

Karachi campus becomes NVIDIA CUDA Research Center



FAST-NU, Karachi campus has been selected as NVIDIA CUDA Research Center. CUDA is a parallel computing platform and programming model invented by NVIDIA. It enables dramatic increases in computing performance by harnessing the power of the graphics processing unit (GPU). The award is the recognition of NVIDIA's commitment in supporting GPU-related research and FAST-NU's commitment to academic excellence. FAST-NU is the first university in the country to achieve the

NVIDIA Research Center award.

As part of this research proposal, the Sys Lab team headed by Dr. Jawwad A. Shamsi, Head of Computer Science department, will investigate the use of GPUs for big data systems, and other complex computer science problems such as networks, computer vision and bio informatics. Further, the team would be exploring heterogeneity across multiple GPU platforms.



Faculty member gets HEC Best Young Research Scholar Award

Dr. Muhammad Abbas, Assistant Professor, FAST School of Management, Islamabad campus, has won the HEC Best Young Research Scholar Award 2012 in the category of Management Sciences, Social Sciences, and Arts & Humanities. He is the only award winner in this category.

A ceremony was held at the head office of Higher Education Commission Islamabad on March 13 where he received the certificate and cash prize. Federal Minister Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Abdul Qadir Baloch and Chairman HEC Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad presented certificate to Dr. Abbas. The award is granted on the basis of quality and quantity of research publications, conference presentations and other academic achievements.



IEEE student branch opened at CFD campus



The first ever IEEE student branch has been formally opened at the Chiniot-Faisalabad campus of FAST-NU on March 20. Dr. Amjad Hussain, Dr. Shafay Shamail, Ms. Sania Arshad, faculty members, staff and students attended the ceremony.

IEEE Student Branch Counselor Dr. Gufran Khan gave the welcome note while branch chair Mr. Hassan

Danial introduced IEEE team and its ambitions. Dr. Amjad Hussain gave a detailed introduction of IEEE and Dr. Shafay Shamail introduced IEEE Lahore section and ensured his full support to the team. Ms. Sania Arshad briefed students about IEEE WIE section and its importance. Later, Director CFD campus Dr. Asif Mehmood Gillani gave the vote of thanks.

Public speaking session held

The Human Resource department of FAST-NU Islamabad campus, in collaboration with Islamabad HR Forum, recently arranged a two-day training workshop titled “The Nitty-Gritty of Public Speaking”. Mr. Muhammad Usman Gulzari, Lead Trainer at The Missing P, and former President of Islamabad Toastmasters Club, was the facilitator of the workshop.

The training enabled participants to present their public speaking skills with confidence as it focused on six identified objectives, including overcoming nervousness, organizing the speech, delivering a talk with powerful opening, using body language and voice for maximum impact, and

memory power to remember the speech and conclusion. The workshop was a systematic step-by-step guide and provided participants with easy to use frameworks that can help them to speak with clarity and confidence. More than hundred students attended the workshop.



Combined research paper accepted

The first combined research paper in English and Mathematics by Mr. Majid Khan, Assistant Professor Mathematics, and Mr. Ali Shahab, Lecturer English, at FAST-NU Islamabad campus has been accepted for publishing in an international journal of Non Linear Engineering De Gruyter with the title “A Brief Description about the Fathers of Computer and Information Sciences”. This is an initiative for promoting research culture among different disciplines. The research is unique in its feature due to the interesting blend of Mathematics and English.

FAST-NU students win NUST competition

Students from FAST-NU Islamabad participated in the 2nd MCS Myriad organized by NUST and secured first position in Speed Programming, and second in Photography and Sketching competitions. Over all above 20 technological and social competitions were held during the event. Hamza Idrees and Ali Arsalan were in the team of speed programming, Uzair Ahmed Khan took part in photography while Sumayya Zeb got second position in sketching.



Blood donation camp



Islamabad campus established a blood donation camp with collaboration of Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) on March 11 and 12. Above 200 students and others donated blood during the camp. They were provided blood test reports by the PRCS. 153 participants' samples were free from any disease. Donor Reports were being handed over to Students Affairs department. PRCS highly appreciated all the participants and management for contributing to the noble cause.

Training session for government officials



Karachi campus organized a training session for the government officers from National Institute of Management Karachi. Key Note Lecture was delivered by the Director Karachi campus Dr. Zubair Shaikh.

Workshop on CV writing & job hunting strategies

FAST-NU Peshawar campus organized one day workshop on “Soft Skills – CV Writing, Interview Skills & Job Hunting Strategies” on March 17.

The workshop was designed to facilitate the transition to practical life for final year project students. The workshop was jointly organized by FYP coordinators from all departments with Ms. Maryam Ali, visiting English teacher, and Mr. M. Tariq Yousafzai, Assistant Professor, as resource persons.

Mr. Tariq gave a presentation on writing various styles of CVs and Cover Letters; whereas, Ms. Maryam shared practical ideas with respect to CVs, job hunting and

interview skills in interactive sessions.

The workshop allowed the students to get acquainted with emerging trends in the

fast changing private and public sectors.

Besides students, many faculty members also attended the workshop.

Certificates of participation were distributed by the campus Director Dr. Tariq

Rahim, who stressed on the students to take keen interest in soft skills learning and organizational development.



Session on women empowerment



FAST Wake up Society at Peshawar campus arranged a special session on women empowerment and leadership skills on March 19. Lecturer Gul Rukh and Lecturer

Muhammad Ehtesham facilitated the session.

The session was attended and addressed by several members from the National Youth

Assembly (NYA). The NYA program head and speaker Mr. Shahab Shah Yousafzai motivated the students and boosted their moral and confidence.

Female motivational speakers including Ms. Naheed Haq, Ms. Nadia Sarwar, Ms. Nudrat Gul, Ms. Pashmina Khattak and Ms. Ayesha Chohan also addressed the session and engaged students in several motivational tasks.

Mr. Mohammad Amar Khan, the governor of National Youth Assembly, a prominent youth activist and NBF Young Book ambassador, also shared his views.

Ph.D theses defended

Mr. Shahzad Ahmad and Mr. Tabasam Rashid from FAST-NU Lahore campus successfully defended their Ph.D theses in mathematics on March 14, 2015 at Lahore campus.

Dr. S. M. Husnine along with Dr. Toru Nakahara supervised the thesis of Mr. Shahzad, while Dr. Husnine and Dr. Ismat Baig supervised the thesis of Mr. Tabasam.

Mr. Shahzad Ahmad presented his thesis on “On Hasse’s Problem for a certain family of Pure Sextic Number Fields over the Field of

rational Numbers”. The foreign evaluators of the thesis were Professor Dr. Claude Levesque, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Laval University Quebec, Canada, and Associate Professor Dr. Ryotaro Okazaki, Faculty of Science and Engineering, Department of Mathematical Sciences, Kyoto-fu, Kyotanabe-shi, Doshisha University, Japan.

Mr. Tabasam Rashid presented his thesis on “Choquet Integral and Multi-Criteria Decision Making”.

Dr. Khusro’s book published

Dr. Khusro Mian, Assistant Professor, Department of Sciences & Humanities, FAST-NU, Karachi, has got his book titled “Parametric Study of Turbulence in Upper Atmospheric Plasma, The standard model of Astrophysics” published by LAMBERT Academic Publishing. Dr. Khusro’s fields of interest are mathematics, probability and statistics, bio computing, stochastic analysis, statistical analysis, and environmental and astrophysics research.

Karachi campus holds workshop on robotics

The Electrical Engineering department of FAST-NU Karachi campus organized one day workshop on “Robotics” under the platform of IEEE. Students of all the batches attended the workshop. Ms. Kulsoom Muqem and Ms. Raim ul Robai, faculty members of Electrical Engineering department, conducted the workshop. A brief lecture was given by Mr. Zeeshan Shamsi, Sales and Application Engineer at Khan Brothers, a marketing company

dealing with automation and drive related products. He shared his experience and knowledge with students.

The motive of the workshop was to educate students to construct a robot, design and fabricate mechanical structure and electronic control modules of the robot including all electronic boards and motor drivers. A series of tutorials were given on sensors, actuators and their controlling mechanism by programming using Aurdino controller.



Saudi delegation visits Karachi campus

A delegation of Saudi officials comprising Dr. Abdullah al Hussaini, Vice Dean of Majmaa University of Kingdom of Saudia Arabia, and Dr. Shakeel A. Mughal recently visited FAST-NU Karachi campus. Dr. Zubair A. Shaikh, Director FAST-NU Karachi campus, briefed them about different departments of the university and its contribution in providing higher education to thousands of students in five major cities of Pakistan.



QEC attends international workshop

FAST-NU Quality Enhancement Cell actively participated in an international workshop on outcome based accreditation jointly organized by Quality Assurance Agency, Higher Education Commission (QAA HEC) and Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) from March 2 to 3 at PEC Head Quarters, Islamabad.

Dr. Kai Sang LOCK, Washington Accord Mentor to PEC, was the resource person. QEC heads and engineering professionals from more than 40 higher education institutions of Pakistan participated in the

workshop. FAST-NU QEC’s activities for outcome based education as per HEC and PEC requirements were highly appreciated by the participants. Executive Director, HEC, awarded a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Farrukh Idrees, Manager QEC, FAST-NU, for his contribution in the workshop.



FAST-NU gives donation to Al-Khidmat Foundation for Tharparkar

The students and alumni members of FAST-NU Islamabad campus collected funds amounting Rs. 4, 34,400 for the famine affected people of Tharparkar. Sighting previous record of completing a number of emergency response programs, Islamabad campus donated the amount to Al-Khidmat Foundation.

Mr. Ehsan Ullah Qureshi, National Director, Disaster Management Program, Al-Khidmat Foundation, received the donation in a ceremony at Islamabad campus on March 20. Dr. Waseem Ikram, Head of Electrical Engineering department handed over the donation to Mr. Ehsan Ullah. He gave a presentation on the welfare activities. A number of faculty members, staff and students involved in the collection attended the ceremony. Al-Khidmat works in the vulnerable communities along government institutions and international NGOs. It also provides training on emergency response, disaster risk reduction and management. The donation will be utilized to set up water well for drought hit people of Tharparkar.