



Capital University of Science and Technology Islamabad

# NEWSLETTER



- ❑ CUST Students Participated in (PUDC) 2023-24
- ❑ Erasmus SSAPI Project Partners Meeting
- ❑ SDGs Exhibition on World Environment Day 2024
- ❑ CUST Business Idea Competition 2024 (CUSTBIC 24)

**WORLD  
ENVIRONMENT  
DAY**



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A project meeting for the Erasmus SS-API Project was jointly organized by Capital University of Science and Tech-

rest of the meeting organizing team at CUST. They were given a brief tour of the university's laboratories and facil-

The meeting concluded with the participants being presented with certificates and souvenirs by Dr. Imtiaz Ahmed Taj (Dean, Faculty of Engineering). This visit and the activities facilitated valuable exchanges between the foreign members of the SSAPI Project and the local

## Erasmus SSAPI Project Partners Meeting

nology (CUST), FAST, and Riphah University from June 1 to 4, 2024, in Pakistan. This important meeting welcomed foreign participants from Portugal, Germany, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Bhutan. A workshop was also arranged at HEC Office, H-9 Islamabad on June 3, 2024, which included an address by the Project Coordinator and the Executive Director of HEC, along with presentations from SSAPI project partners, fostering collaboration among the attendees.

The participants arrived at Capital University of Science and Technology (CUST) in the afternoon of June 4, 2024. They were given a warm welcome by Dr. Amir Qayyum, Dr. Amer Nadeem, Dr. Zia Ul Islam, Ms. Zona Imran and the

ities. During this session, participants



shared their experiences of the project and their visit to Pakistan.

project team members, further fostering international collaboration.

## SDGs Exhibition on World Environment Day 2024

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), in collaboration with the Directorate of Sustainability & Environment (DSE), the Association of Civil Engineers (ACE), and the Department of Management Sciences, jointly organized the SDGs Exhibition to mark World Environment Day 2024 on June 5, 2024. The event served as a platform to raise awareness about the importance of sustainable development and the role of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in shaping a better future.

The event highlighted the incredible initiatives and awareness campaigns by

our SDGs ambassadors. The ambassadors gained valuable insights from our



esteemed chief guest, Mr. Ammar Jaffri, Chairperson of the SDGs Academy Pa-

kistan, and his team.

The event featured Mr. Ammar Jaffri, Chairperson of the SDGs Academy Pakistan, as the Chief Guest. Mr. Jaffri shared his expertise and vision for achieving sustainability goals in Pakistan.

At the conclusion of the event, the organizing team expressed their gratitude to Mr. Jaffri and all participants for making the exhibition a success. This collaborative initiative stands as a testament to CUST's commitment to championing sustainability and the SDGs, aiming for a greener, more sustainable future.

## CUST Students Participated in Pakistan Universities Debating Championship (PUDC) 2023-24

A team of six students from the CUST participated in the Pakistan Universities Debating Championship (PUDC) 2023-24, held at the HEC auditorium. The CUST team, under the guidance of Ms. Asma Naz, comprised three students competed in the Urdu debate category and another three who participated in the English debate category. The team members demonstrated exceptional debating skills and effectively represented CUST at the regional level.

Overall, the participation in PUDC was a valuable experience for the students of CUST, providing them with an op-

portunity to showcase their talents and compete against the best debaters from universities across Pakistan.



## CUST and READ Pakistan Signed MoU

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony took place on Friday, 8th March 2024, between CUST and Read Pakistan, establishing a pivotal collaboration focused on education and literacy. The MoU was signed by Syed Fatima Hasan Gillani, CEO of Read Pakistan, and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Mansoor Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor of CUST, representing a shared commitment to promoting reading and literary culture. The event was further honored by the presence of Prof. Dr. Arshad Hassan (Dean, FoMS), Prof. Dr. Muhammad Umar Farooq (HoD, English), and Mr. Tariq Mahmood (Manager, HR). The event was attended by designated focal persons from both sides Ms. Asma Naz (Cust) and Ms. Sofia Shahid (Read Pakistan), who played pivotal roles in facilitating and witnessing the signing, reinforcing the

collaborative spirit of this partnership. This historic MoU not only signifies a formal alliance but also heralds a new chapter in the pursuit of educational excellence and literacy promotion.

After signing the MoU, Ms. Fatima gave an informative talk, sharing the foundation's history and notable achievements with the students. She also encouraged them to read books, ex-



With the CEO of Read Pakistan and the Vice-Chancellor of Cust at the helm, the ceremony underscored a shared vision for advancing education, research, and literary initiatives through the inculcation of reading habits in the students at large.

plaining the positive effects it can have on their lives. In a gesture of gratitude, Dr. Umer presented a souvenir to the CEO. The event concluded with a tea session, providing a warm environment for further discussions.

## CUST Business Idea Competition 2024 (CUSTBIC 24)

CUST Business Idea Competition 2024 (CUSTBIC 24) was organized on May 21, 2024. A total of 105 companies registered for the event, of which 38 were shortlisted, and 28 participated in the competition. This initiative is an annual event that brings together creativity and business skills. CUSTBIC 24, university's yearly tradition, once again showcased amazing talent and business ideas. This event is a key part of the university calendar, providing a platform for students and startups to shine. The main highlight of the event was the exhibition where the shortlisted startups presented their ideas. The judges evaluated each startup based on creativity, feasibility, market potential, and impact. The event concluded with a closing ceremony where the winners were announced. Wired Wonders won first prize, while Mahool Dost Ayndhan secured second prize. The successful participants were celebrated for their outstanding ideas and entrepreneurial spirit. CUSTBIC 24 once again demonstrated the university's dedica-

tion to fostering innovation and supporting student entrepreneurs. The event highlighted the incredible talent within our community and strengthened our connections with the business world.

We look forward to the next CUSTBIC event, which will continue to inspire and empower future entrepreneurs at our university.



## ORIC Organized a Workshop on Fund Raising & Resource Mobilization

ORIC conducted a two-day Faculty Development Program (FDP) workshop on “Fund Raising Management & Resource Mobilization” on July 22-23, 2024. The workshop, attended by 35 participants, was led by Prof. Tahir Mahmood, CEO of Falcon Engineering. Prof. Dr. Nayyer Masood, Dean of ORIC, extended a warm welcome to

a crucial component for an institution’s success. In the second session, Prof. Mahmood discussed the role of alumni associations in fundraising and addressed major challenges in Pakistan such as climate change, water scarcity, and education. He also encouraged students to direct their research towards

of training during the summer. The session also covered career counseling and the benefits of becoming a consultant. A group activity followed, where faculty members from different departments discussed strategies for fundraising. The workshop concluded with group presentations on fundraising strate-



all participants, including the resource person, Prof. Tahir Mahmood. Dr. Masood emphasized the importance of commercialization in academic institutions alongside regular research activities for sustainable growth. He highlighted that commercialization is

industry linkages. The session included discussions on consulting, self-employment, and the importance of professional grooming. On the second day, Prof. Mahmood discussed Solar Energy Management at UET Peshawar and the significance

of training during the summer. The session also covered career counseling and the benefits of becoming a consultant. A group activity followed, where faculty members from different departments discussed strategies for fundraising. The workshop concluded with group presentations on fundraising strate-

The Electrical Engineering program received accreditation for an additional 4 years from the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC). This recognition served as a testament to the department’s ongoing commitment to delivering high-quality education and adhering to the rigorous standards of the Outcome-Based Education (OBE) system. A highly regarded team from the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) recently visited the CUST to conduct a thorough OBA-based re-accreditation assessment of our esteemed BSc. Electrical Engineering program. It is pertinent to mention that both BSc. Electronics and BSc. Electrical engineering programs are duly accredited by PEC since 2002.

The visit was further highlighted by the presence of the university’s Vice Chancellor, Professor Dr. M. Mansoor Ahmed whose guidance has played a crucial

role in the university’s continued success. In addition, the event was support-

ing Department, who have been instrumental in driving academic excellence

## Electrical Engineering Program Received Accreditation from PEC

ed by Professor Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad Taj, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, and

within the institution. The PEC team’s visit concluded with valuable feedback,



Professor Dr. Noor M. Khan, Head of the Electrical and Computer Engineer-

underscoring the institution’s dedication to upholding its high standards.

## The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) Organized RoboCUST 2024

The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) organized RoboCUST 2024 from March 1-2, 2024, at the CUST. RoboCUST brings the opportunity for every student to showcase their talents at this platform and compete against the best in building and solving basic problems related to the field of robotics. The main objective of RoboCUST is to enhance the critical thinking with new and innovative solutions, set of practical activities, and implementing new ideas. The event encouraged participants to contribute to building a better world by exploring the field of robotics, which is increasingly relevant for current and future generations and successfully addressed both SDG-4 and SDG-9. RoboCUST aligned with SDG-4 by fostering technical skills and knowledge

among participants ensuring equal opportunities for all, enhancing tech-

with SDG-9. The event encouraged innovation and supported the en-



nical and vocational education, and equipping youth and adults with skills for employment and entrepreneurship. RoboCUST also focused Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure aligning

hancement of scientific research and technological capabilities, especially in developing countries, contributing to the global effort to increase research and development by 2030.

Pharma Spark Society, Faculty of Pharmacy in collaboration with DSE organized a Documentary / Videography

beautifully portraying Pakistani cultures and ethnic groups. The 1st winner was awarded a shield and certificate by Dr.

Miss Nitasha Gohar. All other winners and participants were presented with certificates and were highly appreciated for their contributions to make the event a success.

## Pharma Spark Society Celebrated Pakistan Day

Competition entitled "My Culture is Rich and Vibrant" on March 23, 2024, in recognition of Pakistan Day. The competition featured subthemes such as languages, dresses, famous landmarks, and food, allowing participants to showcase the diverse aspects of Pakistan's rich heritage.

The event was enlightened by the unique efforts of students in promoting their country's heritage. Various ideas were presented by the participants



## Genix Society Celebrated International Women's Day

The Fine Arts and Literature Club, Genix Society celebrated the International Women's Day on March 8, 2024 by setting up an awareness desk in front of the main cafe to promote women empowerment. Through engaging conversations and resource sharing, club members inspired bystanders to take action towards gender equality. This activity served as a visible reminder of the ongoing efforts to empower women

by emphasizing the importance of sustained advocacy and education. This initiative highlighted the need for collective efforts to challenge societal norms and create opportunities for women to flourish, underscoring the university's commitment to fostering a culture of equality and empowerment through sparking conversations and sharing resources encouraging reflection and action towards creating a more inclu-

sive society. A group photo of teachers from all department taken at the end of activity symbolized solidarity and commitment to gender equality. It not only served as a visual representation of the collective effort towards achieving SDG 5 of women empowerment worldwide but also emphasized the need for collective efforts to challenge norms and create opportunities for women to thrive.

## Jhuggi Taleemi Project (JTP) Joins Hands with VIS Directorate

The Chairman and Admin Officer of the Jhuggi Taleemi Project (JTP), along with the Director of Public Relations

on April 3, 2024 to explore a potential partnership. JTP is dedicated to supporting underprivileged children liv-

educational resources and support. This visit highlighted the alignment between JTP's mission and the objectives of VIS, fostering optimism about a meaningful collaboration. Following necessary approvals, both organizations plan to formalize this partnership with a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), anticipated to be signed post-Eid.

The VIS Directorate expresses appreciation to the JTP team and the Defender of Humanity Dignity Foundation for their commitment to supporting marginalized communities. This prospective partnership marks an important step towards enhancing educational opportunities for Pakistan's underprivileged youth and advancing social impact efforts.



from the Defender of Humanity Dignity Foundation, visited the VIS Directorate

ing in jhuggis (makeshift settlements) across Pakistan by providing essential

## SPELL Organized English Language Day

The SPELL society organized a celebration of English Language Day at CUST on April 23, 2024. The date, chosen to coincide with the birth and death anniversary of the famous playwright William Shakespeare, served as the perfect occasion for students to explore his legacy. Students presented presentations discussing Shakespeare as a playwright and poet, accompanied by the recitation of Sonnet 18.

Adding to the intellectual vigor of the occasion, esteemed guest speaker Dr. Asma Zahoor, graced the audience with

evated the session, leaving a lasting impression on all attendees and inspiring a deeper appreciation for the richness



her profound insights and scholarly wisdom. Her enriching discourse further el-

and beauty of the English language and its literary heritage.

The Professional Development Team, from the Department of English, organized a symposium on the uses and abuses of artificial intelligence under the

dience with various AI tools and ethical considerations associated with teaching and research, vital for success in academic and professional settings. The

in academia in particular. The audience was also helped to make themselves familiar with different tools and ethical concepts associated with teaching and research skills which are crucial in academic and professional settings. The speakers included Prof. Dr. Muhammad Umar Farooq (CUST), Dr. Huma Batool (AU, Islamabad), and Dr. Sadia Irshad (AU, Islamabad). The speakers insisted that modern technology and its usage in language learning and teaching are inseparable. The expert talk was followed by a question-answer session. The session helped the faculty and students both academically and professionally to broaden their horizon, and to enhance their learning and teaching skills.

## Symposium on How AI is Revolutionizing Teaching and Education



theme 'How AI is Revolutionizing Teaching and Education' on May 20, 2024. The symposium aimed to familiarize the au-

attendees were trained to equip themselves with diverse perspectives of artificial intelligence in general and its usage

## Erasmus Plus SSAPI Project Training Sessions and Seminars

Prof. Tobias Sprodowski from the University of Bremen, Germany, visited Pakistan from September 18 to September 28, 2023, under the Erasmus Plus SSAPI project. His visit involved a series of collaborative training activities hosted by CUST, FAST, and Riphah University, aimed at enhancing academic exchange and fostering international cooperation. The visit to CUST took place from September 26 to 28, 2023, where Prof. Tobias Sprodowski engaged in various academic activities. The visit to CUST began on September 26, where Prof. Tobias was welcomed by the Vice Chancellor. The day included a presentation about CUST by Dr. Amir Qayyum. He conducted a workshop titled "Teaching Practical Problem Solving (PPS) in Practice," which included practical programming tasks, engaging faculty members from various departments. An interactive session on "Benefits of Internationalization; Adapting to a Classroom in a European University" followed, targeting final-year students from the Department of Man-

agement and Social Sciences. On the second day, the training contin-

dustry 4.0 – Applied Robotics," with 16 faculty members participating. The day



ued with a session on "Project/Production Planning and Control," attended by 12 faculty members from the Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Software Engineering, and ELIC departments. Mr. Fida Hussain, Director QEC, presented the activities of the Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) during the workshop. In the afternoon, Prof. Tobias led a session on "Experience Sharing in E-learning (ZMML)," which saw participation from 22 faculty members across different departments.

The final day featured a session on "In-

concluded with an interactive session focused on "Interaction with Research Groups," where 23 research group members discussed collaboration possibilities. Dr. Amir Qayyum presented Prof. Tobias with a university shield and souvenirs as a token of appreciation. This visit and the accompanying training activities greatly enriched the academic environment at CUST, highlighting the importance of international collaboration in advancing education and research.



### Workshop on "Psychological First Aid (PFA)"

The Department of Psychology hosted a workshop on "Psychological First Aid (PFA)" on May 10, 2024, for the students of the Psychology Department. Asima Munawar, Clinical Psychologist and Lecturer, Department of Psychology, CUST was invited as a guest speaker to provide valuable insights into the theoretical framework and practical application of PFA.

The speaker stressed on theoretical and practical demonstration of PFA and highlighted the significance of Psychological First Aid in helping individuals cope with and recover from traumatic events, natural disasters, public health crises, or personal emergencies. She emphasized how PFA can reduce stress symptoms and foster a path toward healthy recovery. The speaker also encouraged an open discussion on common cultural practices, myths and realities faced during a cri-

sis event. In the end, practical exercises on hypothetical case scenarios and role play were conducted to facilitate a comprehensive understanding. This hands-on approach enabled students to practice PFA techniques and solidify their understanding of its application in real-life situations. The seminar on psychological first aid among youth aligns with achieving department's strategic pillar initiative on expanding civic engagement.

### SPELL Organized Dadaist Poetry Contest

SPELL, Department of English, organized an event titled Dadaist Poetry Contest on April 18, 2024. The contest invited participants to delve into the surreal world of Dadaism, a literary movement known for its avant-garde spirit and rejection of traditional norms. Embracing the avant-garde spirit of the Dadaism literary movement, participants unleashed their creativity and explored the depths of the absurd. Through unconventional language and innovative

expression, the contest reflected the surrealistic values of Dadaism, challenging traditional norms and inviting poets to break free from convention.



## SAFE Organized a Seminar on “What comes after a Degree?”

The Department of Accounting and Finance under Society of Accounting, Finance & Economics (SAFE) organized a seminar on “What comes after a Degree? How one can be truly valuable” on June 6, 2024, the The Session theming soft skill management was organized by Ms. Saddaf Adalat.

The session was led by Ms. Snober



Naseer, Associate Lecturer, CUST who provided valuable insights on navigating life after graduation, with a focus on both personal and professional development.

The session opened with an engaging icebreaker activity, followed by a discussion on the source of one’s ethics and values. The participants were encouraged to reflect on their own guiding principles and how they shape their decision-making processes. The key topics covered included the challenges graduates face, such as the struggle to remain patient and manage failures, and also practical tips on how to persevere. Lessons from the Quran were incorporated to offer spiritual guidance, while an anecdotal story about three businessmen illustrated the importance of finding personal satisfaction and fulfillment beyond material success.

The session concluded with an open discussion on how students could enhance their value in both professional and personal lives. At the end of the seminar, Dr Jaleel Ahmed Malik, the Head of Accounting and Finance department presented a souvenir to the guest speaker.

## Seminar on

### “The Power of Reading Books”

CUST Character Building Club hosted a session, titled “Unlocking the World of Benefits: The Power of Reading Books.” The event featured guest speaker Engr. Abdus Samad Farooq, a writer and book reviewer, who delivered insightful notes, recommendations with respect to book reading and basic terms to make it apprehensive for young aspirants at Capital University of Science and Technology, Islamabad.

During the session, Engr. Farooq explained various terminologies associated with book reading and highlighted multiple benefits of book reading as this habit improves sleep patterns, cognitive abilities and much more. This interactive session concluded with a Q/A session followed by shield presentation by Mr. Atif Arshad along with Ms. Sundus Malik to guest speaker as a complimentary token.

## Informative Session on Current Research Collaborations

Dr. Qasim Ahmed, Department of Engineering and Technology from the University of Huddersfield, UK visited CUST on March 11, 2024 to conduct a seminar in collaboration with ELIC office. Faculty members and research students from engineering and computing departments were invited to attend this informative session. The session was enriched by Dr. Qasim Ahmed’s valuable insights about the various types of computing, IT and electrical engineering related projects where research is currently being done in collaboration



with various universities. He also explained how to apply for these research projects and the conditions which need to be fulfilled in order to be selected.

The faculty members and research students from engineering and computing departments attended this meeting. Towards the end, different questions were sparked ranging from the steps to apply for both funded and non-funded research projects and the research collaboration opportunities for the faculty members and research students of CUST.

## WORKSHOP ON DDSolver Program

The Faculty of Pharmacy conducted a workshop on the DDSolver program on April 3, 2024. The seminar was organized by Faculty of Pharmacy featuring Dr. Mahira Zeeshan, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy, CUST, as the keynote speaker. The workshop aimed to deepen faculty understanding of the DDSolver program that focused on the

usage of user-friendly software for better understanding of drug dissolution and drug release kinetics.

Dr. Mahira Zeeshan, an expert in pharmaceuticals, shared her insights during the session. The seminar highlighted several crucial points, including a comprehensive understanding of drug dissolution and drug release mechanisms and their significance in the drug development process. Dr. Mahira emphasized the integration of mathematical linear equations within the DDSolver

program, facilitating the easy application of models to available data sets. The seminar concluded with a thorough explanation of simulated dissolution studies, linking experimental drug release profiles to predicted theoretical models.



## Seminar on Freelancing: Igniting Students' Entrepreneurship

The Department of Software Engineering's Cause Society organized a seminar on April 4, 2024, aimed at igniting the entrepreneurial spirit among students through freelancing. The seminar was graced by the presence of Mr. Ahsun Rauf, a seasoned freelancer and entrepreneur, who shared his insights and experiences on navigating the world of freelancing. The event was supervised by Syed Awais Haider, Patron of the Cause Society.

Mr. Awais Haider started the session by emphasizing the growing importance of freelancing in today's job market and its potential to foster entrepreneurship among students. He then introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Ahsun Rauf, highlighting his achievements and expertise in the freelancing industry. Mr. Rauf began the address by shar-

ing his journey into freelancing, providing a personal touch that immediately resonated with the audience. His talk covered several critical aspects including freelancing essentials, the various



types of freelance work available and the skills required to succeed. He then emphasized the importance of personal branding, he provided tips on how students can market themselves effective-

ly and stand out in a competitive marketplace.

The seminar featured an engaging Q&A session at the end, where students had the opportunity to ask Mr. Rauf ques-

tions about his experiences and seek advice on starting their own freelancing careers. The event concluded with a formal presentation of a shield to Mr. Ahsun Rauf by Dr. Nadeem Anjum.

The Department of Accounting and Finance under the Society of Accounting, Finance & Economics (SAFE) organized a seminar on Conflict Management, on June 3, 2024 supervised by Ms. Saddaf Adalat. The resource person for the session was Dr. Sundas Azeem, Assistant professor, Department of Management Sciences, SZABIST University, Islamabad. With over six years of experience in university teaching, Dr. Azeem specializes in human behavior

impression management, and workplace politics. Additionally, she regularly reviews various international journals and conferences. The seminar introduced a three-step approach to conflict management: self-assessment, understanding others' styles, and effective

ual and organizational level. This seminar was designed to polish and nurture students' workplace communication as well as interpersonal skills, negotiation abilities, and many other skills, necessary to carry out successful conflict resolutions.

## SAFE Organized a Seminar on Conflict Management

communication with boundary-setting.



in the workplace, psychology, and management. As a budding researcher, she explores topics related to attributions,

The seminar aimed to train student minds to gain awareness, reasoning, and conflict management on an individ-

Understanding the importance of conflict management enhances learning and group outcomes, including effectiveness or performance in an organizational setting. It is important for students to understand how to deal with interpersonal conflict, reconcile emotions, and reach an understanding, these are valuable practices that boost well-being and productivity, and all of these techniques are learned through conflict resolution. The seminar concluded with a question-and-answer session, along with an assessment test that helped students gain insights into their personality and conflict management styles. Dr. Jaleel Ahmed, Head of the Department of Accounting & Finance concluded the event by presenting a souvenir to the guest speaker as a token of appreciation.

## SEMINAR ON

### Simulation and QSAR Studies

The Faculty of Pharmacy (FoP) organized a seminar on "Simulation and Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR) Studies" on March 27, 2024 for postgraduate students of Pharmacy. Dr. Muhammad Tariq Khan, Assistant Professor and Head of the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry at FoP, led the session, aiming to delve into the latest advancements and applications of simulation and QSAR

studies in pharmaceutical research. The primary objective of the seminar



was to deepen students' understanding of simulation techniques and QSAR methodologies, crucial tools in modern drug discovery and development. The seminar served as a catalyst for advancing students' knowledge and proficiency in computational drug design and predictive modeling. By providing comprehensive insights and practical guidance, the session contributed significantly to preparing future pharmaceutical scientists for the complexities of modern drug discovery and development.

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## The Association of Civil Engineers (ACE) hosted a seminar on "Life is Just a Game"

The Association of Civil Engineers (ACE) hosted a seminar on "Life is Just a Game" for the civil engineering undergraduate students on May 24, 2024.

seminar formally commenced with the recitation of Holy Quran. The seminar aimed to inspire self-belief and inner motivation, urging students not to be



The event featured Mr. Abu Saad, a distinguished member of Youth Club. The

disheartened by societal negativity. Mr. Abu Saad's lecture was focused on

the purpose of human existence, drawing upon the life of Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and the virtuous lives of his companions and wives. He elaborated on how their exemplary conduct and unshakable faith shaped history, particularly emphasizing the conquest of Makkah. He highlighted the Prophet's (P.B.U.H) extraordinary response of forgiveness towards his greatest adversaries, an act that stands as a monumental lesson in mercy and humility. Towards the conclusion of the seminar, Mr. Abu Saad engaged the participants in a brief but meaningful activity called "Gift Therapy." During this exercise, he asked the students to close their eyes, relax, and imagine themselves entering Jannah, with angels welcoming them. A souvenir was presented to Mr. Abu Saad as a token of appreciation, and the seminar concluded with a heartfelt thank-you note to the speaker and all attendees.

The Department of Psychology hosted a seminar on "Acceptance and Commitment Therapy" on June 10, 2024. The Seminar was organized by Ms. Aysa Aneeq Lecturer, Psychology Department. The Guest speaker

The session began with a brief relaxation exercise, which proved to be effective in engaging the students. Over the course of two hours, Ms. Maryum discussed various techniques and underlying principles of ACT, actively

thank you note and presentation of certificate to the guest by Ms. Aysa Aneeq.



## Seminar on Acceptance and Commitment Therapy

for the session was Ms. Maryum M. Akram, a Clinical Psychologist and Adjunct Faculty member at Fatima Jinnah Women's University, Rawalpindi. She possesses extensive experience in volunteer work, teaching, research, publications, and supervision.

involving the students in the discussion. Students participated enthusiastically, posing numerous questions that were addressed adeptly by the presenter. The participating students provided constructive feedback on the session, enhancing their learning experience. The seminar ended with

## Seminar on Empowering Communities for Building Resilience, Eradicating Drugs & Raising Awareness

The Department of Psychology conducted a seminar titled “United Against Drugs: Empowering Communities for Building Resilience, Eradicating Drugs & Raising Awareness” to raise Awareness about Drug Abuse, Addiction, Mental Health and its Impact on Productivity. The session was led by an esteemed Medical Officer at the Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF), Dr. Zara Kiran. The seminar highlighted the complex interplay between substance abuse and drug addiction. The session covered the early signs of substance abuse and highlighted its often role as a coping mechanism for individuals grappling with underlying mental health concerns. Dr. Kiran also discussed the role of the Anti-Narcotics Force in pro-

moting a drug-free Pakistan. The seminar concluded with an engaging Q&A

intertwining issues of substance abuse and mental health, leaving participants



session, fostering valuable discussions among attendees and the expert with an awareness walk. The event successfully heightened awareness about the

equipped with crucial information and resources to address these challenges in their communities.

## Awareness Seminar on Story Telling: An Initiative towards Community

The Department of Psychology, in collaboration with the Directorate of Sustainability and Education (DSE), successfully organized the event titled "Story Telling: An Initiative towards Community" on 12th June 2024. This innovative session featured the screening of student-produced documentaries that contrasted the conditions in developed and underdeveloped areas. The event aimed to highlight how different communities relate to the Unit-

ed Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), particularly focusing on marginalized groups such as slum dwellers, beggars, and transgender individuals. The documentaries served as a powerful medium to bring attention to these critical issues.

The primary purpose of this event was to raise awareness about the conditions and challenges faced by marginalized communities in Pakistan. Another purpose of the event was to

highlight the importance of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) and their relevance to local issues in Pakistan by showcasing documentaries that delve into the lives of slum dwellers, beggars, and transgender individuals, the event aimed to bring to light the harsh realities that these groups endure daily. This event showcased the potential of storytelling as a powerful tool for raising awareness and fostering empathy.

The Department of Psychology organized a seminar titled “Policy on Protection Against Sexual Harassment

raise awareness about the students’ fundamental rights to work and study without fear of harassment. The sem-

policies, and the procedural steps for lodging a complaint. They briefly explained the different forms of sexual harassment. The speakers guided the participants on how to document incidents, prepare a report with evidence, and submit the complaint to the relevant authority. Moreover, they emphasized on ensuring privacy and disciplinary actions against the accused would be taken. The seminar successfully heightened awareness about sexual harassment policies and complaint procedures, leaving participants equipped with crucial information and resources to address these challenges.

## Seminar on Policy on Protection Against Sexual Harassment in Higher Education Institution



in Higher Education Institution” on June 12, 2024. This session aimed to

inar provided insights into the nature of sexual harassment, the relevant

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## Seminar on Empowering Future Leaders

On June 7, 2024, the Department of Management Sciences hosted a seminar on "Empowering Leaders". Ms. Javeria Khalid supervised the seminar. The seminar featured Shumyle Mukhtar, an expert in the field of Management and HR. The aim of the seminar was to educate students on essentials of lead-

ership and its various styles. It helped the students to understand why maintaining a professional behaviour in different workplace settings is essential. The session concluded with closing remarks by Ms. Javeria Khalid, who expressed her gratitude to both guest speaker and the students. It was fol-

lowed by a token of appreciation to Ms. Mukhtar in recognition of her valuable contributions to the seminar.



## Seminar on Mindfulness-based Relaxation Exercises

The Department of Management Sciences held a seminar on June 11, 2024 on "Mindfulness-based Relaxation Exercises". The session was facilitated by Dr. Maryam Akram, a clinical psychologist and a lecturer at NUST. The primary focus of the session was to familiarize students with the importance of mindfulness and relaxation techniques in managing stress and enhancing overall

well-being. Dr. Maryam Akram provided comprehensive insights on mindfulness-based relaxation exercises and their importance for enhancing mental and physical well-being. Different mindfulness practices such as meditation, deep breathing, and body scan exercises were introduced with a focus on cultivating a heightened awareness of the

present moment. It was emphasized that such practices help individuals to develop a non-judgmental awareness of their thoughts, feelings, and bodily sensations, fostering a sense of calm and reducing stress. She also discussed the benefits of relaxation techniques like progressive muscle relaxation, guided imagery, and yoga to promote physical relaxation and mental tranquility.

## Seminar on Breaking the Barriers: Women's Empowerment through Remote Work

The Department of Management Sciences organized a seminar on "Breaking the Barriers: Women's Empowerment through Remote Work" on June 12, 2024. Ms. Mahhum Qaiser, CEO of SARR was the guest speaker. The objective of the seminar was to explore the impact of remote work on women's empowerment, discussing opportunities, challenges, and strategies to promote gender equality in the virtual workplace, with a special focus on home-run businesses.

Ms. Mahhum Qaiser elaborated on how remote work has expanded women's participation in the workforce, especially in traditional, patriarchal societies. She emphasized that the flexibility and autonomy provided by remote work contribute to increased productivity and job satisfaction among women. Furthermore, she highlighted how home-based food businesses provide a feasible career option for women, allowing them to capitalize on their culinary talents while embracing entrepreneurship.

## Industrial Visit to SECP Organized by SAFE

The Society of Department of Accounting and Finance (SAFE) organized an industrial tour to Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) on June 3, 2024. The objective of the visit was to offer students practical insights into the regulatory landscape and functioning of the financial sector. Participants enjoyed an extensive tour of the SECP facilities and participated in informative sessions conducted by industry professionals. These sessions addressed key subjects such as market regulation, corporate governance, and investor protection. The visit concluded with an interactive Q&A session, allowing students to engage directly with professionals. Another special focus was on Islamic financing, where experts elaborated on the principles of Sharia-compliant financial practices and their growing significance in Pakistan's economy. Overall, the experience was enriching and educational for all attendees.



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## World Environment Day Walk

The World Environment Day Walk was organized by the Department of Psychology to raise awareness about environmental conservation and sustainability among students. The primary objective of this walk was to inspire students to take proactive steps toward protecting the environment and to demonstrate the pressing need and importance for collective action in addressing environmental issues. This initiative also aimed to align with Sustainable Development Goals SDG-13 (Climate Action) and

SDG-15 (Life on Land), emphasizing the university's commitment to global environmental goals. By engaging in this walk, students had the opportunity to express their commitment to environmental stewardship and to showcase their creativity in promoting green practices.

Catchy and thought-provoking slogans were chanted and displayed on banners, with phrases such as "Green Earth, Clean Earth!", "Save Trees, Save Lives!", "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!",

and "Act Now for a Better Tomorrow!" echoing throughout the route. Sever-



al students also carried small potted plants, symbolizing growth and the nurturing of the environment.

## Awareness Walk on Sustainability & Researching Renewable Resources

The Department of Accounting and Finance under the Society of Accounting, Finance and Economics (SAFE) organized "Walk for Awareness on Sustainability & Researching Renewable Resources" on May 22, 2024, which strived to provide awareness to the students about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the sig-

nificance of these goals in academic settings.

Students from the Department of Accounting and Finance actively participated by designing vibrant posters and banners. These visuals conveyed important messages about saving resources, acting responsibly, conserving goods, promoting environmental

sustainability, and encouraging the principles of reducing, reusing, and recycling.

Faculty members, Dr. Anam Tariq and Ms. Saddaf Adalat, expressed their appreciation for the creativity and effort shown by the students, acknowledged their dedication to raise awareness regarding such crucial issues.



## Awareness Walk on The Gig Economy

The Department of Management Sciences organized an awareness walk on "The Gig Economy" on June 3, 2024. The primary objective of this project was to educate both students and faculty members about the increasing importance of the gig economy. The gig economy, characterized by short-term

contracts or freelance work instead of permanent jobs, is rapidly reshaping the traditional employment landscape. The participant walked from D block, distributing brochures, charts, wristbands, and caps to students and faculty. They chanted the slogan "Future of Work" as they made their way

to E block. This initiative raised awareness regarding future of work in the gig economy among students and faculty members. The active participation of students and the support from faculty members contributed to the success of the event.

## Awareness Walk on Green Infrastructure

The Association of Civil Engineers (ACE), in collaboration with the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), organized an "Awareness Walk on Green Infrastructure" on April 19, 2024. The event aimed to educate participants about the significance and benefits of integrating green infrastructure into urban planning. Participants were introduced with the concept of green infrastructure, a network of natural and semi-natural systems and features that provide environmental, economic, and social benefits encompassing a variety of practices and technologies that use vegetation, soils, and other natural elements to manage water and create healthier urban environments.

During the event, several key aspects of green infrastructure were discussed. The types of green infrastructure, such as green roofs, green walls, and rain gardens, were explained in detail, high-

lighting how they help in managing stormwater and improving urban environments. Participants were introduced to various strategies for overcoming these challenges, including innovative implementation techniques. The event successfully raised awareness among



lighting how they help in managing stormwater and improving urban envi-

ronments. Participants were introduced to various strategies for overcoming these challenges, including innovative implementation techniques. The event successfully raised awareness among students about the role of green infrastructure in creating sustainable cities.

## Awareness Walk on EcoStride

Department of Management Sciences organized an awareness walk "EcoStride: Walk Towards a Sustainable Tomorrow" on May 23, 2024

supervised by Javeria Khalid. It raised awareness to reduce the wastage of the resources and focus on an optimized usage. Students made different charts,

slogans and models that depicted the role of sustainability in our society and its hand in the economy. Badges and ties were also crafted for the contributors to engage them actively and motivate them.

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## Awareness Walk in Observance of No-Tobacco Day

The Department of Management Sciences held a walk in observance of No-Tobacco Day on June 4, 2024. Dr. Shazia Faiz, Ms. Rabia Habib and Mr. Sayed Faraz Shah led the walk. Many students brought charts, banners, and panaflexes, each with a unique and creative theme to reinforce the idea that tobacco-products are absolutely seri-

ous health hazards. The walk started outside D-block faculty offices, and the march progressed while other students and faculty members joined. The march made its way outside E-block, circled the roundabout and made its way back to D-block faculty offices again. The march was a measure to raise awareness against the many ills of tobacco

consumption. The level of engagement from both students and faculty emphasized the importance of the event, as it successfully highlighted the adverse effects of tobacco while fostering a sense of unity and collective action. The walk was a meaningful step towards promoting health awareness on campus.

## ELIC Organized a Session with Dr. Ejaz Ahmed, University of Huddersfield, UK

An interactive session with Dr. Ejaz Ahmed, Manager of International Relations at the University of Huddersfield, UK, took place on February 26, 2024, at Capital University of Science and Technology (CUST). This seminar, organized in collaboration with the ELIC office, invited faculty members from all university departments to engage in this informative discussion. In this session,

Dr. Ejaz Ahmed gave an introduction about the University of Huddersfield, its goals, the program opportunities and the benefits offered there for international students and researchers. The session fostered an engaging atmosphere, allowing faculty members to inquire about various topics, including expenses, scholarship opportunities, and potential exchange programs for

both students and faculty from CUST.



## Department of English Celebrated Earth Day

The Department of English organized an Earth Day celebration at Capital University of Science and Technology (CUST) on April 24, 2024. The event featured a plantation activity aimed at promoting sustainable development and environmental consciousness. The Vice-Chancellor, along with students, faculty, and staff, participated in this meaningful initiative by planting trees across the campus. This initiative high-



lighted CUST's commitment to environmental sustainability and creating a greener, healthier future for all.

The Capital Arts and Literary Club organized an event titled "Ink and Spirit,"



which showcased the artistic talents of students from various departments

through captivating calligraphic pieces. The event highlighted the creativity and individuality of participants as they presented unique artworks in classical

by Mr. Yousafi, providing practical guidance and techniques to enhance students' skills. Recognition and awards were presented to winners, fostering

## CALC Organized a Calligraphy Event

Arabic, Persian scripts, and modern interpretations.

Esteemed calligraphist Mr. Khalid Javed Yousafi graced the occasion as the guest of honor, inspiring attendees with his expertise. Interactive activities included a special calligraphy class led

pride and encouraging continued artistic pursuit. "Ink and Spirit" celebrated calligraphy's beauty and significance while nurturing creativity among students, highlighting CUST's commitment to the arts.

## SPELL Organized Writing Contest on Rewriting History

The Department of English, under the Writing Club, SPELL, hosted an event titled Chronicles of Change: Rewriting History on June 1, 2024. The event brought together a diverse group of students, faculty members, and writing aficionados, all united by a shared passion for creative expression. The event primarily focused on reimagining the historical event of the Partition of India in 1947, encouraging participants to

envision an alternate world where India and Pakistan remained united under British rule. With imagination and creativity as their guides, attendees were invited to envision a world where the course of events had unfolded differently. Through this innovative and thought-provoking theme, the event aimed to inspire fresh perspectives, challenge conventional thinking, and showcase the power of storytelling. The

collective energy of the participants, fueled by their creativity and imagination, made for an unforgettable experience, one that would surely leave a lasting impact on all who attended.



## CCBC Organized a Session on Criminality, Extremism & Narcotics

CUST Character Building Club hosted a session on the topic “Criminality, Extremism & Narcotics” where DIG Shoaib Khurram, Capital Police Officer, Safe City & Traffic, Islamabad, shared valuable insights and presented the practical picture of working by Islamabad Police to students of Capital University of Science and Technology with the essential knowledge of different crimes related to extremism

and narcotics along with criminality. Moreover, he discussed the causes of criminality, extremism and narcotics along with steps taken by ICT Police to control crimes due to such factors. This informative session concluded with a Q/A session followed by shield presentation by Dr. Amir Qayyum along with Dr. Noor Muhammad Khan to Guest Speaker.



In collaboration with the Islamabad Traffic Police (ITP), the VIS Directorate and Student Affairs Office organized the "ITP Facilitation on Wheels" event on May 15, 2024, at the CUST campus. This on-site service provided a convenient solution for approximately 95 students, faculty, staff, and their family members, assisting them with essential driving-related services, including

learner permits, license renewals, and duplicate license issuance. This initiative underscored the commitment of CUST and ITP to enhancing

off-campus. The VIS Directorate and Student Affairs Office express gratitude to the ITP team for their support in making this facilitation possible, benefiting

## Islamabad Traffic Police Launched "ITP Facilitation on Wheels" at CUST

community accessibility and efficiency, allowing individuals to complete these processes without the need to travel

the university community and strengthening partnerships that prioritize safety and convenience.

## Roundtable Discussion on Zero Waste Day

The Genix Society hosted a dynamic roundtable discussion on “Zero Waste Day” featuring an environmentalist, Ms. Summayya Ijaz on March 29, 2024. The discussion aimed at raising awareness about the importance of waste reduction and sustainable practices. The objectives included fostering dialogue among stakeholders, sharing best practices, and promoting innovative solutions for waste management. Targeting policymakers, environmentalists, businesses, and the general public, the discussion highlighted an urgent need of the transition towards a zero-waste society. The session out-

come included identification of key challenges, the formulation of action-

The event directly contributed to SDG 12, which aims to substantially reduce



able strategies, and the commitment of participants to implement eco-friendly initiatives in their respective domains.

waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling, and reuse by 2030.

On March 8, 2024, the Genix Society hosted a thought-provoking FM talk on women empowerment, featuring Dr. Syeda Mariam Bakhtiar, Head of Department,

women overcoming various challenges. This FM talk on women empowerment contributed to SDG 5 by analyzing data, informing policy formulation, promoting

for a collective action to promote gender equality. It also served as a reminder to

## World Environment Day Walk

Bioinformatics & Biosciences, and Ms. Shahgul. The session focused on importance of gender equality, education, and social support for women advancement. Dr. Syeda Mariam Bakhtiar highlighted the need for inclusive environment, while Ms. Shahgul shared inspiring stories of

social as well as cultural changes to address the disparities promoting social and cultural changes to foster gender equality. Genix society in collaboration with the FM team, addressed a larger audience celebrating women resilience and achievements, emphasizing an ongoing need



continue advocating for women rights and creating opportunities for their success.

## Pharma Spark Society and DSE Celebrated World Water Day

Faculty of Pharmacy in collaboration with the Pharma Spark Society and the Directorate of Sustainability and Environment (DSE), organized an event in celebration of World Water Day on March 22, 2024, featuring a phrase competition centered on water conservation.

The activity began with the setup of a blue-themed desk and a display board where students across university contributed thoughtful phrases highlighting

the importance of saving water. The event successfully raised awareness regarding value of water and highlighted an urgent need for a collective action to protect this vital resource. This initiative also encouraged personal growth and a sense of responsibility among the participants. Participants were encouraged to reflect on personal responsibility and how their actions impact natural resources for future generations.

This event served as a platform for fos-

tering connections and sharing ideas, paving the way for innovative solutions and a more sustainable future for all.



The student with the best phrase was awarded with a certificate.

## Industrial Visit to PTCL

The Department of Computer Engineering organized an industrial visit to PTCL Satellite Earth Station, Malachh, Islamabad, on May 25, 2024. A total of 28 students from the BS Computer Engineering Batch 223 participated in the visit. It was a great opportunity for our engineering students to learn about the contributions of different technologies and sections in communicating with a space station (satellite) from the Earth's surface.

The PTCL team, led by Engr. Sohail Khara (Manager) and Engr. Sher Afraz (Transmission Engineer), warmly wel-

comed the students. They delivered an introductory lecture, motivating the stu-



dents to explore each section with enthusiasm. The visit plan provided by the PTCL team was followed meticulously,

ensuring that every group learned about each section thoroughly. The two-hour

tour was highly successful, offering the students a chance to see the real-world applications of the concepts they study.

The CUST ASHRAE Student Branch organized a workshop titled "Artificial Intelligence for Optimization of Industrial Processes: Towards Social Trans-

formation through Education." The workshop was led by Dr. Rasikh Tariq, integration, sustainable development, and collaborative innovation, offering participants valuable insights and practical skills. The event concluded with Dr. Mahabat Khan, HoD of Mechanical Engineering, presenting a shield to Dr. Tariq in appreciation of his exceptional contribution.

in industrial settings with faculty members and research students from the Mechanical Engineering Department. The workshop highlighted advanced AI

random of Understanding (MoU), which took place at the Trust's premises on May 2, 2024. The Director of JJT warmly welcomed the Deputy Director of VIS, and the two authorities officially signed the MoU to mark the beginning of their collaboration.

## CUST ASHRAE Organized a Workshop on Artificial Intelligence for Optimization of Industrial Processes

formation through Education." The workshop was led by Dr. Rasikh Tariq,



a distinguished alumnus and Research Professor at Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico.

Dr. Tariq shared his extensive knowledge on the transformative power of AI

## VIS Directorate and Junior Jinnah Trust (JJT) Sign MoU

The VIS Directorate formalized a new partnership with the Junior Jinnah Trust (JJT) through the signing of a Memo-



The agreement outlined a shared mission to guide students toward becoming socially responsible citizens. This partnership between VIS and JJT aimed to promote civic engagement and social responsibility among students, contributing to their development as responsible members of society.

## Mechanical Engineering Department Participated in National Design, Build, and Fly Competition (DBFC-17) Hosted at GIKI

The Mechanical Engineering Department, in collaboration with Al-Muhandis Society CUST, participated in the National Design, Build, and Fly Competition (DBFC-17) hosted at Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute (GIKI) in Swabi, Pakistan, from November 24 to 26, 2023.

Two teams, Xynos and Nighthawk, comprised of five members each, actively participated in the event. Team Xynos crafted a traditional high-wing RC aircraft, while Team Nighthawk designed a V-tail Low wing RC aircraft. Remarkably, both aircraft demonstrated outstanding performance by successfully executing

all three missions, which encompassed circuit patterns, aileron rolls, inside

proudly represented CUST university but also left a positive impression on the



loops, inverted fly-pass, low pass, and payload drop. The students not only

judges as well as spectators.

## Civil Engineering Students Visited an Ongoing Construction Site

The Association of Civil Engineers (ACE) in collaboration with the Civil Engineering Department organized an educational site visit for the students of Batch 223 on April 20, 2024. The visit

and practice, enhancing their overall understanding of the subject. Upon arrival, the owner of D3 Associates, Mr. Muhammad Imran, gave an introductory briefing about the ongoing



was focused on the topic of "Excavation and Construction for Sub-structure" as part of their Construction Engineering course. The site, located in Rawat Chamber, was the ongoing construction of a pharmaceutical company, managed by D3 Associates.

The purpose of the visit was to provide the students a strong understanding of theoretical concepts along with their practical implementation aiming to bridge the gap between theory

project, detailing the key aspects of excavation and sub-structure work. After the initial briefing, students were asked to explore the building and note all the important points relevant to their course. Under the supervision of their instructors and the site in-charge, the students conducted a detailed assessment of the project, and they also performed the psychomotor part of their experiment, which was marked by the instructors on-site.

## Site Visit to Bhandar Bridge A Project of Frontier Works Organization (FWO)

The Civil Engineering Department conducted a site visit on May 16, 2024, for graduate students enrolled in the "Bridge Engineering" course. The visit, supervised by Dr. Muazzam Ghous Sohail, aimed to provide students with hands-on exposure to the ongoing construction of the Bhandar Bridge, located on the Islamabad Expressway. The project is being executed by the Frontier Works Organization (FWO), a leading construction firm in Pakistan. This initiative helped them to bridge the gap between theory and practice, enhancing their overall understanding of the subject.

At the time of the visit, the construction of Bhandar Bridge was in the superstructure phase. Dr. Muazzam Ghous Sohail provided an in-depth briefing to the students on key aspects of bridge engineering related to the superstructure. Additionally, the CEO of FWO, Major Kanzan Hayat, also addressed the students, providing detailed insights into the project and the ongoing construction work. The site visit not only allowed the students to observe live construction but also emphasized the importance of combining theoretical knowledge with practical experience.

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## VIS Directorate Strengthened Ties with Humanitarian Organizations

Strengthening its commitment to community engagement, the VIS Directorate, led by Deputy Director VIS and accompanied by volunteer Hafiz Mobeen, paid a significant visit on February 27, 2024, to three prominent humanitarian

CUST. During the visit to Pakistan Children Relief (PCR), Mr. Waqas Rasheed, Country Director of PCR, welcomed the VIS team to discuss expanding volunteer programs, with a special focus

vant authorities. At YardimEli Pakistan, the visit marked the first direct engagement between the VIS Directorate and the organization. Discussions centered on establishing a partnership that could benefit both institutions, providing students with valuable volunteer opportunities while supporting YardimEli's outreach programs. Both parties are optimistic about the potential for future collaboration.



organizations: Pakistan Children Relief (PCR), YardimEli Pakistan, and the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS). These visits aimed to explore collaboration opportunities and broaden volunteer experiences for students at VIS-

on increasing opportunities for female students. This promising collaboration aligns well with the goals of VIS-CUST, and discussions are underway for a potential Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), subject to approval by the rele-

The day concluded with an invitation to a seminar hosted by the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) in honor of World NGO Day. The event featured Ms. Juja Kim, Deputy Regional Director for IFRC Asia-Pacific, and highlighted the global contributions of NGOs with a focus on the humanitarian work of PRCS. This visit offered insight into the experiences and impact of VIS volunteers at PRCS, underscoring the importance of these partnerships in building a stronger foundation for humanitarian service and volunteerism among students.

The VIS Directorate formally signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Rawalpindi Eye Donors Organization (REDO) at the university campus on July 3, 2024, marking a significant step in strengthening community health outreach and student learning opportunities. The MoU follows the successful placement of 20 VIS students with REDO in Fall 2023 on a trial basis, a program that received positive feedback from par-

icipating students. Mr. Haroon-Ur-Rasheed, General Secretary of REDO, signed the MoU,

and an opportunity to contribute to eye health initiatives in the community. The VIS Directorate is pleased to es-

### VIS Directorate and Rawalpindi Eye Donors Organization (REDO) Signed MoU for Student Placement

while Executive Member Syed Manzoor Hussain and Information Secretary Dr. Saadia Mushtaq from REDO were present as witnesses. The collaboration is expected to provide students with invaluable hands-on experience

establish this partnership with REDO, and both organizations look forward to fostering an impactful alliance that benefits both students and the community at large.

The Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), in collaboration with the Department of Computer Science/Software Engineering and Huawei Cloud Commu-

puter Science and Software Engineering departments attended the session. The training was led by Ishfaq Hussain, the Head of Huawei's Cloud Community in Pakistan, who provided

cloud computing technologies and Huawei's cloud services. The seminar concluded on a positive note, leaving participants with valuable knowledge for their future careers in cloud development.

### Training on Huawei Cloud Certified Developer Associate

nity, organized a hands-on training session on the "Huawei Cloud Certified Developer Associate" (HCCDA) – Tech Essentials on May 27 and 29, 2024.

valuable insights and practical knowledge to the participants.

The session, which lasted for three hours, included a Q&A segment, providing participants with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of



## Pharma Spark Society Organized Cultural Day

The Pharma Spark Society (Culinary and Arts Club), Faculty of Pharmacy organized a vibrant Cultural Day on March 22, 2024. This event aimed to promote students' love for their cultures and their country, while highlighting the importance of each culture within Pakistan. Students were encouraged to wear traditional cultural dresses whereas some

others opted for green and white attire to express their patriotism. The cultural significance of each province of Pakistan was showcased, with students proudly displaying the rich diversity of their heritage. The event fostered a sense of unity and celebration as everyone came together to honor their culture and country. It was

a day filled with fun, joy, pride, and mutual appreciation, making it a memorable occasion for all the participants.



## Blood Group Testing Activity

Students of the pharmacy department organized a blood grouping activity on March 15, 2024 in the BMS Lab. This event aimed to enhance the communication and social skills of students while offering practical life experiences. Participants from various departments of the university gathered to discover their blood group types. The dedication and enthusiasm of the on-duty students ensured a smooth running of the activity. Esteemed faculty members also took

part in the activity to check their blood groups and highly appreciated the efforts of the organizing team. Besides,



participants collected data from students who expressed a willingness to donate blood in the future, creating a

valuable database of potential donors. The event proved to be a significant learning opportunity for the students, providing practical experience in blood grouping while fostering a sense of community service and altruism. In addition, the event fostered a sense of unity and social responsibility among the participants.

As the event concluded, there was a growing anticipation to have similar activities in future, which will not only contribute to the personal development of the students but will also leave a lasting legacy within the community.

## AI Funoon Gala: A Multidomain Event

The Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering organized AI Funoon Gala, a multidomain event, on May 13, 2024. The event exemplified meticulous planning, effective coordination, and enthusiastic participation, resulting in a resounding success. AI Funoon Gala, conceptualized to celebrate diversity, foster camaraderie, and provide a platform for showcasing skills and talents, featured a diverse array of activities, carefully curated to cater to varied interests and age groups.

The gala featured multiple activities including Beep & Buzzer challenge, which in particular, brought a sense of fun and suspense as participants navigated through sound cues with speed and precision, ludo and carrom which fostered nostalgic fun, the Penalty Shootouts which tested participants' athleticism and competitive spirit. Additionally, the E-gaming session saw participants engaging in virtual battles, fostering community among gamers. Intense battles of intellect unfolded as

participants strategized and countered each other's moves. These activities provided a platform for showcasing mastery of the game, stimulating critical thinking and foresight. Participants also engaged in thought-provoking exchanges, demonstrating their dedication and passion for the game. Furthermore, the intellect, knowledge and problem-solving skills of participants were also tested through stimulating quizzes and analytical challenges. The competition sparked lively debates and discussions, encouraging intellectual growth.

## Capacity Building Sessions for Graduating Students

Career Services Office conducted a series of capacity-building training sessions for graduating students across various faculties, including the Faculty of Management and Social Sciences, Faculty of Computing, Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, and Faculty of Pharmacy. These sessions, held

from April 22, 2024, to June 11, 2024, aimed to equip students with critical skills such as resume writing, interview techniques, LinkedIn networking, and work ethics, ensuring they are well-prepared for the job market. A total of 17 training sessions were conducted, featuring distinguished industry experts who shared their insights and practical experiences. These training sessions provided a platform for students to gain practical, industry-specific skills that will be instrumental

in their transition into the job market. Feedback from participants was overwhelm-



ingly positive, underscoring the value of these sessions in preparing graduates for professional success.

## Workshop on Biosafety and Biosecurity

The Department of Bioinformatics and Biosciences organized a one-day training workshop on biosafety and biosecurity on April, 17, 2024. Dr Arshia Amin Butt supervised it. The guest speaker, Dr. Wasim Sajjad, Assistant Professor at National University of Medical Sciences and a Certified Master Biosafety

and Biosecurity Trainer (FIC-NIH, USA), shared his expertise and insights with the students broadening their perspectives. This workshop aimed to inform the students about different international opportunities and career prospects in biosecurity offered by various prestigious organizations like WHO, CDC and

different NGOs. Moreover, careers in research, policy development, consulting, and strategy implementation to prevent and respond to biological threats were also introduced. The workshop aligned with the United Nations' SDGs 3, 8, 9, and 16. The event concluded with Dr. Syeda Maryam Bakhtiar, Head of the Department, Bioinformatics and Biosciences, presenting a token of appreciation to the guest speaker. .



## CUST ICONS

### Dr. Nayer Masood

#### Dean, Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC)

##### *What role does ORIC play in improving integration of research and education at CUST?*

ORIC plays a direct role in research related activities, however, it also indirectly impacts university education. As far as research is concerned, ORIC plays multiple roles in liaison with the industry such as:

- o Getting projects from industry that involve faculty, students and industrial collaborators. For example, recently we won projects from NESCOM.
- o Arranging trainings/seminars by experts from industry. We have recently conducted a one-day training on Earthing Systems and a two-day faculty development program with the help of technical experts.
- o Getting internships for the students that later can be transformed into jobs. This summer, we arranged internships for 6 computing students

in NCP.

- o We can provide different types of testing services in our teaching labs and consultancy services by our faculty members to different industries. For this purpose, we are currently working on the approval process of "CUST Testing Policy". Similarly, we are working on a proposal where our faculty members provide health-related consultancy services.
  - Identify and circulate different funding opportunities of Research & Development projects for our researchers and scholarships for students. If a faculty member shows interest in some call, we assist him in filling the form and keep in touch with him/her right after advertising the call. Also, we constantly pursue the researchers and students to apply for F&D and once they apply, we try to track the option till the final decision is made.
  - Keep track of ongoing projects. The

status of their deliverables, their financial status and also submission of deliverables.

- Another major task of ORIC is commercialization of the R&D activities being performed at the university and in this regard, we are currently working in different dimensions, like:

- o Educate faculty members regarding intellectual property (IP) and encourage them to apply for one. Once a faculty member identifies an IP in his/her work, then we assist them in applying for it and then we follow the application. Currently, ORIC is working to file two IPs, and we are quite hopeful that they will be accepted.
- o We try to motivate maximum students and faculty members to apply for place in incubation centres at national and international levels. Currently, the call for startups is on from National Incubation Centre (NIC) and with our collaboration, at

least 4 applications have been submitted in NIC.

We maintain an incubation centre at university level, called CUST Incubation Centre (CIC). Every semester, we offer funding to those

create a positive image of the university.

***How does ORIC contribute in improving and strengthening collaboration with industry partners, government agencies, and other ac-***

***sity stature at the national and international levels?***

- ORIC provides training sessions for faculty and researchers on best practices, methodologies, and ethical standards in research.
- It establishes partnerships with renowned institutions to facilitate knowledge exchange and for joint research initiatives, elevating the university profile.
- It also allocates funding to support innovative and impactful research projects that have the potential for international recognition.

Through these efforts, ORIC ensures that the university research meets global standards and improves CUST reputation globally.

***What challenges Pakistan faces in research and innovation when compared with international research landscape in terms of funding/ resources, infrastructure, international collaboration and faculty development?***

- Major problem with Pakistani researchers is that they carry out research for the sake of research, i.e. only to get their work published, improve their profiles through publications, to qualify for the higher posts and a chance to play the number game when compared with others. Our researchers badly lack research for helping people, solving real-world problem, bringing earning opportunities, building projects, changing people's lives and playing a positive role in society as well as other such practical objectives. Our researchers have hundreds of publications, impact factor in hundreds but if we ask them the application of their research, or any problem that they have solved, mostly, they are unanswerable. Fortunately, there is a realization of this fact now and the HEC and the educational institutions have started taking this point into consideration very strongly and focus is changing all gradually. Another positive thing is that we are receiving number of funding opportunities, locally and internationally. Now the researchers have to move forward and address the real-world issues by utilizing those funding opportunities.



FYP projects that have potential for commercialization. University offers fifty thousand funding each project and a place in the CIC to work on the projects. We also provide them counselling regarding pitching the idea to funding agencies to take their startups further on.

There are some other initiatives as well, but I close it here for now. Although these initiatives are directly related to research, they also impact education by broadening the vision of the faculty members and polishing their teaching skills. Students get different types of opportunities that gives them exposure. For example, four of our students visited European universities through a project. Therefore, such opportunities give international exposure to students and also

***ademic institutions?***

- ORIC organizes workshops, seminars, and conferences that connect researchers, as well as industry professionals.
- It also facilitates collaborative research initiatives between faculty and the industry partners.
- ORIC also establishes programmes that allow students to gain practical experience through internships with industry partners which enhances their employability skills.
- It also assists in identifying and applying for funding opportunities that support collaborative projects involving multiple stakeholders.

***How ORIC assures that the research quality at CUST reflects international standards and advance in univer-***

## CUST ICONS

**Dr. Sabahat Haqqani**

Head, Department of Psychology

***Can you share a personal achievement in your career that you believe has significantly impacted your work as Head of the Department of Psychology?***

I firmly believe in taking small steps to achieve meaningful goals. Becoming the head of the department provided me with a wonderful opportunity to give back to the community that nurtured me. It has allowed me to lead efforts to enhance the academic journey and experiences of our students, aligning

technological advancements in a globalized world. We have created an environment where they are expected to excel in academics, manage relationships, navigate technology, and adapt to swiftly changing cultural norms. This immense pressure can lead to significant challenges, including depression, anxiety, risky behaviors, drug abuse, relationship problems, self-harm and suicide. Additionally, while striving to create equal opportunities for girls, we have inadvertently shifted the balance, resulting in a growing gender dispari-

***What advice would you give to students who may be hesitant to seek help for mental health issues?***

I believe that help-seeking is both a coping skill and a life skill. Most of us usually seek help passively, which relies on a hit-and-trial principle. At the CUST Well-being Center, we strive to transform this into an active help-seeking skill. Since there is a trend of learning new skills these days, this is another skill that we must acquire.

***How does CUST foster collaboration with other national and international universities and organizations in research and mental health initiatives?***

CUST provides a conducive environment for research, industry and community collaboration. Initiatives taken by both faculty and students are supported and transformed into viable and sustainable projects. One example that I am particularly proud of is our mental health camp where we collaborate with industry partners to provide services to the local community. Another notable achievement is our capability to develop products and equip our students with skills to develop products that meet local industry needs.

***What role does technology play in enhancing mental health services and support these days?***

One of the obvious benefits is its enormous potential to increase outreach. We can now provide services and collaborate nationally and internationally. According to a report from WHO, there are only 0.28 psychologists for every 100,000 persons in Pakistan. Technology can play an important role in reducing the burden on mental health systems through providing mental health apps, chatbot therapies, self-management and meditation applications.



them with the needs of our local industry. I have initiated community-based projects, such as the construction of psychological tools; which aim to inspire students to take initiative in designing, creating, and improving Indigenous products based on psychological knowledge. As a woman balancing multiple roles- mother, teacher, researcher and practitioner- I have discovered a unique strength in striving for balance and fostering growth.

***Can you discuss recent trends in psychology that you find particularly relevant to the challenges faced by today's students?***

Today's students find themselves in a very unique situation shaped by rapid

ty where boys are increasingly facing challenges and lagging.

***What unique services does the Well-Being Centre offer to support students' mental health at CUST?***

As a mental health practitioner and academician, I believe today's students are in a very unique position where challenges can quickly be turned into opportunities if facilitated appropriately. This is where the role of the CUST Wellbeing Center comes in. The center not only provides treatment facilities for students, staff, faculty and the community, but it also regularly carries out preventive interventions to safeguard the mental health of our community.

## SOCIETY IN FOCUS

# JSpark Society

### Description

CUST acknowledges that co-curricular activities are a fundamental component of a quality educational experience. To further the university's mission, Jinnah Software Park (JSpark) operates as the official student and faculty society within the Department of Computer Science, committed to enhancing the academic and professional growth of its members. With over 150 active student members, JSpark aims to create a vibrant and inclusive community through various initiatives such as seminars, training sessions, and motivational speeches. Under the patronage of Dr. Syed Saqib Raza Rizvi, Assistant Professor, JSpark bridges the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, ensuring that students engage actively in departmental activities and gain valuable experiences that prepare them for future challenges in the tech industry.

### Vision

To establish a platform that seamlessly bridges the divide between theoretical knowledge and practical application, fostering educational excellence and equal opportunities for all members of

the Department of Computer Science. JSpark aspires to create a vibrant community that nurtures collaboration and engagement, preparing students for successful careers in the tech industry while ensuring their university experience is enriched with meaningful interactions and valuable learning opportunities.

What truly makes JSpark unique is their commitment to student engagement. Members are actively encouraged to participate in various departmental initiatives and events, ensuring that they gain valuable experiences outside the classroom. This not only enhances their academic journey but also prepares them for future challenges in the tech industry.

### Current Activities and Events

JSpark has an extensive lineup of activities designed to benefit members and the broader community. Recent and upcoming events include:

**Seminars and Workshops:** Regular seminars are organized, featuring industry professionals who share insights into current trends and technologies.

Upcoming topics include cybersecurity and artificial intelligence, with dates and times to be announced shortly.

**Student Training Sessions:** Hands-on training sessions are conducted in programming languages, software development, and data analysis to equip members with essential skills. These sessions typically occur bi-weekly.

**Motivational Speeches:** Recognizing the power of inspiration, motivational talks are hosted featuring successful alumni and professionals. These events aim to inspire and guide members in their academic and career pursuits.

**Participation in Departmental Activities:** JSpark students actively engage in various departmental events, such as the Computer Science Research Conference, ExclTe Cup, and Sports Weeks. Members volunteer their time and skills, contributing to the success of these initiatives while gaining invaluable experience.

Interested individuals are encouraged to participate in these enriching activities and contribute to the thriving academic community within JSpark.



## CLUB IN FOCUS

## CUST Media Club (Voice of Capital - FM 97.6)

### Description

The "Voice of Capital - FM 97.6" is a campus radio station operating under umbrella of Capital Media Club and the directives of Dr. M. Usman Farooqi. The station broadcasts a diverse range of content, including infotainment, educational segments, current affairs, event coverage, radio documentaries, features, audio dramas, interviews, talk shows, and debates, ensuring continuous engagement with its audience. By training students at the radio station, we aim to produce talented speakers, radio jockeys, producers, audio editors, anchors and broadcasters for today's media market as of student's interest. Life at CUST is not all about academics and study alone. Students need a respite from their tough study schedules. This is necessary to re-invigorate their energies and for the overall holistic development of the participants. This

is where "Voice of Capital – FM 97.6" plays its part. "Voice of Capital FM 97.6" portrays the brighter aspects of the University and aims to respite students from their tough study schedules and re-invigorate their energies for holistic development and intellectual growth.

### Objectives

The primary objective of Voice of Capital - FM 97.6 is to create a positive reflection of the university's quality, diversity, and values by delivering programming of the highest standard. The station aims to offer experiential learning opportunities for students, faculty, and staff, helping to cultivate skills in broadcasting, production, and media communication. Additionally, it seeks to promote national integrity and strengthen civic awareness within the community by disseminating information and fostering discussions on relevant societal

issues.

### Achievements

The societal impact of the broadcast is already visible in changing the ethical culture of the University, which in turn will reflect in the changing nature of society as these individuals, upon learning these moral values, will prove to be an asset to society. The other contribution of the broadcast is the social awareness of the basic dilemmas of the society, with speakers from all walks of life sharing their experiences. This helps not only realize the social norms but also the solution on how we can implement these norms effectively in society. With the increased spread of knowledge all across the globe, the "Voice of Capital FM - 97.6" effectively gathers information in one place and ensures all the areas of information are covered when designing a broadcast.



# SPORTS

## HIGHLIGHTS



# SPORTS

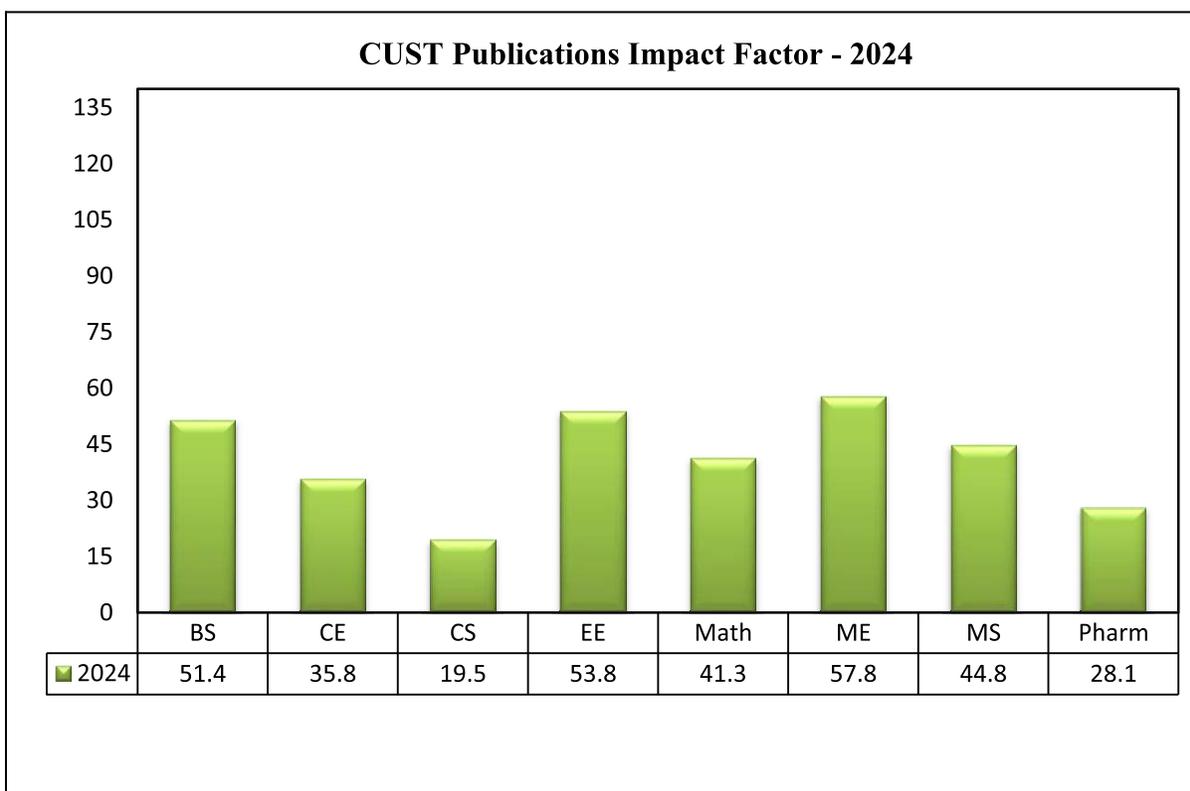
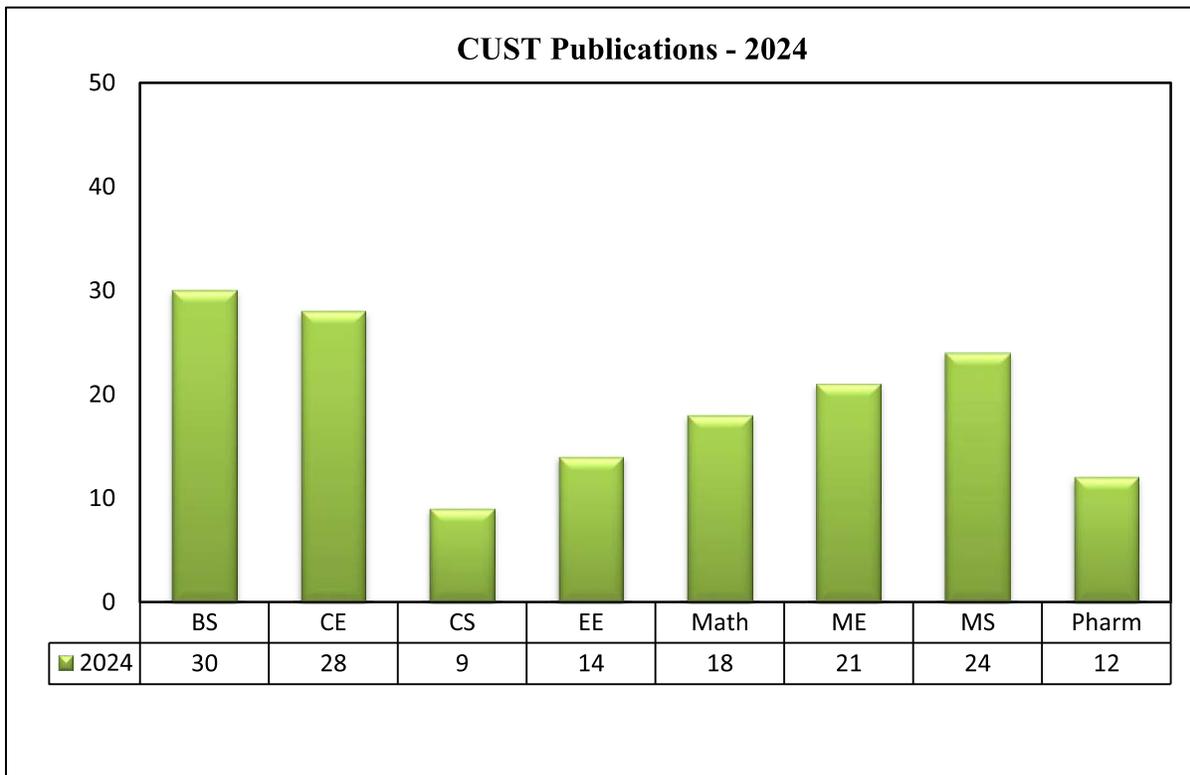
## HIGHLIGHTS



## New Induction

No.	Name	Designation	Highest Degree	Area of Specialization	Passing Year	University
1.	Dr. Umer Farooq Ahmed	Assistant Professor	PhD	Electrical Engineering	2024	Uni. of Cambridge, UK
2.	Mr. Abdullah Numani	Associate Lecturer	MS	Electrical Engineering	2018	COMSATS Uni. Islamabad
3.	Ms. Samra Ghaffar	Associate Lecturer	MS	Electrical Engineering	2022	NUST, Islamabad
4.	Mr. Muhammad Zulqarnain	Associate Lecturer	MS	Data Science	2023	FAST, Islamabad
5.	Ms. Laraib Khan	Associate Lecturer	MPhil	Computer Science	2024	QAU, Islamabad
6.	Ms. Sara Ibrhaim	Associate Lecturer	MS	Computer Science	2023	CUST, Islamabad
7.	Mr. Islam Ud Din	Associate Lecturer	MS	Computer Science	2022	QAU, Islamabad
8.	Mr. M. Danish	Lecturer	MS	Information Technology	2019	NUST, Islamabad
9.	Ms. Hina Rashid	Lecturer	MS	Information Technology	2020	University of Gujrat
10.	Mr. Temour Abbas	Associate Lecturer	MS	Computer Science	2024	CUST, Islamabad
11.	Ms. Asma Rauf	Associate Lecturer	MS	Computer Science	2022	PMAS Arid Agricultural Uni. Rwp
12.	Syeda Hafsa Ali	Associate Lecturer	MS	Software Engineering	2023	NUST, Islamabad
13.	Dr. Fazlullah Khan	Associate Professor	PhD	Pharmacology and Toxicology	2019	Tehran University of Medical Sciences
14.	Dr. Arif Ud Din	Assistant Professor	PhD	Management Sciences	2021	Abdul Wali Khan University, Mardan
15.	Dr. Shakeel Iqbal	Assistant Professor	PhD	Information Technology	2016	Iqra University, Islamabad
16.	Dr. Anam Tariq	Assistant Professor	PhD	Finance	2023	CUST, Islamabad
17.	Mr. Tabarak Matloob	Associate Lecturer	MS	Computer Science	2022	CUST, Islamabad
18.	Dr. Tahir Hameed Ullah Khan	Professor	PhD	Criminology	2013	University of Karachi
19.	Ms. Nosheen Ubaid	Associate Professor	LLM	Corporate Law	2012	International Islamic University, Islamabad
20.	Ms. Nosheen Qayyum	Assistant Professor	PhD	Law	2024	International Islamic University, Islamabad
21.	Ms. Naila Rafique Khan	Assistant Professor	LLM	Law	2019	Abdul Wali Khan University, Mardan
22.	Ms. Arifa Naheed Rana	Senior Lecturer	LLM	Law	2018	University of Lahore
23.	Ms. Amina Iqbal	Lecturer	LLM	Law	2018	University of Lahore
24.	Ms. Maria Zuraiz	Senior Lecturer	MS	Cyber Security	2019	COMSATS University, Abbottabad Campus







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