

HUMANITIES BULLETIN

2014

The Department of Humanities

COMSATS Institute of Information Technology

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COMSATS
Institute of Information Technology
Islamabad





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Foreword

The Department of Humanities has put in effort to bring out the maiden issue of its Bulletin. It is my pleasure to share with the faculty members of COMSATS Institute of Information Technology the host of curriculum activities that the department conducts each semester. The current issue covers the salient details of one year (2013-2014), more importantly it highlights the commencement of two new programmes in the department: BS (Psychology) and MS (English Linguistics and Literature). The launching of both programmes has met with great success.

The establishment of 'Counseling and Wellness Center' at Islamabad campus augurs well as it would help provide solutions to some of the problems, being faced by the faculty as well as CIIT students. Another very important activity that is continuing since Fall 2013 is 'Guided Practitioners Research' being tutored by me. It is a pilot project and guides the faculty to do Action Research based on data collected from their class room teaching. Lately, one very significant step that proved quite beneficial for the department was the training of the English Language teaching faculty abroad. Under an MoU signed by the Rector CIIT with the Vice Chancellor of University of Reading, 11 faculty members went to the UK for one week training course. The credit for this goes to our Rector and the Head of International Office, Dr Arshad S. Malik.

The department, apart from organizing seminars, guest talks and workshops, has also provided time to COMSATS family for entertainment- a joyful moment with family members to watch Anwar Maqsood's plays 'Angan Terha', 'Sawa 14 August' and 'Half Play!'. The department was instrumental in arranging corporate shows for CIIT faculty and staff. Such steps do help to promote a sense of belonging among the work force of any organization.

The department intends to publish the bulletin on a regular basis. The bulletin will not only serve as a rich repository of activities but will also provide enough space to analysis of research that the faculty is conducting in areas relating to their specific disciplines. In this issue, the abstracts of research work on 'Role of Supportive Leadership as a Moderator between Job Stress and Job Performance' & 'An Ethnographic Study of Ads, Local Films, Graffiti' & 'Internet Chatting' are included for the academics and researchers.

It is hoped that the avid readers will find Humanities Bulletin a useful resource and an amalgam of materials for light reading.

Happy reading!

Dr. Aliya Zafar
HoD,
Department of Humanities

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

MS in English Linguistics and Literature

The Department of Humanities has launched a new program in Fall 2014, namely MS in English Linguistics and Literature.

The MS in English Linguistics and Literature is a two year, four semester course designed to provide students with an in-depth knowledge of language, linguistics and literature with added areas of interest for research. The prime objective of the MS program in English Linguistics and Literature is to furnish an interdisciplinary field of study that identifies, investigates, and offers research solutions to language, linguistics and literature related issues.

BS-Psychology

Department of Humanities, launched its first 4-year degree program of BS Psychology in Fall 2013. This program is aimed at inculcating theoretical concepts of this emerging field while providing an exposure to its real-world application. The students would be given an opportunity to explore different fields of psychology like cognitive



psychology, child and adolescent psychology, child development, social psychology, cross-cultural psychology and many more. As Department of Humanities focuses on quality and research, qualified faculty with MS and PhD in the relevant subject were hired for the program. As of today, two batches with the strength of 50 students have been inducted. During this time period, these students conducted and were part of several academic and non-academic activities at the campus and outside the campus which included conferences, workshops, seminar, and field visits. There has also been a special focus on the development of Psychological Testing and Experimental Lab (PTEL) and Counseling and Wellness Centre (CWC) which forms an integral part of the ongoing program.

International Conferences

Students of BS-Psychology were given the exposure of learning from attending International Conferences over the past few semesters.

- They were actively involved in Organizing Committee of SPELT International Conference organized by Department of Humanities in Fall 2013.
- They were also given an opportunity to attend 2-day International Conference at Quaid-i-Azam University on Migration, Education and Development on South Asia held on 27-28 March, 2014. Both these activities were enlightening and helped the students to enhance their focus towards research aspect of their field.
- They also participated in another International Conference on Educational Psychology at Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad held on 13th November, 2014. This conference was based on extensive parallel sessions where scholars presented their empirical papers on themes like Assessment and Evaluation, Cognitive, Social and Intellectual Development, Students and school environment, Adjustment and Wellbeing, Bullying

and Victimization, Teaching and Institutional Effectiveness etc. Representatives from Higher Education Commission also highlight their views on such an important emerging area of psychology. It was indeed an enlightening experience for Psychology students.



Students' Achievements

1. Merit Scholarship (FALL 2013) was awarded to Ms. Mairah Malik on overall Outstanding Performance with CGPA 3.57/4.00.
2. Ms. Aima Aftab (BPY-2) secured 2nd position among 35 universities in a Painting Competition held at Express Expo. from 17th to 18th May, 2014 at Pak-China Friendship Centre.
3. 2nd and 3rd positions were secured by BS-Psychology 1st semester at Inter-departmental Play Competition on social issues and ethical values in Islam.
4. Arooj Abid (BPY-1) won 1st prize in a Flower Competition at ATV show "Morning with Farah".

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Ms Aqeela Asif's Achievements

Ms. Aqeela Asif, Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities, was awarded Gold Medal 2014 by Idara Farogh-e-Taleem, Punjab for her services and best performance in the field of education. The award was presented to her on 18 January

2014 in a ceremony held in Al-Hamrah Arts Council Lahore. Earlier, on 27 March, 2013 she was also awarded Gold Medal (Sir Syed) by Nazria-e-Pakistan Council (Trust), Islamabad for her outstanding achievements in the field of Pakistan Studies.

This time the award was given to her by Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan in a ceremony held in Islamabad.

Research Productivity Awards

The Humanities Department is proud of the achievements of Dr. Aliya Zafar, Dr. Najia Zaidi & Mr. Manshoor Hussain who received research productivity awards at Pak China Business Forum 2014.



EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

Workshop on "Stress Management"

There is no question that the end of semester can be a stressful time for everyone. For this reason, Counseling and Wellness Center (CWC) of Department of Humanities organized a "Stress Management Workshop" was conducted on 29th May 2014 by Ms Nida Yousuf, a member of CWC and trained in counseling and psychological services from University of Pennsylvania. The idea behind organizing this workshop was to suggest a few ways to learn coping with stress such as

identifying sources and symptoms of stress from different spheres of our lives, understanding the cost of stress on our bodies and using problem solving techniques to manage sources of stress that are in our control.

International Women's Day Creative Writing and Poster Competition

In order to commemorate International Women's Day, the Humanities Department in collaboration with the International Office and Architecture Department, organized a Creative Writing and Poster Competition (Urdu and English) in CIIT Islamabad on March 25th, 2014.

Students composed their entries on the following general theme in their selected genres: Rights, Roles and Contributions of Women in Socio-economic Development

In phase II, the prize distribution ceremony was held in Video Conferencing Room in the Library. Ms Francesca Chessa, Vice Council, US Embassy, was the Chief Guest.

The competition judges decided the three best entries in each category and the winners were awarded with prizes. Poster entries were judged by Ms. Farha Adnan, Curator, COMSATS Art Gallery. Students' poster entries were also put up for display outside the Video Conferencing Room, which was inaugurated by the Chief Guest.



Ms Francesca Chessa, appreciated the active participation of students in the competition and the relevance of their work to the significance of International Women's Day. She stressed upon the need for humble beginnings to reach higher goals and to achieve greater dreams.

Seminar on "Developmental Psychopathology"

A Seminar on the topic of Developmental Psychopathology by Prof. Dr Naeem Tariq was organized by Department of Humanities on 8th April 2014. The guest speaker was a Director (Rtd) National Institute of Psychology (NIP), Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad. He is a Counseling Psychologist and chairperson of CYFF (Children, Youth, and Families Foundation) which is working for the well being of Children and Adolescents who have developmental disorders and are at risk of facing serious problems for themselves, their families and society at large.

Guest speaker explained the child and adolescent psychological problems and disorders that have interested mental health professionals for some time. There are as many variations in children's behavior as there are names for the behavior.

Talk on "Pursuit of Knowledge and Health" by Majid Khan

The Department of Humanities invited legendary cricketer Mr Majid Khan to deliver a talk on "Pursuit of Knowledge and Health" on 28th May 2014.

Mr. Khan's talk was an enlightening experience for both the students and the faculty. He stressed the fact that Muslims can rise to their former glory by following the true teachings of Quran and Sunnah. He also stressed the significance of healthy habits in order to remain fit and strong both mentally and

physically. The talk ended with an enriching question/answer session in which Mr Majid Khan's wit and humor made the environment more friendly and enjoyable.

Guided Practitioner Research Sessions

Guided Practitioner Research Group that helps its members to develop professionally as teachers using action research to enhance their quality of teaching and learning processes. This pioneering endeavor is working under the guidance of Head of Humanities Department, Dr Aliya Zafar. At the moment, a group of 11 faculty members from the Department of Humanities are part of this voluntary activity, which has been active since April 19, 2013.

Around 18 sessions of the said group have already taken place. The faculty members, part of this group, are conducting classroom based research to enhance their skills. The outcome of this process will be showcased in an exhibition in July 2015. The research completed will be published in international journals. In future, this very important activity will be open to the faculty members of the whole university.

Talk on the "Emerging Trends in the Middle East"

The International Relations Programme, organized a talk by Ambassador Ali Sarwar Naqvi on 10 March 2014, on the Emerging Trends in the Middle East. Ambassador Naqvi heads the Centre for International Strategic Studies (CISS) which carries out analysis and research on the current global and regional developments. The aim is to widen appreciation and understanding among the local and international policy and decision makers on issues that are of national interest. The initiative of organizing the talk was to create awareness about the dynamics of a region of

importance to Pakistan among the students and faculty of CIIT. In his discourse, Ambassador Naqvi:

- Dwelt on the historical perspective of developments in the Middle East;
- Highlighted various dimensions of the Israel-Palestine conflict;
- Touched upon the current political and security dimensions in the context of Syria, Turkey and Iraq;
- Gave an overview of the trends and their potential impact on the region, including Pakistan.

Ambassador Naqvi's talk generated a great deal of interest among the students and the faculty which resulted in a lively discussion in the Q-A session.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Acting Workshop by "Theatre Wallay" in Students' Week Spring 2014

The Department of Humanities in collaboration with Theatre Wallay performing arts group organized an acting workshop from 24th March to 26th March 2014 at CIIT. The workshop was conducted by Ms. Fizza Hassan from Theatre Wallay. 9 students attended the workshop where they learned various dimensions of the art of



acting. Ms. Fizza highlighted the importance of gestures and body language to enhance expression without using any words whatsoever. At the end of the workshop, the participants presented short skits to display their acting skills. The Theatre Wallay awarded the participants appreciation certificates given away by Dr. Aliya Mueen Zafar, Head of Humanities Department.

ISLAMIC EXHIBITION

An exhibition on Islamic Civilization was conducted by department of Humanities to create awareness among participants about the importance of Islamic Civilization and to portray the Formative, Golden and Decline period of Muslim Civilization. The organizers were: Dr. Fayyaz Ahmad Faize, Dr. Farhat Nisar, Ms. Samreen Idrees and Ms. Ume Farwa. Students from different department participated in the event.

The core areas that were represented were Period



before Islam, Arrival of Islam, Golden Period of Islamic Civilization and Muslim Civilization of Sub-Continent.

At the end of the event participants were awarded certificates and prizes by Dr. Shahid A. Khan

Calligraphy Competition (Students' Week Spring 2014)

Calligraphy (Arabic) Competition was arranged by Ms. Zainab Sadiq in the library basement on 28th March. Students exhibited their beautifully prepared art work with the help of Ms. Farrah Adnan (Architecture Department). The calligraphic art was prepared in different mediums such as charts, wood, canvass, metal and glass.

At the end of the activity, the judges evaluated the art work and distributed the prizes and certificate to the students. Calligraphic Art remained opened for visitors in library basement for three days.

Arabic Language Course

The Basic Arabic Language Program was launched first time in the history of Department of Humanities. The first course was offered in February 2014, at CIIT, Islamabad, which was opened for the both students and faculty. Course coordinators were Dr. Samina Nadeem and Ms. Ume Farwa, Ms. Zainab Sadiq (Department of Humanities) and Mr. Atif Ali (Department of Electrical Engineering). Approximately fifteen students and faculty members registered for the course and availed the opportunity to learn the basic Arabic language. It was a two months course and was successfully completed in June 2014.

Establishment of COMSATS Performing Arts Society (CPAS) & its First Performance

The Humanities Department established a

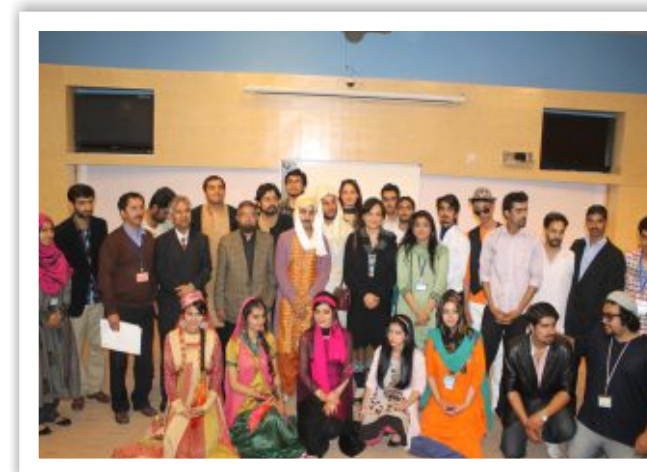


“Performing Arts Society” on campus. This project was intended to explore the latent talents of students across all the departments of CIIT.

After the first round of auditions on 20 March 2014, the Society performed its first ever play “Ibtida-e-Ishq” on 26th March 2014, during the Students' Week Spring 2014.

The play 'Ibtida-e-Ishq' was a hilarious comedy providing everyone with an opportunity to take pleasure from some glimpses of the past eras starting from Mughal Empire till date. It was a roller coaster ride of comedy, emotions and excitement. The jam-packed hall was great encouragement and motivation for the cast and crew of the play.

The team members along with the faculty and cast



and crew were awarded with the achievement certificates from the Head of Department, Dr. Aliya Mueen Zafar.

Pakistan Day Parade

This year 23rd March, Pakistan Day, marked the very first students parade in the history of COMSATS Institute of Information Technology. More than 200 students took active part in making the event a success. The parade started from the students' cafeteria and marched towards the front of the CIIT Library, taking the Gate 1 route. Rector CIIT, Dr. S. M. Junaid Zaidi performed the flag hoisting and the National anthem was played. A talented student of CIIT enticed the audience by singing some melodious national songs. The parade was attended by a number of faculty and staff of different departments of CIIT.



Short Film Competition

A short film competition based on the theme “Bring it to Life” was organized on 19th May 2014 by the Humanities Department under the aegis of CineComsat Club (CCC) in G8 Room Faculty Block 1.

The chief guests for the event were celebrities from the film industry and media namely Mr. Hamza Ali Abbasi, Mr. Rehan Sheikh, and Mr. Jalal



Haider.

CineComsatsCLub (CCC) aims to bring out the talents of students through the use of modern media and technologies in the field of filmmaking by incorporating learning of two areas of knowledge, Communication skills and Psychology. The aim was to indulge students into healthy activities of expression in ethically and morally correct manner. The students had to make a short film of 5 minutes on a given theme; "Behind the Picture". The students were given deadlines for submissions and upon collection of their work the top five films were shortlisted for the final.

The winners were awarded with prizes in the event organized by the Department of Humanities. The winners received premier passes to the upcoming film "KAMBAKHT", and a cash price of Rs. 5000. The judges briefed the students a little on how to improve the quality of work and gave positive messages of working harder and honestly towards their goals.

Inter-departmental Bilingual Declamation Contest 2014

Inter-departmental Bilingual Declamation Contest was held in the Seminar Hall on 12th November, 2014. It was a huge success owing to the overwhelming participation of students from

all the departments. There were 13 participants each for English and Urdu speeches. Ammar Shaukat of Management Sciences Department secured 1st position in English speech while Sana Batool of Bio Science Department won the top position in Urdu contest. The successful conduct of the event further strengthened the resolve of the Humanities Department to organize healthy competitions to inspire and motivate students towards extra-curricular activities.

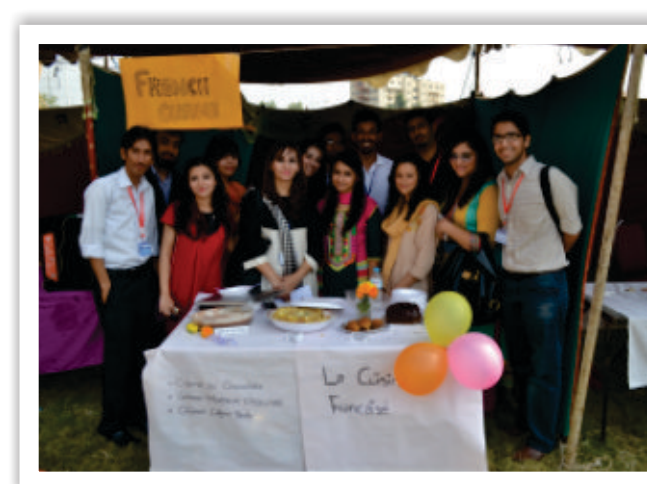
"VIRSA"; the Fashion Show

This semester, the students' week was yet again a huge success. To this success a generous contribution was made by the Avant Garde Productions by organizing a melodious, artistic and colorful event called VIRSA. It was organized on March 25, 2014 in the Seminar hall, EE department, CIIT Islamabad. The stage was set for this grand event with eye-catching decorations and dazzling lights.

The theme of the event was Weddings in Pakistan. It basically aimed to revive the cultural beauty of Pakistani weddings among the students. For this, a catwalk was conducted in which the male and female models walked on the ramp, dressed as traditional brides and grooms in the attires provided by Jalwa Fashion Boutique. Their make-up and hair was done by a famous beauty salon of Islamabad; Naila's Beauty Salon. The event was star-studded by beautiful performances of singers and guitarists from CIIT.

"French Cuisine" Event (Students' Week)

French Cuisine Event was organized on 26th March, 2014 by Ms. Samira Azmat, Lecturer, Department of Humanities and her French Course students of BEL-3 in the stall area during Student Week, 2014.



A variety of French dishes were prepared and sold by students such as Ballotine de poulet, Quiche pie, Ratatouille, Soufflé, Éclairs, Crepes francaises, St. Augustine Salade, Potato Gratin, and Baguette. Both the teachers and students enjoyed the taste of French Cuisine in the background of a very delightful French music.

Screening of Anwar Maqsood's theater plays "Pawnay 14 August", "Angan Terha", "Sawa 14 August", and "Half Playt" at Islamabad Club

After the great success of "Angan Terha" and "Sawa 14 August", and "Half Playt" the Department of Humanities organized the showing of Anwar Maqsood's latest play, "Pawnay 14 August".

This first ever stage play written by Mr Anwar Maqsood in 45 years was bound to leave you spellbound. Not only did he bring back his first theatre project to life, he did so in style by adding scenes and dialogues that are close to history, and closer to every Pakistani's heart.

This version of "Pawnay 14 August" has been adapted to be for all times. The play takes a profound, thought-provoking look at the genesis of Pakistan. It pivots around three main characters:

Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Allama Muhammad Iqbal and Maulana Shaukat Ali.

The tickets for the play were given at the discounted price of only Rs 500 instead of the regular rates of Rs 1500. Two shows were organized this time for both faculty and students. There was an overwhelming response from students who did not want to miss these lessons in history through Anwar Sahib's eyes and were there to witness "his story". More than 500 students enjoyed the performance and approximately 150 faculty members along with another 150 family and friends of the CIIT employees came to watch the play.

The students were mesmerized by the amazing performance of the Kopy Kats team. Their initial response was that they had never seen such a marvelous live performance before.

At the end of the performance, the director of the play, Dawar Mehmood, praised CIIT for being such a supportive audience.

Civic Engagement Activities

The Department of Humanities conducted a number of Civic Engagement Activities during the session 2013 to 2014 to enhance students' understanding of Civic responsibilities and ethical awareness. The details of the activities are as follows:

Panel Discussion on "Ethics and Moral Decline"

A Panel Discussion on "Reviving our Ethical & Moral Values in Resolving the Issues of Today's Generation" was organized on 30th April 2014 by the Department of Humanities. The objective of the panel was to draw attention to some of the ethical and moral problems faced by our students.

The panelists including Dr. Tayyaba Siddiqui (Educationist), Dr. Jamil Malik (Psychologist), Engr. M. Minhas (Religious Scholar), Dr. Syed Masood Ahmad Pasha (Health Advisor) discussed various ethical and moral issues of modern generation, according to their respective expertise, and expounded on the causes and solutions.

The program also included a role play by students highlighting some of the moral issues of the students.

A Course on Ethics

The Department of Humanities has developed a course on Ethics which will be compulsory for all students of the CIIT Islamabad campus. The objective of the course is to prepare students to become responsible, active, and engaged citizens with strong grounding in ethics and values.

The course will cover the historical development of ethical thought from both Western and Eastern perspectives. Various aspects of ethics, related to different professions, such as business, medicine, research etc. will also be part of the program. For specialized topics such as environmental ethics, traffic rules, interfaith harmony, environment, political participation, harassment etc. guest lectures will be organized with experts from the field. The lectures will be complemented with hands on activities so that the philosophy of ethics can be reinforced in the students.

Session on “Anti-Sexual Harassment Legislation”

A session on “Anti-Sexual Harassment Legislation” was organized by the Humanities Department on 28th April 2014.

The speaker for the session was Ms. Maliha

Husain, Director Meher Garh.

Ms. Maliha Husain discussed the two types of laws implemented in Pakistan for the protection of both men and women at the workplace. She also helped the audience to understand the difference between “Harassment” and “Sexual Harassment”. She stressed the fact that this was an issue that really needs our attention and hence we should work together to promote a more gender-friendly environment.



Seminars to Create Awareness about Disability

Six seminars were conducted to create awareness regarding disability and physically challenged persons.

1. Celebrating International Day of People with Disabilities (December 8, 2013)
2. Understanding the struggle of Women with disabilities in Pakistan (March 8, 2014)
3. Making life easy for People with Disabilities- Assistive Technology and Independent Living (April 25, 2014)
4. The other side of life: Sports and extra-curricular activities for people with disabilities (March 21, 2014)
5. General Awareness-raising seminar regarding

disabilities (October 11, 2013)

6. Temporary disabilities: how life changes (September, 27 2013)

All these seminars were organized to ensure maximum participation of students and faculty. The main objectives of these seminars were:

To make students, faculty and staff sensitive to disability issues.

To create awareness among staff and faculty that people with disabilities are different yet need to be treated normally like anyone else.

To help people understand the added difficulties in the lives of people with disabilities

To educate people about ways to make lives of people with disabilities easier and meaningful.

Establishment of “Counselling & Wellness Centre”

Counseling and Wellness Centre (CWC) was set up by the Department of Humanities in CIIT to provide mental health and other wellness services within the university environment. The need for these services is acutely felt because of environmental factors. CWC offers a variety of services including individual and group counseling, psycho-diagnostic tests. In addition to the services mentioned above, the center also offers Peer



Programs where assistance is received from other students who serve helping roles. The highlight of CWC is to promote student overall well being and mental health.

Counseling and Wellness Centre was inaugurated on 15th October, 2014 by Dean Faculty of Sciences, Dr. Arshad Saleem Bhatti at Faculty Block-1 (G4). It was a short amiable event graced with the presence of Dr. Aliya Zafar (HOD, department of humanities) and other members of the faculty. The students too participated wholeheartedly. The chief guest was briefed about the ethics-confidentiality issues and routes of contacting counselors. He was also told about various short and long term goals of CWC. The event was concluded with the wishes that the Centre would strive to benefit the students and faculty by providing professional guidance and counseling.

“Basket-Bins Cleanliness” Campaign

The students of BS Psychology program were engaged in a civic drill by designing a cleanliness campaign, keeping in mind the target population's age group and method of persuasion by interactive dialogue. A few brainstorming sessions in the class led to the emergence of "basket bin" project.



The brightly colored trash cans were topped with a basket (like in basket ball game) and were placed in the most populated regions around the

university campus. The campaign proved successful in riveting students' attention as well as making cleanliness drill a playful activity.

Seminar on "Drowsy Driving"

A seminar on Drowsy Driving Awareness was organized on 26th March 2014 by the Department of Humanities to highlight the fatal consequences of drowsy driving and to educate the audience in avoiding such conditions. Black ribbons were worn by all to display solidarity against condemning drowsy drivers. A short video was shown to highlight the aftermaths and to suggest ways to effectively deal in such conditions.

The chief guests included Deputy Inspector Genral (DIG) & Inspector Genral (IG) Motorway Police along with pyschologist Dr. Sajjad Hassan. They stressed on a dire need for an awareness campaign for such a crucial issue while suggesting the latest gadgets and technological advances made in the area to prevent this issue.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCES

29th International SPELT Conference at CIIT

The Humanities Department, organized 29th SPELT International Conference, from 1st to 3rd November 2013 in collaboration with SPELT Islamabad Chapter. The conference was attended by more than 500 English Language teachers, practitioners, researchers and students from all over the country. The opening of the conference was organized at the National Library auditorium. Dean, Faculty of Business Adminstration, Dr. Qaiser Abbas stressed the need for more and more substantial research work in the field of Linguistics and related areas.



Day two and three of the Conference were held at CIIT Islamabad Campus, where different high profile language experts delivered talks, conducted workshops and presented papers on related topics. Dr Shahid A Khan, In Charge Islamabad Campus awarded the participants and presenters with certificates in the closing session of the Conference.



Recently Published Research Work by Humanities Faculty.

1. Dr. Aliya Zafar

Title: Role of Supportive Leadership as a Moderator between Job Stress and Job Performance

Journal: Information Management and Business Review (September 2012)

2. Ms Rabia Mahmood

Title: An Ethnographic Study of Ads of Local Films, Graffiti and & Internet Chatting

Journal: American Journal of Scientific Research (January 2014)

3. Ms Aqeela Asif

Title: 'New universities emerging in Asia and the Middle East'

Conference: Association of Common Wealth Universities Conference, Glasgow, UK. (July 2014).

4. Mr. Manshoor Hussain

Title: Effects of Organizational Culture on Personal and Organizational Outcomes in Pakistan.

Journal: Research Journal of Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (December 2013).

5. Dr. Amna Saeed

Title: Women Empowerment In The Light Of Female Linguistic Trends.

Journal: Journal of Language, Linguistics and Literature

6. Dr. Fayaz Ahmad Faizy and Ms. Samreen Idrees

Title: Undergraduate Research Is Getting Harder- Not For Pakistani Students.

Journal: European Scientific Journal.

The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart.

Helen Keller

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.

Robert Louis Stevenson

The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence.

Confucius

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.

Aristotle

English for Academic Purposes Training at the University of Reading, Whiteknights Campus, Reading, UK

A 5 day training on English for Academic Purposes (EAP) was organized by COMSATS Institute of Information Technology in collaboration with University of Reading UK. A group comprising eleven faculty members, teaching English courses, from the department of Humanities attended the training.

The training content was aligned to the needs of the group which helped them improve their teaching of writing and speaking skills. Several excursion and study trips were also arranged including trip to Reading Town Center, Heritage Museum of Reading, Oxford and Windsor Castle.

Meeting with the Pakistan High Commission to UK.

The group also met the Pakistan High Commissioner H. E Syed Ibn-e-Abbas in London at the end of their training. Dr Aliya Zafar briefed the High Commissioner of the details of the visit and stressed upon the need for linkages with the universities in UK. The High Commissioner extended his full support to enhancing the prospects of higher studies for Pakistanis in general and the faculty of CIIT in particular during the meeting. It ended on a positive note of engaging in further collaborative measures between CIIT and the High Commission.

The group came back with exceptional positive energy to work and collaborate and to bring positive changes in the teaching practices and improve the scenario of English as a Second Language at CIIT in particular and in Pakistan in general.



Certificate Distribution Ceremony - 24th Oct; 2014 From left to right: Colin Campbell, Associate Professor, International Study & Language Institute (ISLI); Jane Lansdown, Short Course Coordinator; Sebastian Watkins, Programme Director; Mahesh Yanambakkam, Regional Manager, UoR International Office; Ros Rischrads, Head of ISLI

UK Trip in Pictures



Outside Bodleian Libraries at Oxford University 25th Oct; 2014



Meeting with Pakistan High Commissioner H.E Syed Ibn-e-Abbas in London 24th Oct; 2014



Orientation Day at University of Reading 18th Oct; 2014



After Landing at Heathrow Terminal 4, London, 18th Oct; 2014



Trip to Reading Town Center with Sebastian Watkins, Instructor at UoR 22nd Oct; 2014



At Christchurch College, one of the 38 Colleges in Oxford University 25th Oct; 2014