

## 44<sup>th</sup> Convocation of FAST-NU Islamabad Campus

### Ahsan Iqbal stresses on personality development



Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reform Mr. Ahsan Iqbal as well as other speakers stressed the need for personality development of students and imparting them scientific education.

They said this while addressing the 44<sup>th</sup> convocation of FAST-NU Islamabad campus on August 3.

Mr. Ahsan Iqbal was the chief guest of the convocation. Rector FAST-NU Dr. Amir Muhammed, Director Islamabad Campus Dr. Arshad Ali Shahid, faculty members, university management, graduating students and their parents attended the convocation. Degrees were awarded to 357 Bachelors, Masters and Ph.D students. Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded to the top three position-holders



for outstanding academic performance.

Dr. Amir Muhammed noted that character building and personality development of the youth should be the foremost goal in education. "Pakistan is a nation of approximately 200 million people, blessed with priceless resources, both material and human. We can take on challenges by equipping our youth with science and technology coupled with high moral values," he stated.

Earlier in his welcome address, Dr. Arshad Ali Shahid narrated the history of the Islamabad campus of FAST-NU, how it started 20 years ago, and how in a short span of time it has become one of the most vibrant, effective, and rewarding seats of higher learning in the country.

The commitment of the faculty, hard work of the students, and support and guidance of the university management has helped the campus reach this remarkable position, he said.



"Graduates of the university have earned respectable positions in both national and multi-national organisations," Dr. Arshad said.

He also mentioned that the university's Ph.D programme undoubtedly held the most significant contribution by any single university, in terms of both quality and quantity of research in Computer Science in Pakistan, pointing to the fact that it had produced 22 Ph.Ds.



A group photo of the faculty members with the chief guest of the 44<sup>th</sup> convocation of Islamabad campus Mr. Ahsan Iqbal and Rector Dr. Amir Muhammed.

## Research paper published



A research paper titled “The Power Diagraphs of Safe Primes” authored by Dr. Uzma Ahmad and Dr. S. M. Husnine was published in June 2016 in Bull. Iranian Math Soc. 42(3) (2016), pp. 749 - 759. Dr. Husnine supervised the Ph.D thesis of Dr. Uzma Ahmad AT FAST-NU Lahore campus.

## Traffic awareness camp at Lahore campus

City Traffic Police and FAST-NU Lahore campus jointly organized a campaign to attract students for registering for obtaining driving licenses and following traffic rules. In this regard, an automobile unit of the traffic police held a camp in the Lahore campus where it issued 162 driving learner permits to the students on July 27, 2016.

Director Lahore campus Syed Amjad Hussain and Manager Admin Mr. Waqas Lodhi coordinated with the City Traffic Police to launch the camp and issue learner permits and driving licenses at campus premises. They also conducted driving tests of the holders of learner permits and issued on spot driving licenses. The traffic education unit conducted a special lecture on traffic rules and regulations and safety measures.



## Faculty member attends workshop in USA



Mrs. Saeeda Zia, Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Lahore campus, has

attended hands-on training on mathematical models of infectious diseases, contact network epidemiology, immunology and within host modeling from July 11 to 23, 2016 organized by the Department of Biostatistics, School of Public Health, University of Washington, Seattle-USA.

The training was very important for the mathematics and statistics professionals as to how different mathematical tools and software can be used to explore the molecular biology and genetics data through differential equations. “R” statistical package libraries lms, DeSolve,

boot, adaptivetau, nloptr and sensitivity were used for mathematical modeling while “Python” programming language and Network X software library were used to represent and analyze networks, construct epidemic simulations, and model various intervention strategies from epidemiological data.

All instructors having mathematics, statistics and computer sciences background emphasized on the prospects of biological data analysis and mathematical modeling of different diseases to illuminate and harness their prevalence.

## Paper presentation at ICIBM 2016 Singapore



Ms. Sara Sameen, Assistant Professor at FAST-NU Lahore campus, attended the 3rd International Conference on Innovations

in Business and Management (ICIBM 2016) at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore on June 23, 2016. She was invited to attend the conference for the oral presentation of her paper on “Employee hiring through informal and formal sources of recruitment an implication for job satisfaction and intension to leave”.

The keynote speakers at the conference included Associate Professor Dr. Jason Miin Hwa Lim, University Malaysia Sabah (UMS), Prof. Hsin Hung Wu, Department of Business Administration, College of Management, National Changhua University of Education, Changhua, Taiwan, and Prof. Cheng Huang Yen, Department of Management & Information, National Open University, Taipei, Taiwan.

More than 50 candidates from diverse nations participated to present their papers. During her paper presentation, Ms. Sara catered to numerous questions regarding the widespread and prevailing mediums of hiring the right candidates through informal and formal categories in Pakistani market. This gave the conference attendees a useful insight of the prevailing practices followed across industries taking into account of time and cost constraints. Ms. Sara was the only Pakistani whose paper was accepted for oral presentation among the presenters from the regions like Australia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, China and India. Her representation has proved immense potential FAST-NU has in research and development.

## Peshawar campus holds orientation ceremony for new students

FAST-NU Peshawar campus arranged an orientation ceremony on August 15 for the students enrolled in Fall-2016 in order to welcome them and acquaint them with academic rules and regulations of the university.

Over 300 students, their parents and faculty members attended the ceremony. Campus Director Dr. Muhammad Tariq Rahim welcomed the students and their parents. He familiarized them with the aim, objectives and broad functioning of the university and educational facilities at Peshawar campus. Comprehensive briefing was given on the working of semester system and grading system. He advised the students to work hard, be regular in attending the classes and remain consistent in their efforts to achieve good grades. The students were cautioned that low class attendance would not be condoned. Parents were informed



that campus would keep them updated on the progress of their wards but they too should monitor their progress. At the end, Dr. Tariq invited questions and made clarifications on the observations raised by the students and their parents.

Brig (Retd) Azeem Khan, Manager Accounts & Finance, briefed the participants on the fee structure, and refund of fee on cancellation and closure of admission. They were also apprised that the university realizes that the fee may not be affordable for some of its students; therefore, FAST arranges financial assistance in the form of interest-free study loans for bright indigent students. They were informed about the other facilities available in the campus. Assistant Professor Mr. Rahat Ehsan, who is the Chief Proctor of the campus, briefed the students on code of conduct and disciplinary matters.

## ACCA award exemptions for FAST-NU graduates

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) has awarded two more exemptions from its papers F6 Taxation and F8 Audit & Assurance to BS Accounting and Finance (A&F) students graduating from the FAST-NU Lahore campus, taking the total number up to the maximum possible nine exemptions. Seven were awarded earlier following the signing of the MoU with FAST-NU and accreditation of BS (A&F) program in February 2015.

FAST-NU's case for further exemptions was processed after changes to the BS (A&F) study plan which introduced separate courses for Audit & Assurance and Taxation. ACCA conducted a rigorous review of the course outline and exam material with regard to these two subjects before extending this award. ACCA papers F1 to F9 are now exempted to graduates of the Accounting and Finance program.



# Lahore Campus Convocation

## 692 get degrees in 44<sup>th</sup> convocation

The Lahore campus of FAST National University of Computer & Emerging Sciences held its 44th convocation on August 12. Rector FAST-NU Dr. Amir Muhammed was the chief guest of the convocation.

Member Board of Governors (BoG) FAST Dr. Rafique Ahmad, Director Lahore campus Dr. Syed Amjad Hussain Shah, faculty members, university management, students and their parents attended the convocation.

Dr. Amir Muhammed awarded degrees to three Ph.Ds, 145 Master and 544 Bachelor degree students. He lauded the efforts of faculty and students and appreciated the faculty, management and parents on the success of students. He also extolled the record number of applications received at Lahore campus for admissions and termed it the trust the people of Pakistan have on FAST-NU as an esteemed seat of higher learning. The Rector also urged upon the graduates to continuously strive for the progress of the country.

Earlier, Dr. Syed Amjad Hussain Shah, in his inaugural address, welcomed the guests and presented an overview of the academic activities of the Lahore campus. The students were awarded medals by Dr. Rafique Ahmad for their outstanding academic achievements.



## FAST-NU faculty member elected as Chairman ACCA



ACCA

Mr. Aamer Allauddin, FCCA, Assistant Professor at FAST School of Management, Lahore campus, has been elected as Chairman of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) Pakistan Members' Network Panel (MNP) for the period 2016-2018.

MNP represents the interests of all ACCA members in Pakistan and provides advice and guidance to ACCA Pakistan office on a number of issues regarding members and the profession.

The MNP is also called upon to support the activities of ACCA Pakistan. Panel members work on a voluntary basis to promote the standing and activities of ACCA across all regions of Pakistan.

Meanwhile, Mr. Aamer Allauddin recently conducted research and insights sessions on integrated reporting for ACCA Pakistan at MCB Bank head office in Lahore and Millat Equipment Limited, Lahore. The sessions were attended by executives of these organizations.

Contact: Dr. M. Latif Virk, Registrar, National University of Computer & Emerging Sciences, FAST House, Rohtas Road, G-9/4, Islamabad. Email: newsletter@nu.edu.pk Phone: 051-2264629