

29th Convocation of FAST-NU held at Lahore Campus

534 students were awarded Bachelors, Masters, PhD degrees

The 29th Convocation of FAST-NU, Lahore Campus was held on July 16, 2012 at Faisal Town, Lahore. It was attended by Dr. Amir Muhammad, Rector, Rana Ghulam Shabbir, Secretary-General, FAST, Dr. M. Ayub Alvi, Dean of the University, Dr. Arshad Hussain, Director of Lahore Campus and a large number of parents, faculty and students.

Dr. Amir Muhammed, Rector awarded degrees to 291 undergraduates and 170 graduates while Rana Ghulam Shabbir, Secretary General, FAST gave medals on students for their outstanding academic achievement.

Speaking on the occasion, the Rector apprised the participants of achievements of the University.

The members of the Board of Governors, and Trustees, associated with the University, have worked in an

honorary capacity to fortify the trust funds at the University.

He said the University has five campuses in major cities of Pakistan i.e. Lahore, Karachi, Islamabad, Peshawar and Faisalabad-Chiniot. The University has over 300 full time faculty members. Among the vast pool of educational institutions, he added, the University has its own name and credibility.

It has been over two decades that the University has emerged on the scene as one of the leading institutions of academic excellence in Pakistan. With each passing year the focus is on establishing new disciplines along with committed professionals and researchers.

He said in order to fulfill the demands of modern times the University has successfully launched Civil Engineering, a new degree program at Lahore Campus from Fall



Dr. Amir Muhammed is addressing participants at the Convocation

2011 semester. He said the main focus of the University is the development of research areas both for the faculty and the students for promotion of knowledge.

Commenting on admission procedure, he said, admission on merit is the only gate way to this University. The admission procedure is transparent and this is the only University that offers an online admission test. Academic excellence is always encouraged in this University.

Dr. Amir Muhammed said the proof of this is the financial aid named Karze-Hasna which is provided to the brilliant students has reached up to more than 50 million rupees in the current year.

Earlier, in his inaugural address, Dr. Arshad Hussain, Director Lahore Campus welcomed the guests and presented an overview of the academic activities at the Campus.

According to him, a total number of 534 students passed out in this convocation including BBA, BS(CS), BS(CE), BS(TE), MBA, MS(CS, EE, Math, SPM) and PhD programs.



Students are celebrating after getting their degrees at the Convocation

34 research papers of FAST-NU published in 2011

Higher Education Commission (HEC) has published assessment and research ranking of Pakistani higher education institutions for the year 2011. The assessment shows that 34 research publications of FAST-NU, Islamabad Campus have been published during 2011 as compared to 21 in 2010 and 6 in 2009. According to the findings of this academic exercise, Pakistan higher education institutions have witnessed tremendous increase in research publications within last few years. The number of publications has been increase from about 800 in

the year 2002 to more than 6,000 in the year 2011 while in 2010 this number was 5000.

These publications were extracted using three databases i.e. SCI-E, SSCI, A&HCI from Thomson-Reuters Web of Science.

The publications also cover all major disciplines including physical sciences, agriculture and veterinary sciences, management sciences, social sciences and engineering. Since the establishment of HEC in 2002, research output has grown eight-folds.

52 faculty members appointed by FAST-NU

The Selection Board of FAST-NU has approved appointment of 52 faculty members for its campuses at Chiniot-Faisalabad, Islamabad, Karachi and Lahore.

According to details, 8 faculty members have been selected for Department of Computer Science, FAST School of Management Sciences and Department of Science and Humanities, Chiniot-Faisalabad Campus, 8 faculty members for Department of Computer Science, Department of Electrical Engineering and Department of Science and Humanities, Islamabad Campus, 28 faculty members for Department of Computer Science and FAST School of Management Sciences, Karachi Campus and 8 faculty members for Department of Computer Science and FAS School of Management Sciences, Lahore Campus.

FAST Islamabad Cricket Club shines during 2011-12



FAST Islamabad Crick Club team is receiving gold medal

FAST Islamabad cricket club led by Bilawal Zia won several tournaments during the year 2011-12 including LUMS sports fixture, Redbull cricket campus tournament, NUST battle of sports and Champions of all Intervarsity tournament.

FAST Islamabad cricket club also won gold medal in FAST tri-sports fixture held at FAST-NU Islamabad Campus and silver medal in LUMS sports fixture held at Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore.



FAST Islamabad Cricket Club players are posing for photographs

17,800 fresh applicants apply for admissions for Fall 2012

A total of 17,810 applicants applied for admissions for Fall 2012 semester out of which 16,728 applied for BS and 1,082 for the MS programs. This rise in number of applications will enable the FAST-NU to continuously improve the standard of intake, which remains a critical component of the overall quality objectives of the University.

HEC has awarded 1,647 scholarships under IRSIP

Under the International Research Support Initiative Programme (IRSIP), the Higher Education Commission (HEC) has awarded 1,647 scholarships to PhD scholars studying in higher education institutions of Pakistan for undertaking research in top ranking universities of 37 academically advanced countries.

These foreign scholarships have been awarded in all the major disciplines including physical sciences, agriculture and veterinary sciences, biological and medical

sciences, social sciences, management sciences and engineering. According to detail, the HEC is offering six-month research fellowship abroad to full time PhD students enrolled in Pakistan to enhance their research capabilities. As an outcome of this programme, the number of international research publications by Pakistani scholars has been increased from 304 to 662 with 117 per cent increase while the number of local publications has also been increased from 380 to 552 with 45 per cent increase.

28th Convocation of FAST-NU held at Karachi Campus

The 28th Convocation of FAST-NU, Karachi Campus was held on 14th of July, 2012 at Karachi Main Campus.

A total number of 154 students got Bachelor degrees while 48 students obtained Master degrees. Bachelor degrees were awarded in three disciplines i.e. Telecom Engineering, Computer Science and Business Administration.

Master degrees were awarded in four disciplines i.e. Computer

Science, Computer Networks, Software Project Management, and Management Science.

Justice Ali Aslam Jafri, Member Board of Governors, FAST-NU was the chief guest on the occasion.

Dr. Amir Mohammed, Rector of the University, Dr. Ayub Alvi Dean of the University and Mr. Qaiser Ahmed Shaikh, Member Board of Governors of the University attended the ceremony. A large number of parents, faculty and students were also present.

Research Papers Published

A research paper titled “The Teaching of the Holy Prophet (Peace be upon Him) to Promote Peace and Tolerance in an Islamic Social Culture” Dr. Aziz-ur-Rehman Saifee, Head of Sciences and Humanities Department and Mr. Ibrahim Gull, Lecturer of Sciences and Humanities Department, FAST-NU Karachi Campus, has been published in the European Journal of Social Sciences, ISSN 1450-2267 Vol.31 No.1 (2012), pp. 36-41.

Another research paper titled “The Role of Mass Media and Information Technology in Islamic Education” by Dr. Aziz-ur-Rehman Saifee, Head of Sciences and Humanities Department, Dr. Zubair Ahmed Shaikh, (former Professor Department of Computer Science) and Ms. Sameera Sultan, Lecturer of Sciences and Humanities Department, FAST-NU Karachi Campus has been published in the European Journal of Social Sciences, ISSN 1450-2267 Vol.32 No.3 (2012), pp. 380-390.

Lahore Campus students get scholarships from PEEF

77 students of FAST-NU Lahore Campus were awarded scholarships of Rs.5,215,000 from Punjab Educational Endowment Fund (PEEF) during last three years.

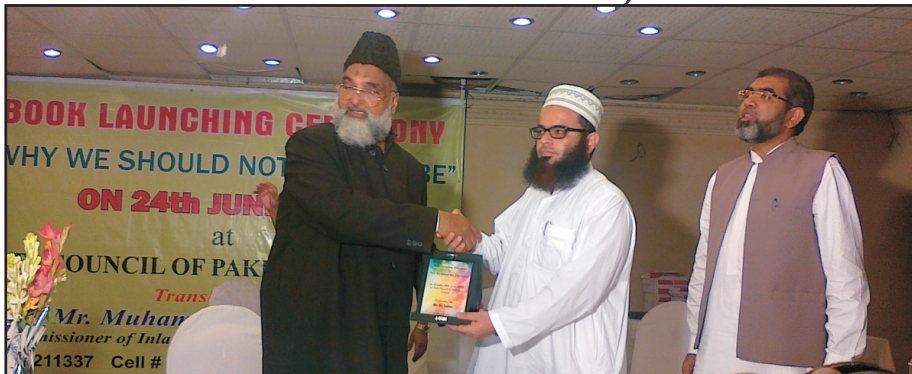
The amount disbursed during the year 2009-10 to 2011-12 was Rs.1,333,000, Rs.1,995,000 and Rs.1,890,000 respectively.

50 students were paid Rs.66,500 each while 27 got Rs.70,000 each.



File Photo of FAST-NU Karachi Campus

Dr. Saiffee represented FAST-NU at Arts Council, Karachi



Dr. Aziz ur Rehman Saiffee is being presented book at Karachi Arts Council

Dr Aziz-ur-Rehman Saiffee, the HOD of Sciences and Humanities, FAST-NU Karachi Campus was invited by Commissioner Income Tax, Muhammad Saleem Butt as a reviewer and critic of his forthcoming book 'Why we should not take bribe' in Arts Council of Karachi on June 24, 2012. Dr. Saiffee delivered a thoughtful speech calling corruption as one of the

biggest hurdles in our way to progress. Dr. Saiffee pointed out that corruption was badly affecting our beloved country. He strongly criticized culture of nepotism and exploitation of governmental resources for vested interests. He appreciated Mr. Butt's encouraging work and said the book would act as a milestone in fight against corruption.

Optical Wireless Research starts establishing at Lahore Campus

The Optical Wireless research group at Lahore campus has started establishing itself as 5 MS research theses have been completed at the group and the group leader Dr Sajid (Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, Lahore Campus) has been invited to participate to the new EU-COST action IC1101 "OpticWise" as Pakistan's Non-COST country representative. There are two PhD and two MS theses being investigated at the group at present.

A Special Issue on 'Photonic and Free Space Optic Networks' edited by Dr Sajid alongside Dr Hranilovic (McMaster University, Canada) and Dr Wai Pang (Northumbria University, UK) has been published by IET Communications in June 2012.

FAST-NU on the list of NAT associated universities

FAST-NU has joined hands with NTS (National Testing Service). National Aptitude Test (NAT) is for admissions in NTS associated universities and degree awarding institutes. The candidates will appear in a single test only and will stand eligible for admission to all universities in the respective subject group. The candidates will be required to apply for admission in the universities as per their respective announcements along

with a copy of the NTS result card.

The result of the NAT test will be valid for one year. The admission to Master's and Bachelor's programs are being advertised. NTS National Aptitude is obligatory for entry. Students applying through NTS should remember that only those results will be considered which will be valid till September 2012 or after it. For NAT details/schedule please visit: www.nts.org.pk

HEC decides to grant 6,000 scholarships

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) has decided to award 6,000 scholarships to talented but financially strapped students from different parts of the country during the next three years. The need-based scholarships are aimed at providing opportunities to under privileged students, possessing academic merit, but unable to finance their education, to have access to higher education. Under this new initiative, special emphasis is given to the students belonging to Balochistan, FATA, interior Sindh and Southern Punjab. So far 1,000 need-based scholarships have been awarded to the students belonging to different parts of the country.



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