Khan Resource Centre (AHKRC), the lecture on 'Community and Issues of Conflict and Governance' was delivered by Mr. Ejaz Raheem, Former Cabinet Secretary.

Addressing the session, Rector NUST, Engineer Muhammad Asghar said NUST in collaboration with AHKRC launched the Dr Akhter Hameed Khan endowment fund with an initial amount of Rs 10 million for deserving and talented students. The endowment fund will be a permanent endowment whereby the capital funds will be invested in perpetuity and the income generated will be utilized to provide need-based financial assistance to primarily (fresh and existing) NUST students who have been given admission to or are currently enrolled in the School of Social Sciences.

He said that the fund was launched keeping in view the services of Dr Akhtar Hameed Khan and that currently, about 72 percent of all students belong to lower and lower middle classes and those students who are talented but cannot afford their study expenses can get the scholarships from the fund.

The session ended with vote of thanks by Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman AHKRC & RSPN.

Principal NBS & S3H, Dr. Ashfaq H. Khan, Acting Dean NBS Mr. Naukhez Sarwar, faculty members and students of economics attended the session.



## Programming Supercomputer made easy by RCMS workshop

Research Center for Modeling & Simulation (RCMS), organized a workshop titled 'How to Use and Program Supercomputers' from October 2 to 3 at the ScREC Lab at NUST H-12. A major topic covered was submitting a 'job' via a set of lectures including one on LINUX coding language followed by practice of the concepts taught. Message Passing Interface (MPI) tutorials using 'CUDA' and graphics Card programming aided in programming of processors. The focus of the workshop was on parallel processing via efficient utilization of supercomputers.

The resource person on the occasion was Mr. Tariq Saeed. In the words of faculty member RCMS, Engr Taufeeq-ur-Rehman, the workshop marked a starting point for participants to progress in parallel computing since supercomputers have now infiltrated various fields including IT, Nanotech, Social Sciences all the way to climatic research. The organizers assured the participants of the workshop that their staff would always be available for assistance and guidance in the future, since they wanted to aid all forms of research and development activities and initiatives. Dr. Umer Khattak gave the participants' feedback and thanked the excellent delivery of information by the resource person; however the participants expressed desire for an extension in duration of the workshop in the future. Dr. Khattak said that without proper utilization the ScREC was just a box and such

workshops would ensure that proper use was made of the facility. The chief guest on the occasion was Dean SEECS, Dr. Syed Muhammad Hassan Zaidi who stressed on eminence of keeping abreast with technology in the current era. He expressed delight at the gathering of multiple individuals from both industry and academia at the workshop. A certificate distribution ceremony by the chief guest concluded the workshop.



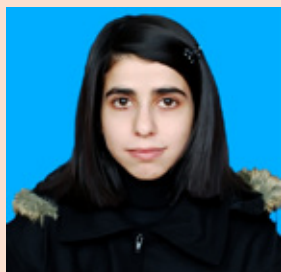
## Internship at Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa Florida, USA



Tahira Khan, an undergrad student of BS (Honours) Applied Biosciences, was selected as an intern at Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, Florida, USA, on a project titled 'Constitutive Activity of NF-KB on interferon beta gene expression in LKR cell lines.' Her work experience consisted of learning advanced scientific techniques, participating in scientific discussion, lab meetings and seminars. Her project was based on lung adenocarcinoma which has the highest mortality rates of all the cancers. She worked on its molecular signaling pathways and some important genes which play an important function in immune system. The internship consisted of modern cutting edge research techniques of cell culture; RT PCR, qPCR, results and data analysis. She also achieved her first international publication as a co-author in a well reputed journal while working with the project's principal investigator. Tahira's advice to all the students is to be less curious about people and more about ideas!

## MCS student's achievement

Anam Ashraf, an MCS student, presented her paper 'Heuristic Evaluation of Social Websites: For Blind People' at the 3rd International Conference on Computer Design and Engineering (IC-CDE 2013) which was held on September 28-29, 2013,



Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam and won the Best Presentation Award. The paper has been published in the current issue of International Journal of Computer and Communication Engineering (IJCCE) as well. The paper was co-authored by Assistant Professor Dr. Arif Raza.

## ASAB student pursues Internship at WHO, Genève, Switzerland 2013



Faria Khan, currently a final-year student of BS (hons) at ASAB, secured the prestigious internship at World Health Organization Headquarters, situated on the outskirts of Geneva at the end of Avenue Appia in Switzerland.

She was placed at W.H.O Maternal and Child Health Department from July to September, under the supervision of Dr Moazzam Ali, who is the Epidemiologist and Medical officer at W.H.O from Department of Reproductive Health and Research. During her stay she attended various training programs such as PubMed database-searching the Einstein Method, Endnote Basic, Searching beyond PubMed, W.H.O library orientation sessions, Web of Knowledge-more than just citations and a five day extensive program on In Depth Searching for a systematic review that was offered by Mr. Allen Thomas. Along with these she regularly attended the seminars and talks that took place such as the World Hepatitis Day annual conference, SIDH intern exit presentations, the replacement of animal models in research etc. which took place at HQ.

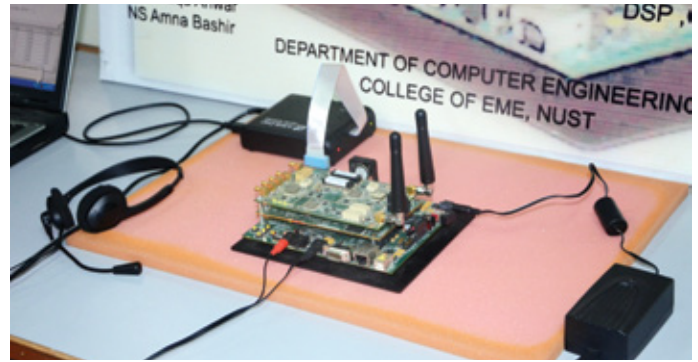
The experts not only guided her but encouraged students from the developing countries like Pakistan and universities such as NUST to engage in research and to help reach the Millennium Development Goals of W.H.O. With guidance from her supervisor, Faria managed to complete and submit her project on systematic review of the healthcare services available to nomadic populations: safety, efficacy and utilization of services and proposal of new models.

## Computer Projects Exhibition and Competition at E&ME College - 2013

Department of Computer Engineering at College of EME hosted the 12th addition of the annual COMPEEC 2013 which was co-hosted by ICT R&D. COMPEEC is an all Pakistan Inter College / University Computer Projects Exhibition and Competition, in which students from various Universities and Institutes around Pakistan present their projects for competition, and receive prizes based upon their performance. 135 projects from different universities, colleges and renowned organizations from all over Pakistan were displayed during the competition. All projects were divided into 4 categories namely Digital Systems, Communication Systems, Electro Mechanical Systems and Information Systems.

Judges declared the project "Web Iris" of the College of E&ME, as the overall best project. Cash prizes and souvenirs were presented to the winning teams in four categories. Overall best project cash award was Rs 50,000.00 and a cash prize of Rs 40,000.00 was awarded to the 1st position, 20,000.00 to the 2nd position 10,000.00 to the 3rd position and 5000 to the 4th position holders in each category. The Department of Computer Engineering made a record by winning six positions that includes overall best and the best in two categories in this national competition. Other winners included University of Central Punjab (Electro-Mechanical Systems category) and SEecs (NUST) (Digital Systems category).

The Secretary of Defense, Lt Gen (R) Asif Yasin Malik HI(M) was the chief guest at the closing ceremony of the competition. After witnessing the excellence of engineering and computer science projects developed by the students, the chief guest iterated that the youth of Pakistan is ready to tackle any technological challenge and he was assured that this youth would build a progressive and vibrant Pakistan. The Commandant, College of EME, Maj. Gen Obaid bin Zakria HI (M) appreciated the efforts of all the teams participating in the event. He also gave a brief of academic excellence of the college as an institution that has attained several national and international awards in engineering and technology.



## Dissection- and Specimen-making workshop at AMC

Dissection and specimen making workshop was conducted in Anatomy Department of Army Medical College Rawalpindi from October 31 to November 3. Dr. Muzafer Niazi was invited for kind supervision by the head of Anatomy Department Brig Shadab Ahmed Butt. The Workshop was attended by faculty and Postgraduate trainees of Anatomy department. Workshop included basic principles of dissection and practical specimen making. In four days, Postgraduate trainees dissected neck, upper limb, post abdominal wall, ischio-rectal fossa, foot and parotid region under the able supervision of Dr. Muzafar Niazi. Vessels and nerves were identified and painted with different colours. The specimens were preserved for undergraduate teaching.



## Third Party Evaluation of NUST QEC



On the directives of the World Bank, HEC organized a third party evaluation of NUST Quality Enhancement Cell (Quality Assurance Directorate) and its activities pertaining to Quality Enhancement. To conduct the evaluation, a three-member delegation led by the renowned Educationist, Civil Servant & Administrator, Dr. S M Qureshi visited NUST on Oct 28. The delegation was briefed by Director QA NUST, Engr Muhammad Ismail about the QA Directorate's organization, functioning, key performance indicators, initiatives, achievements and future plans. The briefing was also attended by the QA Dte team members and the members of Program Teams and Assessments teams of some NUST schools. After the briefing the delegation interviewed different selected Faculty members and students individually and recorded their feedback on NUST Quality Enhancement initiatives in place. The delegation also visited the NUST QA Dte office building and reviewed the documents related to the functioning/ organization of the Dte which included Self-Assessment Reports, Internal Quality Audit Reports, Quality Progress Reports, Filled Feedback Performas etc. The delegates later met with Pro-Rector (Academics), Dr. Asif Raza and expressed their deep satisfaction on the operations of NUST QA Dte and praised on NUST Quality Enhancement initiatives.



## NPAS Seminar on Terrorism, Public Policy

The NUST Public Administration Society (NPAS) held its first ever event in NUST Business School: a seminar focused on Terrorism and Public Policy in Pakistan, featuring experts in the field of Public Policy. The event was held on October 2 and the speakers were Mr. Zafarullah Siddiqui, Economic Analyst and Dr. Fazlur Rahman, Consultant Peace-building and Education UNICEF.

The event kicked off with the recitation of the Holy Quran. Shortly afterwards, the founding presidents of NPAS, Sadaf Basharat and Shaheera Syed took to the stage to introduce the society, and formally inaugurate the event, stating how in the face of recent events in the country, the topic was the need of the hour.

Up first was Dr. Fazl-ur-Rehman, who holds a PhD from Quaid-e-Azam University, has extensive experience in Public Policy and peacekeeping under his belt and has held positions at UNICEF, Gallup Pakistan, ERRA and UNDP. Dr Fazl gave a detailed insight into the situation in Pakistan, highlighting the casualties borne by Pakistan and the repercussions of terrorism including the mental, environmental, financial, social and political costs. His anecdotes about visits to conflict zones and the daily workings of the public sector provided deeper insight into the subject at hand, hence equipping the students to better understand the conditions prevalent in the country.



Later, Mr. Zafarullah Siddiqui shed further light on the issue and kept the audience engaged with his witty humor. He emphasized on how policies are means and not ends, and how the government's weakness lies in using borrowed policies instead of devising a new one. He also stressed upon the need to hold talks for the best possible solution to the current problems in the country. Mr Zafarullah holds an MPA from Harvard University, a degree in Economics, Marketing and an MSc in Defence and Strategic Studies from NDU, Islamabad.

Mr. Riffat Hussain took to the stage to give the concluding remarks and added that the youth in Pakistan is just as talented as the youngsters abroad, the only thing needed is the provision of more opportunities to harness all the talent. Previously a visiting faculty member at Stanford University, USA, Dr. Riffat has recently joined NUST as a faculty member in the Department of Public Administration. A question and answer session was then conducted whereby the students and faculty members in the audience put forward their queries to the guest speakers. At the end of the session, souvenirs were presented to the honorable guests by Mr. Riffat Hussain.

## 1.4 M rupees collected in Earthquake Relief Campaign

Balochistan was hit by an earthquake, measuring 7.7 at the Richter Scale, on an unlucky morning of 24th September, 2013, which resulted in the death of 825 people, and destruction of 21,000 houses. While the tremor affected a total of 300,000 people. The earthquake has deprived the people of their shelter, food and other basic necessities of life. Such devastating conditions called upon the humanity to come forward and share its munificent part in enlightening the way to light of hope, making the surroundings blissful and assist those in lament to lead a prosperous healthy life again.

Keeping this in mind, NUST Community Services Club (NCSC) came forward and tried its utmost to raise funds to help their fellow beings in their state of despair. The club conducted its 'hand to hand earthquake relief campaign' in NUST, H-12 from October 4 to 20. The campaign initiated from the Main Office, NUST with the generous contribution of the Rector, Mohammad Asghar and the Pro-Rector, Dr. Asif Raza. Then continued the hand to hand relief campaign among all schools of NUST in which students, faculty and the staff members contributed whole-heartedly. Volunteer club of E&ME College also participated and contributed in the campaign.

A bonfire and gig night was also arranged on 10th October, 2013 through which all the money collected was made a part of the total capital. The struggles of NCSC lead to a successful collection of 1.4 million rupees which was then adequately used to buy food, tents and other necessary stuff for 500 affected families of Balochistan. May Lord help those in pain and assist us in playing our effective role in community services to make this world a better place.



## Asad Umar talks about Effects of IMF Loan on Pakistan's Economy



Prominent MNA and business administrator, Asad Umar spoke to the students in an exclusive seminar about the relationship between IMF loans and Pakistan's crumbling economy, on October 24 at the SEECS Seminar Hall. The seminar was arranged by the team of NUST Public Administration Society in collaboration with Ms. Anum Waqar Mawaz, faculty member NUST Business School and was attended by the students of Public Administration in NBS.

The seminar intended to figure out the effects IMF loans have had on Pakistan's economy and how Pakistan can become independent and debt free in the future. Mr Asad Umar broke the topic down and touched all the aspects of the economic condition prevalent in Pakistan. He also clarified common misunderstandings about the government's decision to take the loans in the first place. Asad Umar said that Pakistan's deteriorating economic health after 2008, forced the government to fall on external crutches provided by the IMF loans. External imbalances, poor trading system, thin revenue earning opportunities all paved way to the embracing of foreign help. Simultaneously, he also provided feasible solutions that could help Pakistan stand up on its own and to eventually pay back all the loans and debts it is submerged in. The session was extremely enlightening and Asad Umar kept it interesting by rounding up the controversial topic in a light way. The seminar also included an active question and answer session.

**“Information is not knowledge.”**

Albert Einstein

## Let's go Organic

'Let's Go Organic' was the major focus of Advocacy Seminar organized by The Network in collaboration with National University of Sciences and Technology on October 10. Representatives of National Agricultural Research Council, Pakistan Environment Protection Agency, Food & Agriculture Organization, World Health Organization, OXFAM GB, National Rural Support Program, LokSanjh Foundation, Academia and Civil Society attended the seminar. The topics under discussion by the speakers were 'Safe Organic Food & Healthy Environment Campaign', 'Hazardous Health Impacts of Pesticides Emissions', 'Organic Farming in Pakistan' and 'Organic Farming as a Business'. Organic Food sale point was also arranged to link up consumers with the organic farmers & organic food sellers. Speakers Dr. Sher Mohammad from the National Agriculture and Research Council (NARC), Dr. Afzal Ahmed Naseem from the Pakistan Environment Protection Agency (EPA), Dr. Ghulam Nabi Qazi from WHO, Dr. Shahid Mehmood Zia from Lok Sanjh Foundation and Dr. Imran Hashmi from the Institute of Environment Sciences and Engineering (IESE, NUST) highlighted the significance and challenges for organic agriculture in Pakistan.

The speakers recommended a ban on highly hazardous pesticides and introduction of legislation on organic certification. They maintained that a national working group needs to be constituted at national level to adopt the IFOAM standards. Speakers concluded that the situation is alarming in Pakistan as the country is facing greater threat of losing many international



al markets after the introduction of World Trade Organization (WTO) due to overuse of pesticides for farming of food items. Currently, Pakistan is exporting mainly to Middle East, Sri Lanka and Central Russian States where quality standards are not as stricter and important as compared to developed countries.

The workshop was attended by academicians, environmentalists, agriculture researchers, representatives of World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Oxfam GB and National Rural Support Programme. The campaign for organic farming in Pakistan is supported by Consumers International (UK) and Swedish Society for Nature Conservation.

## Nikon Photography Workshop

NBS seminar hall was filled with aspiring photographers on September 26. They were gathered there to soak up all the wisdom and techniques they could from Mr Azhar Hafeez, a renowned photographer in Pakistani circles. Mr Azhar is Pakistan's only Bronze-rated photographer internationally and is also a graphic designer who has travelled the world and worked with institutions like PTV. He is also a NIKON representative and the official photographer of the Pakistan Fashion Week 2013. Keeping his photographic acumen and technical experience, it was an honor to have him share his insights with the amateur photographers of NUST.

Soon after official ceremonial commencement with the recitation of the Holy Quran, Mr Azhar started his presentation. He began with the very basics; techniques on holding the camera in order to protect the lens, describing functional parts of the camera, different modes of the camera that can be used to capture a shot etc. After he had all the audience at the same level, he explained more advanced concepts such as metering, white balance and composition. He displayed a remarkable array of shots that he had taken, and then explained important techniques that he had used in those shots so application was matched with the concepts.

The workshop ended with a question answer session and a group photograph of the participants. The very satisfied participants left the workshop with snacks, a Nikon t-shirt and cap and a certificate.

This collaboration with NIKON is once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for aspiring photographers. NUST Media Club has always tried to foster young creative talent at NUST and this series of workshops is an attempt at bringing professional techniques of media working to NUST and nurture these capabilities in the photographers as well.



## Tree plantation Ceremony

NUST Community Services Club kick-started a tree plantation campaign at NUST main campus on October 4. Tree saplings were planted in the SMME grounds. Students from all the various schools showed their support and planted 150 plants in total.

The event formally began with the recitation of the Holy Quran after which Vice Principal of SMME and Dr. Irtiza, who is also the faculty sponsor of NCSC, began by planting a plant each. This session also gave the students taking community services as a subject this semester the opportunity to gain credits for their coursework. With just a little bit of effort the students at NUST were able to make a very important and positive contribution to the environment they breathe in every day. Presence of Talat Hussain, a renowned television anchorperson, attracted students in large numbers, who became part of the environment-friendly campaign.



## Motivational Seminar by Talat Hussain

Mr. Syed Talat Hussain delivered a motivational talk at NUST on October 11 in which the students doing the Community Services Course participated. Talat Hussain is one of the leading journalists in Pakistan and is respected for his in-depth and fair analyses and is also mentoring the NUST Community Service Club. The seminar started off by the recitation of Surah Rehman, which was proceeded with Mr. Talat Hussain sharing his experiences in the community service, and its need in the society. He talked about a Thalassemia foundation named 'Sach Foundation' that he is presently working for.

"We are in a state of luxury, defined by our wants and needs," he said. He stressed that out of 18 crore people only a limited number of students made it to this premier university of the country, therefore they should work with full potential, to play their role in creating a difference in the society. Talking about

the most satisfying moment of his life, he narrated an incident when he helped a boy in Mianwali for his bone marrow transplant after which he is living a very healthy life. He ended up by saying, "best life lived is the one that touches others' lives and that is what matters the most."



## Honor for NUST faculty

Mr. Saheeb Ahmed Kayani, serving as assistant professor in department of mechanical engineering, NUST College of E&ME has been appointed member of the 'Subject Committee for Mechanical Engineering' of National Testing Service, Pakistan. This national level committee has been tasked to review and revise mechanical engineering curriculum for GAT subject examination conducted by National Testing Service, on annual basis in consultation with Higher Education Commission. Prior to his appointment as member of the subject committee, Mr. Saheeb Ahmed Kayani has been an active content developer and reviewer for the National Testing Service, Pakistan since 2010.



# Faculty training programme - PDC

The newly inducted faculty of NUST attended a training session organized by Professional Development Center (PDC), NILE from October 8 to 9. The two-day workshop commenced with an opening address by Pro-Rector Academics Dr. Asif Raza who welcomed the faculty to one of the finest educational institutes of its time. A series of talks were held by different department representatives, starting with Engr. Muhammad Azhar from HR Dte who elaborated the rules, policies and procedures followed by NUST for hiring, contract, evaluation and up gradation of employees. He emphasized the aim of the institute which was to coach and mentor its employees for their personal and professional development. He further discussed future opportunities for PhD scholarships, accredited short courses and further academic programmes. The importance of practical research and innovation was highlighted by Mr. Salman Absar, coordinator RIC, where he specifically mentioned the concept of Intellectual property and steps taken by NUST for IP rights protection. Basics of the grading schemes followed at NUST were discussed by Dir. Research, Dr. Riaz Ahmad. Dir Student affairs, Mr. Mahmud Bajwa expressed how NUST was fully supportive of students' personal growth via promoting extra-curricular activities of diverse forms. The policies and functioning of Admin, P&R

and Academics Directorates were also discussed. A final tour of the campus was organized by Admin section followed by the closing address by Dr. Asif Raza who said that the faculty members should be the guardians of NUST's code of conduct. "They (the students) respect a teacher who honestly delivers knowledge and so it is the job of faculty to instil the good moral values in them," he said.



## Training for professional growth of NUST staff-PDC

Professional Development Center (PDC), NILE organized a specialized training programme for NUST support staff from Oct 3 to 4. The session was intended for training the lower division clerks (LDC), upper division clerks (UDC) and data processing assistants (DPA) part of NUST staff. Over 40 participants were present from departments all over NUST including Registrars, Research, Admin, Acad, ICT, HR staff from C3A, QA, PDC, PMO and the engineering and business schools.

Director HR highlighted significance of trainings to strengthen functioning of NUST. AD Sarib Hayat from the HR Dte then briefed the attendants about NUST's contract, employment, termination and promotion policies. He also shed light on NUST's belief to motivate its employees for optimum and disciplined performance. Ms Noreen Akhtar from C3A gave an overview of her department and its aims and functioning. Speakers from HR Dte further educated the audience regarding Computer and IT skills as well as office correspondence skills that are part of daily tasks. GM PDC, Mr. Imtiaz Ahmed placed focus on 'How to be an efficient employee'. In his presentation he discussed managerial and team working skills as well as the significance of work ethics.

Certificates were distributed at the closing ceremony by Principal NILE, Dr. Qaiser Hameed. In his closing address he lauded such trainings in their contribution towards professional growth. The detailed subjects discussed not only shed light on the day-to-day systems implemented at NUST but also taught the route to adapt in these systems with ease and efficiency.

## World Intellectual Property Workshop

A Patent Information was organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization in collaboration with PDC NILE. The event was held on October 10. NUST invited Mr. Mussadiq Hussain as the guest speaker, who has been a part of WIPO since 1996. Over the years he has worked in different areas of intellectual property. The workshop was attended not only by faculty and students of NUST, but various participants joined from external institutes including PIEAS, QAU, Bahria University and IPO Pakistan.

Mr. Hussain gave the participants an insight into missions of WIPO, the essence of which was capacity building which was imparted through on-site trainings. Intellectual Property, in his words, was essential for the growth of any professional project and was a factor not to be over looked. He praised NUST for its IP department and the steps taken by the institute for IP rights protection.

The concept of Webinars was also mentioned as a major resource of IP. The webinars are available on the WIPO official website and are an online portal to gain information. Printed material and handbooks were also available. CDs containing tutorials of WIPO modules were distributed by the speaker as well. The guest speaker shed light on constituent elements of WIPO including TISCs the digital library and ARDI research for innovation, which provided free access to various scientific and technical content. He mentioned IPO Pakistan that is WIPO's national partner and its role as well as roles of hosting institutions for facilitating activities of WIPO in Pakistan. Finally a Q&A session addressed many issues such as Commercial database evolution followed by a certificate distribution by guest speaker and Engr. Salman Absar.

## 02 UPDATES FROM SCHOOLS

### 19th Undergraduate Convocation of NUST College of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering



NUST College of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (EME) held its 19th undergraduate convocation on October 11. 316 degrees were awarded among undergraduate students of Electrical, Mechanical, Computer and Mechatronics engineering. Lieutenant General Haroon Aslam, HI (M), S,Bt, Chief of Logistics Staff graced the occasion as chief guest. Addressing on the occasion, the chief guest congratulated the graduating students and their parents. He lauded the College of EME for providing exceptional engineering skills to its graduates in their respective disciplines that would enable them to lead a professionally satisfying and sound life. He also appreciated the college for its focus on key areas of engineering in terms of imparting technical knowledge with emphasis on research and development both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Rector NUST, Engineer Mohammad Asghar, in his address, appreciated the efforts of the College of E&ME for providing the most conducive academic environment, state-of-the-art labs and highly qualified faculty for its postgraduate and undergraduate students.

Graduates were awarded medals for their outstanding performances. Sana Mazahir of Electrical Engineering, Usama Tariq of Computer Engineering, Muneeb Ahmed of Mechanical Engineering and Muhammad Nabeel of Mechatronics Engineering were Awarded Prime Minister's Gold Medal for their best performance in academics in the respective departments. Sana Mazahir of Electrical Engineering and Usama Tariq of Computer Engineering were given the President's Gold Medal for being the overall best students of the year, while Muhammad Kamran

Ayub of Electrical Engineering was conferred upon the Chief of Army Staff Gold Medal for Best Technical Cadet of the year.

Students were also awarded medals for their projects. Muhammad Afnan of Electrical Engineering, on "Wireless Power Transmission through Microwaves", Usama Tariq of Computer Engineering on "Multi Agent Intelligent Autonomous Software System for Robocup", Nabeel Wahab of Mechanical Engineering on "Energy Harvesting from Highway Traffic through Compressed Air" and Taimur Ahmad of Mechatronics Engineering on "Robocup Small Size League (Multi-gent Intelligent Electro-mechanical System)" clinched Rector's Gold Medal for best projects in their respective disciplines.



# 21<sup>st</sup> Undergraduate Convocation of Military College of Engineering (MCE)



A graceful 21st undergraduate convocation ceremony of Military College of Engineering was held on October 3. The alma mater has completed 63 glorious years of its inception. This convocation was held to award degrees of Bachelor of Civil Engineering, to the successful students of Officers Degree Course 72 and Cadets Engineering Degree Course 73. Rector NUST Engr Muhammad Asghar graced this auspicious occasion as the chief guest. As many as 86 students were conferred bachelor degrees in the discipline of Civil Engineering.

Besides parents, students and faculty members, a large number of distinguished guests including Lieutenant General Najib Ullah Khan, HI (M), Engineer-in- chief, Pakistan Army, Major General Muhammad Rafiq Sabir, HI (M), Director General Engineers also witnessed this auspicious occasion.

President's Gold Medal and Chief of Army Staff Gold Medal was awarded to Engr Mir Alam Din. Engr Muhammad Khizar Khan was awarded Engineer-in-chief Silver Medal by securing overall 2nd Position in academics whereas, for the best Project; Rector's gold Medal was awarded to Engr Asadullah Satti being the syndicate leader; other members included Asif, Saad and Awais. Their project titled "MCE Design Pro-Using Visual Basic" supervised by Major Dr. Muhammad Rizwan was declared immensely thought provoking and beneficial.

The august gathering also witnessed the expertise and skills of graduating engineers displayed at project stalls in Open House/

Job fair. This year a total of 20 projects were displayed at open house which exhibited the hard work of the dedicated students and faculty.

While delivering the welcome address Major General Anwar ul Haq Chaudhry, Commandant MCE, extended heartiest felicitations to the graduating students and their parents. The Commandant wished them the best of luck and a very successful professional life ahead. He also congratulated the faculty whose hard work had borne fruit in shape of producing 86 civil engineering graduates for the country.

Chief guest, Rector NUST Engineer Muhammad Asghar, congratulated the students for successful completion of their degree. While addressing the audience, he applauded the endeavors being made by MCE for imparting quality education. He emphasized "In the present day of unabated phenomenal explosion of knowledge and scientific inquiry, only those individuals can stay in step, who have genuine spirit and passion for learning new concepts and action strategies. I am sure that with your whole-hearted efforts and well-directed energies, you shall Insha Allah, succeed in your professional life; As freshly graduated Civil Engineers, you have to strive hard to prove yourself worthy of the trust and confidence reposed in you by the nation. Those of you who have graduated as civilian cadets are indeed very fortunate to have benefited from the most conducive atmosphere for higher learning that Military College of Engineering offers."

# CAE Convocation of 75<sup>th</sup> Engineering Course



An impressive convocation ceremony of 75th Engineering Course was held at College of Aeronautical Engineering. Engineer Muhammad Asghar, Rector NUST, was the chief guest on the occasion. On his arrival at the Academy, Rector NUST was received by Air Vice Marshal Rashid Kamal, SI(M), Air Officer Commanding, Pakistan Air Force. Apart from parents of the graduating students and guests from the Air Headquarters, the ceremony was also attended by Air Vice Marshal Saeed M Khan, Deputy Chief of the Air Staff (Training).

The ceremony started with the recitation from the Holy Quran, which was followed by the welcome address by the commandant CAE. In his welcome address the Commandant elaborated the curricular and extra-curricular activities conducted during the semester. He also dwelled upon the achievements of the graduating course and lauded their efforts. He further deliberated upon the efforts made by the College and its faculty towards providing quality education, training and grooming to their students.

The chief guest conferred degrees, merit certificates and gold medals upon the students. Merit Certificate for best Aerospace

Vehicle Design was awarded to NUST Cadet Imran Hayat, while Merit Certificate for Best Avionics System Design was awarded to Pilot Officer Amir Fahad Malik. Rector's Gold Medal for best project in Aerospace Engineering Discipline was awarded to Pilot Officer Bilal Munir, Rector's Gold Medal for Best Project in Avionics Engineering was awarded to NUST Cadet Waleed Tahir, while President's Gold Medal for standing first in Aerospace and Avionics Engineering Disciplines were awarded to NUST Cadet Imran Hayat and NUST Cadet Waleed Tahir respectively.

While addressing the students of 75th Engineering Course, the Chief Guest congratulated the graduating students and distinction holders. He emphasized upon the importance of moral values and traditions that strengthen the moral fibre of the society. He also laid stress on the grooming of the students as better citizens and individuals who can later distinguish between right and wrong and choose the right course of action in these testing times. He further said that Pakistan stands at the crossroads and a huge responsibility lies on the shoulders of the younger generation to fulfil their role as competent professionals to steer the country towards development and progress.



# 24 Hours of Reality- NEC

The Climate Reality Project is devoted to powering the social revolution for climate action. Founded by Nobel Laureate Al Gore, the organization stands up to climate denial and spreads the truth about the climate crisis to empower our leaders to take action. NUST Environment Club in collaboration with the representatives of Climate Reality project in Pakistan organized the third annual 24 hours of reality-cost of carbon broadcast in Pakistan, held on October 23 at NIT Auditorium, SCEE. The chief guest was Principal SCEE, Dr. Tariq Mehmood.

Mr. Asif Iqbal, Ms Anam Rathore and Mr Kamran Kiyani were there to represent Climate Reality project and discuss the issue of cost of carbon. All of these guests are highly respected in their respective fields related to environment conservation. The event started with a short introduction by Mr. Asif Iqbal about the Climate Reality Project and its theme this year, the cost of carbon.

"In simple words a carbon price is a cost applied to carbon pollution to encourage polluters to reduce the amount of greenhouse gas they emit into the atmosphere" he explained, talked about carbon footprint in quite detail before the live streaming of Al Gores address.

After his introduction, there was live streaming of the former Vice President of USA Al Gore from Los Angeles. Pakistan was one of the 22 countries where this session was held. Al Gore mentioned the effects that carbon pollution has on our environment and how our climate is deteriorating because of excess carbon production. He laid great stress on the effects it has on our health and society in general. He linked the 2010 floods in Pakistan as a result of this problem. According to Al Gore, carbon pollution is transforming every aspect of our life but it's not too late to take effective steps to rein control. If we put a price on carbon then it would eventually slow the rate at which carbon pollution is increasing.

Al Gore's address lasted for about 10 minutes after which Mr Asif



Iqbal took the stage again and enlightened the audience more on this topic. According to him, although Pakistan contributes very little worldwide in carbon pollution it's still affected hard by it. He referred to it as climate injustice because we don't cause much pollution but are affected by it nonetheless. He laid great stress on the fact that we need to reduce our carbon footprint. A very good example of it was given by Mr. Kamran Kiyani. Telenor Global asked its branches all over the world to reduce its carbon footprint. Telenor Pakistan took effective measures regarding this situation and were able to reduce it with the help of engineers and environmental scientists.

This interesting session was concluded by an interactive question answer session. Students and teachers came up with very interesting and thought provoking questions and all in all this conference left a lasting impression on the minds of all present there.

## One-day Seminar on Fire Design of Buildings - MCE

Fire hazard and its damaging effects are well recognized across the world. In Pakistan, there is limited awareness about the fire hazard and its damaging effects. Due to provisions of inadequate fire safety measures, every day, many fire related incidents occur in different parts of the country which cause deaths, property damages and closure of businesses resulting into huge economic losses. To educate building owners and designers on fire safety measures, a one day seminar titled 'Fire Design of Buildings' was held at Military College of Engineering, Risalpur on September 24 under the acquiescence of Pakistan Engineering Council. Seminar was attended by Civil Engineers, Fire Engineers, Architects, Building Owners, Contractors and Building Officials.

After recitation from the Holy Quran, Dean MCE, Dr. Muhammad Naseem Baig welcomed the participants and high-

lighted the aim and objectives of the seminar. Thereafter, resource person, Dr. Shahid Iqbal conducted the seminar. The areas of fire safety that were the focus of his presentations were 'Objectives of fire safety in the buildings,' 'Evaluation of structural fire safety measures in Pakistan,' 'Fire load and its effects on buildings,' 'Prescriptive and performance-based approaches for design of buildings against fire' and 'Behaviour and design of steel and concrete structures exposed to fire.'

Engineer Muhammad Haseeb introduced different fire codes used in the world and explained International Fire Code's provisions related to active and passive safety systems measures that need to be provided in fire safe buildings. Commandant MCE, Major General Anwar-ul-Haq Chaudhary concluded the seminar and stressed upon the need of awareness of different stakeholders about the importance of fire safety measures and advised the participants to spread the knowledge gained during the seminar. He thanked the participants and appreciated the efforts of resource persons and organizers of the seminar.

# Seminar on Answering Water Shortage Threat with Wastewater Treatment

School of Chemical and Materials Engineering (SCME) organized a special seminar for its students on October 10. The topic 'Treatment and Management of Wastewater in Pakistan,' involved chemical and materials engineering, hence the session was attended largely by faculty and students. The guest speaker was Prof. Dr. Sher Jamal, Associate Professor at Institute of Environmental Sciences and Engineering, NUST. With a PhD in wastewater treatment he was an expert on the subject.

He began his talk informing the audience how Pakistan was on the verge of becoming a water deficient country and this threat would materialize by 2015 unless preventative measures were taken. Dams are a capital consuming option and their construction is often marred by political and regional conflicts. So the immediate option is recycling water and wastewater treatment (WWT). Basically WWT reclaims polluted water and makes it fit for reuse as per quality standards. In Pakistan WW flows untreated to rivers and streams leaving us dependent on static or depleting sources. IESE is already working towards solutions as it proposed to Punjab Government to deploy a pilot WWT program in Lahore which will have 4 treatment sites in the periphery of the city. Meanwhile NUST which has significantly hourly water demand requires WWT as well because the water table is low here and thus water needs to be recycled to overcome potential future shortages. To answer this need Dr. Sher Jamal and his team are deploying a membrane-based WWT plant at NUST, work on which has already started with parts being both imported and manufactured on-site. The plant is expected to be functional by the next year.



## NCSC organizes Seminar on Voluntary Blood Donations

A seminar on voluntary blood donations was arranged by NUST Community Service Club (NCSC) for the community service learning course students at Center of International Peace and Stability (CIPS), NUST. Dr Hassan Abbas Zaheer, Head of PIMS Blood Bank and Project Director, Safe Blood Transfusion program, was invited to deliver a talk on the importance of voluntary blood donations. During his talk, he explained the World Health Organization (WHO) strategy of safe blood donations and the condition of haemo-vigilance in Islamabad hospitals and thalassemia centers. His main emphasis was to motivate students to donate blood on regular basis so that replacement and paid donations can be then avoided. He also appreciated NUST Community Service Club for sending students to PIMS Blood Bank in summers who completed their internship at the Blood Bank of PIMS and SBT Programme in July, 2013. He



said that the internship report had been published which briefs about the interns' practical work at the blood bank, their participation in seminars/workshops and future plan for collaboration between NUST and PIMS/SBTP.

## Diverse facilities for students, faculty at EME College

College of E&ME always aims at providing a conducive and congenial study environment to its students simultaneously, the College also emphasizes on promoting co-curricular and extra-curricular activities amongst the students. Keeping this in view, various facilities have been established at College of E&ME.

A riding club has been established in College of E&ME for GCs, NSs, PCs, faculty members, officers and children of officers / faculty. The riding club has been funded by IGT&E. 10 horses have been hired from Mona Depot Sargodha for riding. Students have shown keen interest towards this facility by obtaining its membership.

A Golf Range has been established at a very low cost, which has been financed by IGT&E and prepared on self help basis. A major portion of barren land of the College has been converted into grassy plots and a beautiful drive range and a green

top has been prepared. It is an excellent facility for the novices to learn this sport. A swimming pool has also been established for students, faculty, officers and their families and the students of APS. It has been funded by IGT&E and APS E&ME Branch. Students are excited for this healthy activity and a number of students have become its members. This is a Semi Olympic Swimming Pool where national / inter-university / inter-college swimming competitions will be held. Besides the standard swimming pool, there is also a separate swimming pool for the ladies and a separate pool for the kids. Swimming pool has been established on modern lines using the latest equipment / technology. Infrastructure also includes a Swana bath, changing room, personal lockers and washrooms etc.

In order to prepare cadets for PMA, an assault course has been established in College of E&ME where all the obstacles have been laid. Cadets are trained on these obstacles. Establishment of this assault course has proved to be a great training facility for the college as it is quite useful and effective for cadets' training.



## Lecture on Curriculum Development - C<sup>3</sup>A

Ms. Ayesha Fazal, Technical Advisor from GIZ, National Basic Education Programme Pakistan (NBEPP) was invited to C<sup>3</sup>A on October 10 as a guest speaker. She held a two-hour interactive session on the curriculum development with the post-graduate students of Career Counseling and Education. This session was held to enrich students' knowledge of context-specific issues related to the curriculum development and implementation.

The objective of her presentation was to share key information on the National Curriculum (2006) for schools. She shared valuable information on the place of curriculum in the instructional process, history of the revision, characteristics and the structure of the national curriculum. She provided valuable insight regarding factors which affect modification of the curriculum. During her presentation, she shared the aspects of our curriculum which make it competency-based. She further elaborated that it was an attempt to prepare a learner-centered curriculum but it faces various challenges at the level of implementation. Extensive discussion was held on the importance of teachers and textbooks for the implementation of curriculum. Students actively participated in the whole session and shared their views regarding the biased content in the textbooks of Pakistan Studies. The guest speaker shared international examples of curriculum on the teaching of history and how all nations and not just Pakistan adhere to a certain narrative in the teaching of History. After the session, Director C<sup>3</sup>A awarded her with an appreciation certificate for her valuable contribution.



## Coke Quest Recruitment Drive 2013

Coca Cola Beverages Pakistan Limited (CCBPL) initiated a first of its kind campaign to assess talent on campus for recruitment opportunities in KO Trainee Program. 'Coke Quest' brought the team of Coca-Cola Beverages Pakistan Limited (CCBPL) to NUST H-12 on October 10. Organized jointly by NUST Industrial Liaison Office (ILO) and NUST Science Society (NSS), Coke Quest was a session open to final year students of all disciplines of NUST. For this purpose the team of CCBPL visited NUST and held a session at CIPS. 110 students attended the session.

CCBPL selected only NUST University from Pakistan for this dynamic program. Coke will assess the candidates based on their criteria and select the 35 participants who will take part in the Quest. The beauty of this program is that these students will be assessed throughout six months and successful candidates will have to pass through a panel interview to get employment in Coke. CIL provided the Coke Quest Registration form to the students and encouraged them to apply. Thereafter the Coke recruitment team will shortlist the candidates accordingly.



## NUST faculty delivers talk on Energy Security at NDU

Dr. Mohammad Bilal Khan, Principal & Dean CES-NUST represented Dr. Samar Mubarakmand at the National Defense University to deliver a talk titled "Energy Security and Challenges for Pakistan" on October 21. Mr. Abid Ali, Secretary Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources was the other speaker on the panel. Lack of qualified human resource and integrated energy planning, imbalanced Energy Mix with heavy reliance on imported oil, non-utilization on vast indigenous resources, lack of implementation of viable projects and waste of natural gas in the last 25 years lead to no efficiency in power generation and its diversion to the transport sector together with insufficient oil and gas exploration were identified as the main pitfalls. He elaborated the potential of the coal sector which can provide guaranteed long term energy security to Pakistan. It can prove to be a major tool for Import substitution of expensive RFO in future. He emphasized that power and liquid fuel production from UCG can be a game changer for Pakistan. He informed the

audience the CES-NUST is commissioning a lab scale FT Synthesis facility funded FFCL. He appreciated the resolve of the government to set up the 3800 MW Dasu run of the river project, 1300 MW solar field in southern Punjab and 6500 MW Gadani coal power project. The talk concluded with recommendations and action plans in the short, medium and long term.



## Lecture on Private Hydropower Policy of Pakistan

With current electricity crisis escalating at an alarming rate, the urgency to utilize country's hydropower potential has also augmented. Pertaining to the situation, a lecture on 'Private Hydropower Policy of Pakistan' was arranged at NIT Auditorium, School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (SCEE) on October 2. The lecture was aimed for the 2012 batch of NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE).

The guest speaker, Engr. Munawar Iqbal is Senior Manager (hydropower) at Private Power and Infrastructure Board (PPIB), Ministry of Water and Power, Pakistan. He defined the two circles of focus in Pakistan that have hydropower potential of up to 60,000MW. He elucidated the future civil engineers with methods of hydropower development, relating them to real life scenarios in Pakistan and rest of the world. Then he explained involvement of private sector, evolution of hy-



dropower models and power policies of Pakistan since the inception of WAPDA in 1958. With the minatory circular debt handicapping the public sector, the speaker advocated the involvement of private sector in power generation. He stated the clauses, tariff determination rules and project agreements pertaining to the Private Policy 2002.

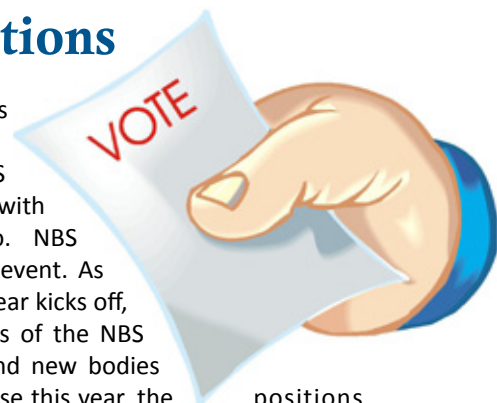
Engr. Munawar Iqbal also illustrated the economic, financial and social dilemmas of the power generation industry. He also described the salient features of the ongoing and proposed hydropower projects which are trusted to solve the power crisis and move the way forward.

## NBS Elections

NUST Business School saw democratic action as NBS elections were held with passion and gusto. NBS election is a yearly event. As the new academic year kicks off, the executive bodies of the NBS societies dissolve and new bodies are voted for. Likewise this year, the positions of President, Vice President, General Secretary, Treasurer and Society Coordinator were up for grabs in all the societies of NBS.

Students registered for the society of their liking among many, namely, Cultural and Dramatics Society, Sports and Hiking Society, Business and Entrepreneurs Society, Community Service Society and Literary and Magazine Society. By doing so, they also got their vote registered. Students interested for a rank in a society nominated themselves and spent almost one week in intense campaigning. All the notice boards in the school were full of promotional posters, charts, flyers and cards of the candidates who were doing their level best to down their opponents. Supporters went around the campus wearing advertising badges in support of their favorite candidates. The contenders also made short speeches in class rooms, informing their prospective voters of their ideas and plans for the societies.

On the day, Ballot papers were stamped on and results were eagerly awaited. The Committee announced the results of the election amidst loud applause and cheers. All in all, a healthy competition was seen throughout the election period and the NBS tradition was maintained.



## NDDS Registration Drive and Orientation

NUST Debates and Dramatics Society has been the pioneer of the drama, theatre and debating culture in NUST. It has always organized events that have provided students with the opportunities to display their creativity such as the Drama fest and the Annual Play. In order to commence another year of drama and theatre, NDDS held its orientation workshop on October 3.

The orientation, organized by the executive council of NDDS was attended by students and the chief guest, Faheem Azam, a renowned RJ, anchor and acting coach. He delivered an acting workshop focusing on ways to maintain self confidence on stage. This was followed by many exciting, engaging and interactive activities. The event also celebrated the official launch of the NDDS website. The event proved to be a significant success for NDDS as a large number of audience participated in the activities and applauded the efforts of the society to revive the drama and theatre culture in NUST. The success of the orientation and workshop session was followed by the registration drive that was extended till October 10. Registration desks were set up in Concordia 1 and Concordia 2 and after the success of the orientation session, the membership forms sold themselves like hot cakes. Students of all years, especially the freshmen, registered themselves with immense enthusiasm.

## NUST Book Fair

A mega NUST Book Fair was organized by National Institute of Transportation, at the institute's library from October 7 to 8. Principal SCEE, Dr. Tariq Mahmood was the chief guest on inaugural session of the event. The purpose of the event was to facilitate faculty, students and staff of NUST by providing access to books at their doorstep for acquainting with recent publications and purchase at discounted rates. 7 well-known vendors/publishers from different cities were invited for display of books on multiple disciplines i.e. Civil Engineering, Transportation Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Construction Engineering & Management, Structural Engineering, Water Resource Engineering & Management, Geotechnical Engineering. The exhibition played a vital role in the updating the library collection, which will play a key role to meet the teaching requirements of the institution.



## Lecture on Water Apportionment at NICE

A lecture on Water Apportionment was held at SCEE Auditorium on October 10, attended by Batch 2011 of NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE). The guest speaker Mr. Amjad Nabi is currently a Consultant and Principal Engineer at Project Management and Policy Implementation Unit – PMPIU in Water Wing of Ministry of Water and Power Islamabad, Pakistan on the World Bank funded 'Water Sector Capacity Building and Advisory Services Project' (WCAP). He has rendered his services at several renowned companies of the world including ACE-Malaysia, Mott McDonalds and NESPAK. As a Water Resources Engineer, his expertise diversify from urban hydrology, GIS, Remote Sensing to storm-water management and reservoir routing.

The session gave the future civil engineers in-depth information of history regarding the water treaties of Pakistan as well as of the water scenario which includes details of rivers, canal system, dams etc. Several clauses of the Water Apportionment Treaty 1991 were shared with the students. Functionality of Indus River System Authority (IRSA) and its components were shared. A detail of Pakistan's shrinking water resources were highlighted in contrast with the population boom. These brass tracks would be consequential for those wishing to pursue water resource management in future. The lecture was a part of Hydrology course and an antecedent to the field trip to Ghazi Barotha.



## SCME Alumni Association organizes lecture series

SCME Alumni Association (SA<sup>2</sup>) organized Industrial lecture series in October. It covered the operations of Utility Boilers, one the major components of a chemical plant. The speaker on the occasion was SCME alumnus Umair Umar, Trainee Operations Engineer (Process and Utilities) at Pakistan Refinery Limited. Umair not only brought his GTE experience from Pakistan Refinery Limited but from his internships at Attock Oil Refinery & Ittehad Chemicals as well.

He began with introducing the students to operations of the boiler as well as its types and their varying applications. He mentioned that the essential requirements of boiler are functioning at minimum cost, maximum safety, minimum maintenance and maximum running life. He mentioned different problems associated with boiler functioning including poor combustion and also mentioned the different indications that a chemical engineer used to identify presence of these problems. Via Process Flow Diagrams he explained basics of process control and external water treatment methods.

Through this session, Umair highlighted one of the aims of SA<sup>2</sup> to transfer maximum practical knowledge, not part of general curriculum to the students.

## Ufone Internship 2013: Closing Ceremony



Ufone concluded its Summer Internship Programme (SIP) 2013 on October 17 by organizing a Recognition and Graduation Ceremony at Islamabad Club. The internship has provided the opportunity to around 84 students from major universities. Ufone ran a series of campus drives throughout the country covering top 20 universities including NUST whereby the campus drive entailed online assessment and interviews for selection of quality candidates.

A good majority of the key stakeholders including Mr. Abid R. Khawaja, Assistant Professor and Ms. Javeria Saleem, Coordination Officer NBS, faculty members of EME College, SEECS, Bahria, QAU, CASE, FAST and Szabist have attended the event. Ufone HR team exchanged views and feedback with them for improving the strategy for SIP 2014. Best interns from each department were awarded certificates, shields, giveaways which also included latest handset with a personalized postpaid number. Muhammad Sami Siddique (Marketing department) and Ms. Zainab Khan (Finance department) were declared best interns.

Speaking at the occasion, Moqem Ul Haque, Chief Strategy Officer, Ufone said, "The Summer Internship Program is all about identifying and nurturing talent by providing them the opportunity to 'Take a SIP of the future.' Many of the students including Muhammad Sami Siddiq & Zainab Khan from NBS, Saadia Qamar from SEECS and Ammama Furrukh Gill from EME College had actually proved that they really were capable enough to work in a competitive environment.

## Lecture on Road Network in Pakistan

A lecture on 'Road Network System of Pakistan' was delivered by Dr. Shahab Khanzada on October 2. The lecture was held at NIT Auditorium in School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (SCEE). Faculty members and students of civil engineering, batch 2012 attended the lecture. The guest speaker explained about the road network of Pakistan by giving an overview of different road projects like Karakorum Highway and Makran Coastal Highway of Pakistan. He also mentioned the problems faced by our engineers in laying these road networks in Pakistan. The total length of roads in Pakistan is 181,836 Km and present worth of this road network is Rs.2 Trillion. Since this network is the lifeline of Pakistan and more than 80% of the economic activity is carried out through this network, it is an important field of civil engineering. Dr. Shahab Khanzada is a consultant at National Highway Authority (NHA), Pakistan. He is an eloquent speaker and has been a part of many publications related to pavement design of rigid and flexible pavements.

## All Pakistan Science Essay competition

NUST Science Society launched an All Pakistan Science Essay Competition on October 10. The essence of this competition was to put scientific knowledge to good use in presenting solutions to the world's pressing troubles. The medium of an essay was chosen since it is both powerful and one in which people of all age groups can engage. Topics that could be opted for the essay were: Together we can feed the world, Together we can build secure energy future and Together we can find solutions of complex social problems. The competition invited entries from all over Pakistan regardless of age or educational background. It was a competition designed parallel with the aims of NSS to inspire innovation and scientific reasoning in young minds, with a drive to use science as a tool to improve the lives of millions.

## Conduct of Workshop on Composite Materials at PNEC

A “Composite Materials” workshop was organized at Pakistan Navy Engineering College (PNEC), NUST, Karachi, from 7 to 11 October by the Engineering Sciences Department. Students from Semester VI and above from various disciplines, alumni and faculty participated in the workshop. The workshop was conducted by the field expert, Lt Cdr Hasan Adil PN of Ship Construction Department – PN Dockyard.

The topics covered in this workshop included introduction of glass reinforced plastics (GRP), molds and its preparation, molding operation, curing of mouldings, finishing operations, sandwich structures, handling/transportation of finished mouldings, health and safety, common defects and quality control. The participants took great interest in the workshop, especially during fabrication of a boat model. This practical demonstration provided a chance to all the participants to observe the process of using GRP for manufacturing of objects. Upon successful completion of 5 days’ workshop, certificates were distributed to all the participants. To further capitalize on the theoretical knowledge, it is planned to take all the participants to the GRP shop at PN dockyard where they can further enhance and observe the GRP manufacturing process of large boats.



## Time Management Seminar

A seminar was organized on “Time Management and Leadership Skills” by Mr Amin Nasrullah, on Friday, 04 October at PNS JAUHAR Auditorium, Pakistan Navy Engineering College (PNEC), Karachi. The faculty and students attended the seminar. The lecture was thought provoking and well received by the students and faculty.



## Dr. Sono Khangharani visits PNEC

Dr. Sono Khangharani, CEO HISAAR Foundation visited Pakistan Navy Engineering College (PNEC), NUST, Karachi on 23rd October. Dr. Sono briefed about his organization and water related issues being faced by Pakistan. He also informed that HISAAR Foundation is supporting United Nations initiative on the International Year of Water Cooperation 2013, for which UN WATER and UNESCO are the global partners. Dr. Sono also expressed his willingness to arrange a formal presentation at PNEC for creating awareness regarding water scarcity, pollution related issues and our responsibilities for preservation of this precious natural resource. After the meeting, the Dy Commandant PNEC presented a memento to the honorable guest.



## 03 CO-CURRICULARS CORNER

### Excursion trip to Mushkpuri



NUST Adventure Club organized a hike to Mushkpuri top, 9000 meters above sea level, for its general members on October 27. The society accommodated a total of 40 students on the trip which included 15 girls. The participants departed from NUST at six o'clock in the morning and took a three-hour route to the Mushkpuri hotel, located at the foothill. From there onwards the participants took a two-and-a-half-hour hike on a rocky trail in the national park to go to the peak.

Despite the cold weather in Mushkpuri, participants were warmed up by the physical exertion during the hike. The dazzling view combined with the freezing weather at the top was an experience to remember. A pacer at the lead and a lodger at the end, along with other organizers and experienced hikers helped the participants on the hike. Despite the difficulties faced while hiking on such a trail, the persistence and morale of the students were admirable. Returning from the top, the participants and the team helped themselves to a delicious lunch at the Mushkpuri hotel. NUST Adventure Club promises more of such events in the near future.

### Students from NICE visit DHA, Fauji Cement Factory

2010 Batch of NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE), SCEE visited the under-construction head-office of Fauji Fertilizer Bin Qasim Limited (FFBL) on October 3 located in Defense Housing Authority (DHA), Islamabad. The students were accompanied by Associate Dean NICE, Dr. Liaquat Ali and several other faculty members. The program started with a presentation where the students were informed of the details, scope and need of the project. Students then visited several sections and components of the building where they were acquainted with civil engineering fundamentals of the field. Later they were served refreshments. The eleven-storey building is 125 feet high comprising nine office floors and 2 parking floors. The Modern Contemporary Architecture has been designed by Arshad Shahid Abdullah with Noor Durani & Associates as consultants. Izhar Construction Pvt. Ltd are the contractors for the mega project. The project commenced in Feb 2012 and is expected to be completed by 2015.

Batch 2013 of NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE), SCEE also visited Fauji Cement Factory at Fateh Jang on October 30. The students were shown processes of crushing of limestone and other raw materials, transport of material around the factory, different zones and chemical reactions in the dry process



of cement production and packing of cement for distribution. Fauji Cement is operating two lines of Cement Plants, one each from FLS Denmark & POLYSIUS Germany. The plants are well renowned for their high efficiency, best quality production and are well maintained with annual total production capacity of 3.3 million tons of cement. The visit was informative for the students as it provided them with an opportunity to witness the processes that are part of their course.

EXPLORE. DREAM. DISCOVER.

## MCE Pantomime 2013

The Convocation of Cadets Engineering Degree Course (CED-73) heralded the organization of a Pantomime, to bid them farewell. The Cadets of Military College of Engineering under the presidency of NC Sajawal Bhatti, prepared a variety of skits, songs, tableaux, parodies and videos with utmost devotion and exhibited their innate talents. Their laughter filled the evening as the Garrison Officers, their families and Cadets of MCE enjoyed the splendid performances; the parodies of various instructors at MCE were most relished. Commandant Military College of Engineering, Maj. General Anwar Ul Haq Chauhdry was the guest of honor. The chief guest commended the brilliant effort put in by the participants and organizers and encouraged them to keep up their work and continue adding the extra colors to the seemingly stale air of Risalpur in years to come.

## Movie screening for fund raising

The screening of 'Iron Man 3' on October 4 from 5 pm to 7:30 pm at SCEE auditorium was organized by NUST Community Services Club (NCSC) in collaboration with Taba Foundation. The event was a fund raiser for the earthquake victims of Baluchistan. The movie screened was on American science fiction, action, adventure film, carefully selected to attract a large audience which resulted in more than 360 tickets being sold out.

Before the movie, the President of Taba foundation delivered a small speech, assuring the safe passage of funds to the victims and a brief background on community service organizations working in Pakistan. An inspirational clip of Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah was also played which contained his beautiful quotations and a speech about importance of working for humanity and mankind. Afterwards, a quiz was arranged with questions about the movie and the speech shown earlier and was followed by the distribution of prizes among the students who answered correctly. The President of Taba foundation, Mr. Umair in his closing remarks appreciated his team's effort and stated, "We are really glad to work in collaboration with NCSC and look forward to having more such events in future."



## Literary Scavenger Hunt

NLC's Scavenger Hunt took place on September 30 amidst great excitement and enthusiasm shown by the students of NUST for this event. The event was organized by the NUST Literary Circle and was open to all NUST schools. The participants had to seek a list of items on the list. Participants were required to guess the literary clues to reach the next destination on the list, alongside collecting specific things which made the event even more challenging and competitive. With the prize money of PKR 6000 at stake, students were seen hurrying from one place to another to complete the list on time. The winner of the event was team 'The Banana Warriors' which included Saim, Muteeb, Shehroze Ahmed, Mudassir and Umer Mushtaq.



## Prize distribution ceremony at EME College

NUST College of EME held its 19th Convocation on 11 Oct 2013. On the same day, prize distribution ceremony was held at night to award prizes for outstanding performance in co-curricular activities. Comdt EME, Maj Gen Obaid Bin Zakria HI (M) graced the occasion as chief guest. He appreciated the performance and dedication of students in different clubs and societies and awarded prizes to the winners of sports and literacy competitions. The impressive Prize distribution ceremony was attended by parents and relatives of the students.

Drama Club also staged a drama for entertainment of audience. A large number of parents were present in the auditorium who enjoyed the event and appreciated the skills of student performers of CEME Dramatic Club. Maj Gen Obaid Bin Zakria highlighted the excellent performance of the student in curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities at College, both at National and International level. He expressed his satisfaction on their performance and prayed for the success in future assignments in their practical life. He also thanked the kind guidance and cooperation of Main Office NUST which enabled the institution to fulfill the expectation of students, faculty and parents. Outgoing students also presented the souvenirs to the college and at the end all the students and their guests were served with a well arranged delicious dinner.



## Chess Competition

The SCME Chess Competition was organized by SCME Sports Society at School of Chemical and Materials Engineering from October 1 to 3. The faculty along with the students participated in the chess competition with spectators crowded around them. Four rounds took place namely R-1 league, R-2 knock out, R-3 Semi final and R-4 Final stage, with different parties rooting for their favorite.

Both the finalists Anas Qureshi and Zeeshan were freshmen year students to the surprise of all school seniors. Zeeshan took home the winning trophy, which was not all unpredictable since he had a history of accolades in chess competitions across Pakistan. The remaining semi finalists were Waleed Mustafa and Tauqeer Shafi.



## Rawalpindi Railway Station visit

A visit to Rawalpindi Station was arranged for Batch 2012 of NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE), SCEE on October 9. The students were accompanied by several faculty members where they visited different parts of the station including the yards. They were acquainted of different components of railway engineering applied in the workings of the railway station. The visit was a corollary to the transportation course being studied by the batch. In the year 1881, Rawalpindi was connected by a railway line and the beautiful colonial type building of this station was built. This city then became the largest cantonment in South Asia after having rail link.



## PNEC wins declamation contests

Federal Urdu University Karachi organized a debating competition on 8 October. Pakistan Navy Engineering College (PNEC) students S/Lt Talha Malik PN & Mr Serjeel Ahmed from semester 1 participated and won the 2nd Prize in Urdu category.

On 9 October, Mohammad Ali Jinnah University organized All Karachi Inter-University Debate Competition 2013. Thirteen teams from all over Karachi participated, PNEC team S/Lt Umar Saqlian PN and S/Lt Talib Ahmed PN Participated in the subject competition where they won the 3rd position in Urdu category.

Meanwhile, Literary & Debating Society of Liaquat National Hospital & Medical College organized 1st Liaquat National All Karachi Bilingual Declamation Contest 2013 on 10 October 2013 in Liaquat National Hospital Convention Center. Twenty Five teams from all over the Karachi participated, where PNEC students Team S/Lt Talha Malik PN & S/Lt Bilal Asif PN participated and won the 3rd Team position bringing laurels to NUST.

## 05 SPORTS

### SMME takes lead in Intra-NUST Volleyball Tournament

Intra-NUST Volleyball tournament was played between six teams of NUST; ASAB, SEECS, SCEE, NBS, SMME and SCME. The first group comprised of ASAB, SCME and SCEE while the second group included SEECS, NBS and SMME. After the first round, two teams from each group proceeded to the semi-finals. The first semifinal was played between SCEE and SCME with SCEE taking a comprehensive win taking the first 2 sets and winning straight. Second semifinal was won by SMME in the same fashion. The final was to be a tough one with SCEE, the defending champions against SMME.

The final was played on October 10. A best of five games followed with SMME taking the first three sets and flying to a victory. Smashes by SMME proved to be consequential. SMME Captain, Waqar Khan and Smasher, Zakir Khan gave an exceptional performance. Experienced player of SMME kept



control on their nerves and played like a unit while keeping their nerve and taking a well-deserved victory. DD Sports, Ms Rubina Anser was the chief guest for the event and gave away the trophy to SMME team.

### NUST Adventure Club organizes Paragliding training



The much awaited paragliding event took place on October 5, organized by NUST Adventure Club (NAC) in collaboration with the Pakistan Association of Free Flying. 15 students from NUST participated in the training activities. Mang, Haripur was selected as an ideal location for the training. Col. Abdul Jabbar Bhatti, General Secretary Pakistan Association of Free Flying and President Pakistan Paragliding School and Club along with his support crew shared his tales of adventures and also demonstrated proper paragliding handling techniques. Fortunately weather conditions were suitable for ground practice which was held at HBL football ground right after the session with Col Bhatti. On the following day at 6:30am, the group headed towards Mang, Haripur. Besides the training, the scenic beauty itself made the whole event worthwhile. Refreshments were provided by NUST Adventure Club and the participants were safely driven back to their respective campuses by 8:00pm.

### SCEE Cricket League

The eighth SCEE Cricket League (SCL) commenced on September 23 with matches throughout the month of October. A total of 11 teams from different schools and batches of School of Civil and Environmental Engineering (SCEE) were divided into three groups. The first semifinal was played between Oceans 11 and The Elevens. A target of 99 runs was given by The Elevens in 8 overs. An exhilarating chase was done by Oceans who were unfortunately defeated in the end by merely seven runs. The second semifinal was even more exciting and competitive. Elevens 11 gave a target of 120 in the allotted 8 overs. In the second innings, Civil tornadoes came really close to winning but Elevens 11 kept their cool and won by 9 runs.

The final of the SCL was played on October 31 between Elevens 11 and The Elevens both from the 2011 batch of NUST Institute of Civil Engineering (NICE). The competition was fierce with Elevens 11 batting first and giving a target of 133 runs from 10 overs. Hasnain Ghuman scored 56 runs and was the top scorer for first innings. The Elevens lost the final match with a mere 8 runs and the Elevens 11 were the winners.



**“The entrepreneur always searches for change, responds to it, and exploits it as an opportunity.”** Peter F. Drucker



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