

# IN PERSPECTIVE

NEWSLETTER **JANUARY 2024**

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## FBM MOVES TO MAIN CAMPUS, BOOSTING INNOVATION AND SKILLS

Congratulations to the students and faculty of Faculty of Business and Management as they relocate to ITU's Main Campus on Barki Road, Lahore. This transition will help ITU in expanding its horizons in several areas especially in terms of expanding the student base and harnessing the true potential of a world class research ecosystem in its own campus.

It is a unique distinction for the students of the School of Business and Management as they become the pioneering batch to begin this exciting new journey.

We are proud and grateful that we have finally begun this relocation process. Let us not forget the painstaking efforts and faithful commitment shown by ITU management in making this all happen. We are thrilled that we are becoming bigger and better, now more than before!



## SOFT LAUNCH OF 10 STARTUPS HELD BY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

ITU's School of Business and Management strives to build the entrepreneurial mindset of its students and provide opportunities to foster the culture of innovation. As part of the Entrepreneurship course led by Dr. Sara Khawar, soft launch of 10 startups was recently organized at Lincoln Corner. These start-ups included:

- MUSE: Your imagination, Our Needle Work
- Imperfect Mix: From Stiches to Stories
- Visionary Ventures: Smart Indoor Gardening where Green meets Tech
- Yadaain: Capturing Life One Page at a Time
- Anaar: Nurturing Nature, Sowing Impact
- Sliceteam: Streamlining attendance tracking system
- eXconnect: Bridging Industries, Connecting Nations
- Pearl by MYNE: Crochet Couture
- Americal Blade: Damascus Designers
- Cousine Flip: Make your plate according to your taste

The event was attended by seasoned entrepreneur Muhammad Uns, Chief Operating Officer Stealth Mode - UK, Dr. Tauseef Tauqeer - Dean Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Rehan Hafiz - Director ORIC, Mr. Adeel Asghar - Registrar ITU, Dr. Usman Younis - Chairperson Computer and Software Engineering Department, Dr. Rehan Ahmad - Assistant Professor, Department of computer Engineering, Mr. Faisal Ejaz - Controller Examination, Mr. Asif - Chief Librarian and Dr. Aftab Nasir - Assistant Professor, Department of Governance and Global Studies among others. The attendees encouraged the students and appreciated the initiative of the School of Business and Management.







## DELEGATION OF UNDER TRAINING CIVIL SERVANTS MEETS ITU VC

A delegation of Probationary Officers under the Common Training Program at Civil Services Academy in Lahore recently visited Information Technology University.

The Probationary Officers, led by Dr. Ejaz Ahmed Sindhu, called on Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor Mian.

They held discussion on a host of topics including Higher Education, Industrial Revolution 5.0, innovation in Public Sector Organizations, IT sector in Pakistan, Artificial Intelligence, leveraging IT for social impact and others.

Deans, Chairpersons and worthy Registrar ITU also accompanied the Vice Chancellor.



## U.S. CONSULATE LAHORE REPRESENTATIVE AND ITU VC DISCUSS INDUSTRY - ACADEMIA LINKAGE

Nicholas Katsakis, political economic section chief, U.S. Consulate Lahore, earlier called on ITU Vice Chancellor. He discussed how the gap between academia and industry can be bridged especially in the IT sector. Later, he also met students to get their perspective on how they can be ready to enter the IT sector.

During the meeting, Vice Chancellor was also accompanied by Dean of Faculty of Engineering Dr. Tauseef Tauqeer, Dean of Faculty of Business and Management Sciences Dr. Sara Khawar, Dean Faculty of Sciences Dr. Arif Mahmood, ITU Registrar Adeel Asghar and Coordinator Lincoln Corner Lahore Irtaza Sajid.







## ORIENTATION CEREMONY FOR BATCH 6 OF SHORT COURSES HELD

The Center of Executive Trainings at Information Technology University hosted the Orientation Ceremony for Batch 6 of Short Courses. Students of the incoming batch were warmly welcomed on campus. They got a chance to interact with their instructors and fellow students as well.

In addition to theoretical knowledge, the short courses will offer an exciting opportunity for students to get hands on experience and learn practical skills from instructors who have had a rich experience in their respective subjects. We wish the best to the new batch of students and welcome them on board.



## SESSION ON DRIVING INNOVATION IN THE POST-GPT ERA HELD

ITU held an informative session on "Driving Innovation in the Post-GPT Era" by Mr. Aamir Siddiqui.

Mr. Siddique is the Founder of OrangePro AI (an LLM-powered Testing OS). His 20 years in IT offers vast experience and experience in dozens of startups as a vendor, adviser and investor. He has also been a consultant for Microsoft, AT&T, and the Gates Foundation.

His career marks roles and experience relating to team building, strategic leadership and technical excellence.

In an engaging talk, Dr. Siddique highlighted the significance of innovation and various aspects especially in the Post-GPT era with students and members of faculty and ITU's Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor in attendance.



## VC LAHORE GARRISON UNIVERSITY CALLS ON ITU VC TO DISCUSS AREAS OF COLLABORATION

Information Technology University hosted Vice Chancellor Lahore Garrison University, Maj. Gen. Muhammad Khalil Dar, HI(M) (Retd). Accompanied by Dean of Languages Professor Dr. Arif Jawaid, he called on ITU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor.

The host offered a detailed overview about various aspects of ITU through a comprehensive presentation. These included world-class faculty at ITU, state of the art research labs, collaborations and funding, research-academia linkages and others.

The visiting delegation gleaned insights from various inspiring aspects of ITU that can help Lahore Garrison University improve and revive especially in area of Computer Science and developing a research-intensive ecosystem enabled by top notch research faculty. Other areas of learning and collaboration include Machine Learning, Digital Forensics, e-library etc.

ITU VC was joined by all four Deans and six Chairpersons. Treasurer and Registrar of ITU were also in attendance.







## ITU AND EBRYX PVT. LTD. SIGN MOU TO ESTABLISH A COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIP

ITU signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ebryx Pvt. Ltd. to establish relations and cooperation for promoting mutual understanding and potential academic, technological and human resource exchange. This MoU will enable ITU and Ebryx Pvt. Ltd, leading Cyber Security company of Pakistan, to collaborate for internship and job opportunities, Knowledge Exchange Programs/Guest Lectures and Final Year Projects.

ITU Vice Chancellor, Professor Dr. Adnan Noor Mian, and CEO Ebryx Pvt. Mr. Moham-mad Ahrar Naqvi formally signed the MoU.



## ITU AND PAKISTAN TANNERS ASSOCIATION SIGN MOU TO CEMENT INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA BOND

Information Technology University and Pakistan Tanners Association (Northern Zone) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding, further cementing the collaborative relationship between them. This MoU will encourage knowledge-economy concept with the exchange of technical solutions for the enhancement of industry academia collaboration and identification of opportunities for cooperation, and joint research and development in disciplines of mutual interest.

The MoU signing ceremony was held at Faletti's Hotel, Lahore, where Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor Mian, Vice Chancellor of ITU, and Mr. Fazalur Rehman Shaikh, Chairman Pakistan Tanners Association (N.Z) formally signed the MoU in an exquisite and graceful ceremony.





## ITU AND LAHORE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN UNIVERSITY JOIN HANDS TO ESTABLISH COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIP

ITU signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Lahore College for Women University to promote joint academic and R&D activities. This MoU will enable the exchange of scientific, academic, and technical information and identification of opportunities for exchanges and cooperation, and joint research and development. In particular, this MoU will help in visits and exchange of faculty, staff and students for research and teaching, jointly organizing Conferences, Seminars, Webinars,

Workshops and Symposium, joint production and delivery of courses, lectures, and programs and graduate thesis evaluation and supervision.

ITU Vice Chancellor, Professor Dr. Adnan Noor Mian, and LCWU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Shugufta Naz formally signed the MoU. It was co-signed by the Director of Offices of Research, Innovation and Commercialization from ITU, Dr. Rehan Hafiz, and LCWU, Prof. Dr. Faiza Saleem.

Dean of Faculty of Engineering Dr. Tauseef Tauqeer, Dean of Faculty of Business and Management Sciences Sara Khawar and Registrar Mr. Adeel Asghar also accompanied the Vice Chancellor. Dr. Asifa Kamal, Chairperson Department of Statistics, LCWU and Dr. Saima Farhan, Chairperson Department of Computer Science, LCWU, were also present in the graceful ceremony held at Lahore College for Women University.



## ITU AND LAHORE GARRISON UNIVERSITY JOIN HANDS TO FURTHER MUTUAL INTERESTS IN SCIENCE AND IT

ITU hosted an esteemed delegation of LGU earlier for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the two universities. This MoU will help in establishing a framework for collaboration and a strategic partnership to promote mutual interests in the field of Computer Science, Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Data Science, Cyber Security, and Information Technology (IT). In particular, this partnership will help in several domains including Curriculum Development, Specialized Course Design, Student Skills Development, Faculty Training, Research and Development and collaborative events.

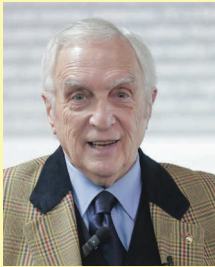
Vice Chancellor ITU Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor Mian and Vice Chancellor LGU Maj. Gen. Muhammad Khalil Dar HI(M) (Retd) formally signed the MoU. It was co-signed by Dean Faculty of Science at ITU Dr. Arif Mahmood and Dean Faculty of Computer Sciences LGU Dr. Muhammad Asif.







## INSIGHTFUL TALK ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION HOSTED



ITU hosted an interactive session on "Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education" by esteemed Professor Luiz Moutinho. Professor Moutinho delved into various aspects of transformation in Higher Education enabled especially by AI and technology integration. He highlighted how AI-powered tools can help automate administrative tasks, provide personalized learning experiences and improve the efficiency of education delivery. The session was followed by an interactive Q&A in which participants asked intriguing questions and shared their incisive insights.

Vice Chancellor ITU Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor Mian, accompanied by senior faculty members, especially participated in the session. He thanked the guest for an insightful talk.

Professor Luiz Moutinho is a Visiting Professor of Marketing at the Suffolk Business School, University of Suffolk, England, and Visiting Professor of Marketing, The Marketing School, Portugal. His diverse interests include Marketing and Management Future-cast, Artificial Intelligence, Biometrics and Neuroscience in Marketing and Futures Research.



## BOOK ON KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY LAUNCHED

Vice Chancellor ITU Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor Mian participated in the launching ceremony of the book, "Towards a Knowledge Economy- National Innovation and Technology System of Pakistan." Authored by Shahid Najam, Vice Chairman of Shahid Javed Burki Institute of Public Policy at NetSol (BIPP), the book offers a detailed analysis of national innovation and technology system and traces Pakistan's journey towards knowledge economy.

The event was held by the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) in which Caretaker Minister for Health Dr. Javed Akram was the chief guest.



## SPECIAL DEPARTMENTAL ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE DISCUSS FINANCES WITH ITU VC

Special Departmental Accounts Committee (SDAC) meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Shahid Saleem, Additional Secretary (P&B) Higher Education Department. The committee consisted of officers from the Finance, Higher Education and Audit departments. They called on ITU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor Mian and discussed a host of topics related to financial aspects of the university. Dr. Adnan Noor Mian apprised them about various ongoing research projects and the progress related to ITU's Main Campus on Barki Road, Lahore.





## ITU PARTNERS WITH FUTURE FEST 2024- PAKISTAN'S LARGEST TECH EVENT

The Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) at Information Technology University proudly partnered with Future Fest 2024- Pakistan's Largest Tech Event. It is the third edition of the event that brought together 50,000+ attendees and 300+ speakers from around the world to Expo Center Lahore.

In its previous two editions, Future Fest successfully brought together renowned companies such as Binance, Epic, KuCoin, Google Developers, Payoneer, Careem, Swvl, S&P, AIGooru, AZM, Classera, Diggi-packs, Elm, Hala, ILSA, Mozn, NANA, Noon, Qoyod, Salasa, Salla, Squadio, Takadao, Tracking.me, and Unifonic.

Information Technology University participated in the mega event as an Academic Partner. In this vein, ORIC officials led the delegation of students who set up their stalls showcasing their projects. Future Fest 2024 provided a great platform to ITU students from diverse academic backgrounds to exhibit their projects.



## DR. ABIHA ZAHRA TO CHAIR DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNANCE AND GLOBAL STUDIES

Information Technology University is pleased to share that Dr. Abiha Zahra has been appointed the Chairperson of the Department of Governance and Global Studies.

Dr. Abiha Zahra is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Governance and Global Studies. She has obtained her PhD in Public Administration from KU Leuven, Belgium as an IRO doctoral scholar. Dr. Abiha Zahra's research revolved around structural reforms and performance management systems in the State Organizations of Pakistan. She has developed a Pakistan State Administration Database (a longitudinal data base to study life cycle changes of state organizations in Pakistan). She has also worked in the Department of Political Sciences, University of Oslo, Norway to explore the role of political and administrative state actors in reforms.

We welcome her on board to the administrative side of the university with the hope that she will lead the Department towards further growth and progress. We wish her the best.



### CONGRATULATIONS

to Dr. Abiha Zahra on her appointment as the Chairperson of the Department of Governance & Global Studies.

Dr. Abiha Zahra  
Ph.D in Political & Social Sciences  
KU Leuven, Belgium

## ITU CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION.

While imparting world-class education and values in our students, we have come a long way in shaping the lives of our students who have gone on to achieve successes in diverse interests and endeavours. Most importantly,

we feel proud that we have created conscientious and caring global citizens who are contributing to further the cause of research that is focused on driving positive social change in the local and global communities.

UNESCO is dedicating the International Day of Education celebrated on 24 January 2024 to the crucial role education and teachers play in countering hate speech, a phenomenon which has snowballed in recent years with the use of social media, damaging the fabric of our societies. In this respect, ITU is proud that we have always promoted a responsible use of technology and social media highlighting our commitment to peace and countering hate speech, offline and online.

We wish all our students and teachers a happy International Day of Education.



Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.  
(Nelson Mandela)

International Day of  
**EDUCATION**  
January 24







## NCEAC'S ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE VISITS ITU

Accreditation Committee of the National Computing Education Accreditation Council (NCEAC) visited ITU for the accreditation of BS Computer Science program. The visiting delegation consisted of Convener, Dr. Shoab A Khan, Sir Syed CASE, Islamabad, and a Member, Dr. Sajjad Madani, Comsats University, Islamabad. During their field audit, the esteemed members of the committee met Dean Dr. Arif Mahmood and Chairperson Dr. Mudassir Shabbir. They visited various research facilities, classrooms, library and research labs on campus. The committee evaluated various aspects of the program and concluded the day with an interaction with the students and meeting with the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor Mian.



## ITU STUDENTS CARRY THE DAY AT LUMS' WEB HACKATHON

Congratulations to our Computer Science students Ahmad Ashfaq and Ajwad Alam on grabbing the 1st Prize while competing with teams from FAST, LUMS, UMT at LUMS' Web Hackathon. The event was held by SPADES. Winning students also won the prize money of PKR 50,000. Students demonstrated exceptional expertise in web development and secured a significant win. Students come from Computer Science Batch 21.

Congratulations!



## PANEL ON HISTORY OF ELECTIONS IN PAKISTAN SPARKS AN INSIGHTFUL DISCUSSION

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FHSS) at ITU earlier hosted a panel discussion on the history of elections in Pakistan, drawing in students and faculty members.

The distinguished panelists, Dr. Ali Usman Qasmi, Associate Professor of History at Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), and Mr. Tahir Mehdi, Head of Lok Sujag, a digital media platform, provided a comprehensive analysis of Pakistan's electoral process, tracing its development from the early years to the present. They highlighted the impact of various factors such as political parties, political elites in the early years of Pakistani history, electoral reforms, and the influence of non-political actors on election outcomes.

Of particular interest was the discussion on how political elites of the early period and non-political interventions have affected the history and process of elections, as well as the significant general elections that led to various critical incidents in Pakistani history. The panelists also highlighted the role played by political activists and civil society during this historical process, which marks the struggle for fair and free elections.

The panel discussion not only provided valuable insights into the history of elections in Pakistan but also encouraged a meaningful dialogue through questions and answers from students, making it an informative and engaging event for all participants.

Dr. Yaqoob Khan Bangash, Dean, FHSS moderated this insightful session.

