

Seminar on Macro Economics

Business experts for promoting entrepreneurship to boost economy



Prominent politician, economist, management expert and former CEO of ENGRO Corporation, Mr. Asad Umar emphasized the importance of entrepreneurship and how crucial it is for the economy of any country. He said that the size of the world economy is \$60 trillion while the size of Pakistani economy is just \$220 billion, which makes a very tiny percentage of the total. The reason behind it is that Pakistan does not produce enough goods and services that are demanded by other countries. China has become a booming business force because they are producing goods that are high in demand around the world.

He was addressing to a seminar on “challenges faced by Pakistani economy and role of a young business graduate in the eyes of a business leader” organized by the Fast

School of Management, Islamabad campus, to exchange experiences among various students and business leaders for formulating ideas and strategies for human resource development for economy. The seminar provided a forum for students from different departments to examine the increasingly important role of students in the context of knowledge based global economy and the current human resources situation in Pakistan. The understanding of the participants on various planning and forecasting tools for human resources development and economic growth was enhanced.

Mr. Asad Umar said the main reason behind the success of any project is passion. Pakistani society has been unable to understand the real key driver behind the success of the business. It is vital for the workforce to share the company's vision and passion. Only then a business can achieve real success. He urged students and citizens to think out-of-the-box and come up with new business ideas.

Mr. Muhammad Hafeez-ud-Din Asif, former Member Finance Oil & Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA), said that today's entrepreneurs should think globally. He said that business graduates should have creative and achievable goals for which they must work hard. Awareness of one's goals and understanding the importance of strategic planning should be the top priorities of our business leaders. Mr. Shaban Khalid, President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) and Chairman Young Entrepreneurs Forum (YEF) of ICCI, emphasized the need of networking.

Announcement

Accreditation granted to BS Engineering degree programs

The Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) has granted accreditation for two years to BS Electrical Engineering program Batch 2009 at Islamabad campus and one year accreditation to BS Electrical Engineering degree program Batch 2009 at Peshawar campus. Officials of PEC visited Islamabad campus on May 30-31, 2013 and Peshawar campus on July 16-17, 2013 for accreditation of Bachelor of Electrical Engineering programs at both campuses. Accreditation was granted to Batch 2009 students in its 67th meeting of EA&QEC held on September 30, 2013. The accreditation is compulsory for students to be registered engineers with PEC, thus it's a key imperative for engineering students to start their career. FAST-NU has always strived hard to maintain higher standards of professional education.



Agha Hassan Abedi declamation contest held

The 4th Annual Agha Hassan Abedi Declamation Contest was organized by The Literary Club on October 9 at the Main Campus, Karachi. Students from 30 colleges and universities across Karachi participated in the competition. Mr. Abid Ali Omang and Mr. Faisal Karim served as judges for Urdu declamation while Mr. Abdullah Jamal and Mr. Araj Raza were the judges for English competition.



Heartfelt and fiery Urdu speeches captivated the audience.

The judges were very impressed by the raw talent emanating from the podium. English declamations too had embarked on a very high level of proficiency. The participants got great applause and appreciation from the audience as well as judges. In the end, Mr. Swaleh Naqvi shared his personal experiences and time spent with the sponsor of FAST Late Agha Hassan Abedi. He paid rich tribute to Agha Hassan Abedi. Trophies and prizes were given to the winners and position holders.

Participation in mathematics conference

A group of Ph.D students from FAST-NU Lahore campus has presented research papers in the 14th International Pure Mathematics Conference held in Islamabad. The group headed by Professor Dr. S. M. Husnine was comprised of Mr. Muhammad Javed, Mr. Shehzad Ahmed, Ms. Sumaira Sharif, Ms. Farheen Ibrahim and Ms. Tabassum Rasheed. The topics of their research papers were graph labeling, group classification of differential equations using lie symmetry, computer aided geometry design, fuzzy decision making and characterization of simple groups.



IEEE Day held

IEEE Society at FAST-NU Karachi campus organized a session to celebrate the 129th anniversary of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), a world's leading institution, on October 1. The session was organized by the student body of IEEE to introduce the IEEE society and its executive committee (EXCOM) to the students of FAST-NU.

Dr. Asim-ur-Rehman, Head of Department and Branch Counselor for IEEE, apprised the students about IEEE, its history, global working mechanism, international acclaim and how it facilitates the students in learning and professional growth. Member students can get their papers published on affordable cost. IEEE also funds final year projects of students and sponsors them to represent their research papers in seminars and conferences.

Judge for Intl competition

Mr. Muhammad Rafi, Assistant Professor Computer Sciences, FAST-NU Karachi campus, has been selected as the first Pakistani judge for IEEE-Xtreme 7.0 -24 hours online international programming competition.



He has also submitted two programming problems that were part of the challenge. More than 1800 teams would participate in this competition this year.

Annual trip enthralls students

Dramatics and Extracurricular Society (DECS) at FAST-NU Karachi campus organized an annual picnic at Tushan beach on 5th October. DECS is one of the only few societies that involve students of Karachi campus for outdoor activities and provide them a break from the stress of studies. Tushan Beach is the perfect place to spend a day while eating and playing in a very pleasant weather.

Annual picnic is the official picnic of FAST-NU Karachi campus which is attended by all the students and faculty members. Around 800 students, faculty members and their friends eagerly participated in the annual picnic. It provided students an ideal platform to enjoy with their friends to relieve study related stress.



FCCI delegation visits CFD campus



FAST-NU is a university that imparts youth education, skills and knowledge to start their professional career with confidence on firm basis of ethical and moral values. Local population should derive optimal benefits from this world-class university in the region, said Director FAST-NU Chiniot-Faisalabad (CFD) campus Dr. Aftab Maroof during a visit of a delegation of Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FCCI) to the campus.

The delegation, led by FCCI President Mr. Sohail bin Rashid held a detailed interactive session with the students and faculty of the campus. While responding to different queries of the students, Mr. Sohail said that despite all challenges, Faisalabad is one such city which promises entrepreneurial and professional opportunities to skilled, qualified, and enterprising youth. Dr. Aftab informed the delegation about the infrastructural and academic scope of the campus. The delegation also met with the parents of late Arfa Karim and discussed different plans to realize Arfa Karim's dream of promoting Information Technology education in the region. The delegation assured the support of FCCI to the common cause of Arfa Karim Trust and FAST-NU for education uplift.

Female students visit Azad Kashmir

FAST Adventure Society at Peshawar campus arranged a three-day recreational trip to Azad Kashmir from October 25 to 27. Twenty five female students of the campus participated in the trip. Ms. Misbah Faiz organized the trip while Assistant Professor Mr. Ihsanullah and Lab Instructor Ms. Ahsina Zuhra supervised the arrangements. The students left Peshawar on October 25. They visited Murree and then left for Muzaffarabad. The group stopped at Kohala Bridge recreational stop on Neelum River enroute to Muzaffarabad. They stayed in a rest house in Muzaffarabad and visited Keran the next day. Students did hiking and thoroughly enjoyed beautiful scenery and terrain of the Neelum valley. Students also had their dinner around a bonfire in Keran. They also visited newly built Centaurus Mall in Islamabad on October 27 on their way back to Peshawar. They spent wonderful time and cooperated with the organizers and faculty members to avoid any unpleasant situation.



Workshop on writing research proposal

The Department of Electrical Engineering, Peshawar campus arranged a seminar on "writing award winning research proposals" on October 25 to train students and young faculty members for writing effective research proposals to get international scholarships and research funding. Graduated students, final year students, students planning to apply for international scholarships and faculty members intending to go for higher education attended the workshop. Assistant Professor Dr. Muhammad Tariq Khan was the keynote speaker of the session. Dr. Tariq himself has twenty four research papers and a book to his credit. Students appreciated the initiative and requested campus management to arrange such informative events in the future as well.

Manager Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC), Islamabad campus participated in a 5-day workshop on "raising productivity in higher education"

organized by Asian Productivity Organization, Japan, from October 7 to 11 in Indonesia. The purpose of the workshop was to come up with a model of excellence for improving productivity and quality in higher education in Asia to improve economic progress of the region. About 15 representatives from Asian countries attended the workshop and presented their respective papers. Quality assurance aspect of Pakistani higher education sector was highly acknowledged by the representatives of participating countries.



Danish envoy visits FSM Islamabad

Ambassador of Denmark His Excellency Mr. Jesper M. Sorensen, highlighting Danish development program 2013-2016 to expand the role of Denmark in Pakistan, said that many Danish companies are market leaders in energy efficiency, dairy production and water management and could provide attractive solutions to some of Pakistan's current challenges.



He said this while visiting FAST School of Management (FSM), Islamabad campus on October 2. More than 200 students participated in a special lecture given by HE Mr. Sorensen on Denmark – Pakistan relations. He also spoke on Denmark's expanding engagement in Pakistan with an increased focus on business and trade activities. The lecture was followed by a very interactive Q&A session, where students also asked questions about educational opportunities in Denmark. Mr. Usman Chaudhry, Assistant Professor FSM, Islamabad campus, arranged the session.

KHI campus gets award for teaching PDC

The Computer Science Department at Karachi campus has achieved yet another distinction. It has been awarded for its proposal for teaching Parallel and Distributed Computing (PDC) for multiple core courses by National Science Foundation (NFS) and Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers - Technical Committee on Parallel Processing (IEEE -TCPP). The award is launched by a joint venture of NFS and IEEE -TCPP. Fall 2013 Early Adopter Award has also been sponsored by Intel and NVIDIA. The awarded proposal includes methodologies, evaluation strategies, and curriculum topics for teaching recommended topics proposed by IEEE -TCPP in multiple core courses of the BS (CS) program. The award is in recognition of department's efforts for strengthening the curriculum.

Two FYPs selected for APICTA 2013

Two final year projects (FYPs) of Computer Sciences at FAST-NU Karachi campus have been selected for participating in Asia Pacific Information and Communication Technology Alliance (APICTA) Awards 2013 in Hong Kong. These projects had previously won the first and second position in the 10th PASHA ICT Awards 2013, under the supervision of Mr. Muhammad Rafi, Assistant Professor, Computer Sciences. PASHA has sponsored these two projects to participate in APICTA 2013 in Hong Kong.

Two teams comprising Mr. Omar Hassan, Mr. Ahsan Aziz, Mr. Malik and Mr. Moiz will represent FAST-NU at APICTA



2013 from 25th to 27th November in Hong Kong.

Seminar on robotics convened

A seminar on the exciting field of robotics was held at FAST-NU Lahore campus on October 30 to highlight the



research and development in the area of autonomous mobile robots and humanoid robots. The seminar was conducted by Prof. Dr. Karsten Berns, an eminent researcher of robotics from Germany. More than 70 students participated in the seminar including faculty members of computer sciences and electrical engineering.

Prof. Berns also held a meeting with Director Lahore campus Professor Dr. Zafar Iqbal and the head of Computer Science department among other research faculty members of the university to discuss how to improve research culture and collaboration between FAST-NU and University of Kaiserslautern, Germany, for research in robotics.

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