IN PERSPECTIVE

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2024

ITU LEADERSHIP REVIEWS PROGRESS ON GIRLS' HOSTEL AT BARKI CAMPUS

The Vice Chancellor of Information Technology University (ITU), accompanied by the Registrar and key administrative officials, visited the under-construction Girls' Hostel at ITU's Barki Campus earlier in November to assess the progress of the project.

During the visit, the leadership team inspected the construction work to ensure compliance with the highest standards of safety, comfort, and functionality. The Vice Chancellor reaffirmed ITU's commitment to providing quality residential facilities that enhance the student experience, enabling them to focus on their academic and personal growth.

The team also reviewed project timelines and discussed strategies to expedite completion, ensuring the hostel will be ready for occupancy in the near future.

This initiative reflects ITU's dedication to fostering a supportive environment that empowers students and enriches campus life.

DR. GABRIELA SPANGHERO LOTTA DISCUSSES "LEADERSHIP AMID DEMOCRATIC CHALLENGES" AT ITU

Information Technology University (ITU) had the honor of hosting Dr. Gabriela Spanghero Lotta, an expert in public administration and government, for an insightful online lecture on leadership in the context of democratic backsliding.

Dr. Lotta shared her expertise on the challenges of governance and leadership in modern democracies, offering invaluable insights to students and faculty. Her lecture emphasized the importance of strong, transparent, and accountable leadership in addressing the complex issues facing democratic societies today.

The session provided a critical perspective on the evolving political landscape, equipping participants with a deeper understanding of the role of leadership in safeguarding democratic principles.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNANCE AND GLOBAL STUDIES

LEADERSHIP LAB
A Talk Series by Department of Governance and Global Studies

LEADERSHIP IN CONTEXTS OF DEMOCRATIC BACKSLIDING

Gabriela Spanghero Lotta
Professor and Researcher
Fundacao Getulio Vargas Brazil

4:30pm-6:00pm PKT Thursday **31** October 2024

BAHRIA UNIVERSITY DELEGATION VISITS ITU FOR STRATEGIC COLLABORATION

Information Technology University (ITU) had the honor of hosting a distinguished delegation from Bahria University Islamabad, led by Vice Admiral Asif Khaliq HI (M), Rector. The delegation included Cdre (R) Jawad Ahmed Qureshi SI (M), Director, Cdre Qazafe, DD Coordination to Rector, Mr. Shafqat Ali Niaz, and Staff Officer to Director.

The ITU leadership, headed by Vice Chancellor Dr. Adnan Noor Mian, along with the Higher Management, Dean of Sciences Dr. Arif Mahmood, Dean of Engineering Dr. Tauseef Tauqeer, and Department Chairpersons, engaged in discussions with the Bahria University representatives to explore potential collaboration opportunities for the Pakistan Maritime Science and Technology Park, a Pakistan Navy research project.

This visit marks a significant step towards strengthening academic and research partnerships between the two institutions, fostering innovation, and contributing to advancements in the maritime sector. Future engagements will further shape this collaboration, paving the way for impactful developments in science and technology.

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE EXPLORES CHRISTIANITY AND ITS ROLE IN PAKISTAN

From December 10 to 12, 2024, Lahore hosted a distinguished three-day academic conference, "Christianity and Christians in Pakistan," from December 10 to 12, 2024, bringing together scholars, historians, and experts to discuss the historical, cultural, and social significance of Christianity in Pakistan.

A collaboration between Kellogg College and the Asian Studies Centre, University of Oxford, Information Technology University (ITU), and Forman Christian College (FCC), the conference took place at FCC on Day 1 and ITU on Days 2 and 3. Discussions explored Christianity's historical roots, tracing its presence from the British colonial era to its evolving role in Pakistan's socio-political landscape. Scholars also examined the contributions of Christian communities to the country's cultural and social development over the past century. Renowned speakers, including Justice (Retd) Jawwad S. Khawaja and Joseph Cardinal Coutts, shared profound insights on Pakistan's evolving identity. Justice Khawaja reflected on Pakistan's more inclusive past, citing Chief Justice Cornelius, a Christian who served from 1960 to 1968, as a model of integrity and service. Cardinal Coutts emphasized the need for equal citizenship, questioning whether Pakistan's current social fabric allows for the same interfaith harmony as in the past.

The conference delved into critical themes such as education, caste, and Christian-Muslim relations, sparking meaningful conversations about the future of Christianity in Pakistan. This event marked a significant step toward promoting inclusive academic dialogue and expanding research on religious diversity in the country.

"AI AND SOCIETY" PANEL DISCUSSION HELD AT ITU

The Islamic Society at ITU, in collaboration with the Faculty of Science, hosted an insightful panel discussion on the societal implications of Artificial Intelligence (AI). The session featured Dr. Sohaib Khan, CEO of Hazen.ai, alongside esteemed academics, offering a comprehensive analysis of AI's impact on education, healthcare, and employment.

The discussion provided a valuable platform for students and faculty to explore the ethical, social, and economic consequences of AI. Dr. Khan and the panelists emphasized the importance of responsible AI development, highlighting both its potential benefits and challenges. The well-attended event sparked engaging conversations, contributing to ongoing research and dialogue on AI's role in society.

ITU HOSTS GUEST LECTURE ON CLIMATE GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Governance and Global Studies at ITU successfully hosted a distinguished guest lecture by Ahmad Iqbal Chaudhary as part of the Climate Governance and Sustainable Development Series.

Ahmad Iqbal Chaudhary, a Member of the Provincial Assembly and former Mayor of District Narowal, shared his expertise in urban governance, highlighting key initiatives aimed at sustainable development and climate change mitigation at the local level.

The lecture explored the pivotal role of cities in addressing climate change through effective governance practices, providing valuable insights for students, academics, and professionals. The session sparked meaningful discussions on the future of sustainable urban planning and climate resilience strategies.

ITU STUDENTS SECURE RUNNER-UP POSITION AT ECONOMIST OF THE YEAR 2024 COMPETITION

A team of talented 5th-semester students from Information Technology University (ITU) showcased their brilliance at Forman Christian College University (FCCU) in the prestigious Economist of the Year 2024 Competition. Competing against senior students from nine universities in Lahore, the ITU team delivered an extraordinary speech and secured an impressive Runner-Up position.

The team comprised Fatima Hammad, Fatima Sultan, Abdullah Atif, Gohar Abbas, and Usman Shaukat. Their success was made possible through the guidance and unwavering support of their advisor, Dr. Farrukh Mahmood, whose mentorship played a crucial role in their achievement. Upon their return, the team received a congratulatory visit to the Vice Chancellor's office, where the VC commended their achievement, applauded their hard work, and engaged in a discussion about their experiences at the competition.

This outstanding accomplishment brings immense pride to ITU and serves as an inspiration for fellow students, demonstrating the university's commitment to academic excellence and competitive success.

STUDENTS OF ITU AND LOCAL COLLABORATORS OF "NASA APP CHALLENGE" APPEARANCE ON CHANNEL 24

A group of ITU students had the opportunity to showcase their innovative projects on Channel 24's morning show, hosted by Ms. Fizza Ali, where they discussed their role as local collaborators for the NASA App Challenge 2024. The students' creativity and technical expertise were on full display as they shared their experiences of working on cutting-edge space technology projects in collaboration with NASA. The participation in the challenge is a testament to ITU's growing global presence and engagement in technological advancements.

ARFA KARIM FOUNDATION SCHOOL STUDENTS VISIT ITU FOR A TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION EXPERIENCE

Students from the Arfa Karim Foundation School recently visited Information Technology University (ITU) Lahore, gaining valuable insights into the world of technology and innovation. This visit, designed to inspire and educate young minds, provided students with a first-hand look at cutting-edge advancements in the field.

As part of the Foundation's mission to provide quality education and nurture young talent, the experience was both informative and inspiring. The students explored technological innovations, engaged with faculty and researchers, and discovered the endless possibilities that ITU offers for future innovators.

This initiative reflects ITU's commitment to empowering the next generation with knowledge and exposure to emerging technologies, fostering a passion for learning and innovation among young students.

IEEE ITU STUDENT BRANCH HOSTS INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA COLLABORATION EVENT

The IEEE ITU Student Branch successfully organized a technology-focused event at Arfa Software Technology Park, bringing together industry leaders and academics for a series of expert panel discussions and research presentations.

The event aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry, fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration on emerging technologies. Discussions centered on key trends in the tech industry, including artificial intelligence, machine learning, and software development. Experts also explored potential career pathways for students, providing valuable insights into the evolving job market.

This initiative underscored ITU's commitment to enhancing industry-academia engagement and equipping students with the skills and knowledge necessary to excel in the rapidly advancing technology landscape.

BSMT STUDENTS REPRESENT ITU AT BANKING & BUSINESS MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Students from ITU's BS Management Technology (BSMT) program recently participated in the 9th International Conference on Banking, Insurance & Business Management, hosted by Hailey College. The conference served as an exceptional platform for students to present their research alongside industry experts and academics.

ITU students showcased innovative ideas on topics such as financial technology, risk management, and business strategy, receiving valuable exposure and feedback from leaders in the field.

This participation provided students with an invaluable opportunity to engage with industry professionals, enhancing their academic and professional development in the evolving landscape of business and management.
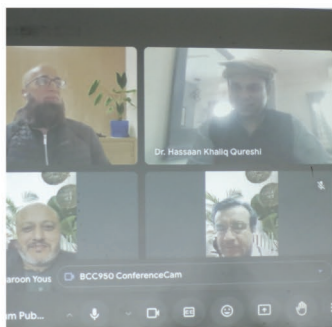
DR. ADNAN QAYYUM SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDS PHD ON SECURE MACHINE LEARNING FOR MEDICAL IMAGING

Dr. Adnan Qayyum, a distinguished scholar from ITU's Department of Computer Science, has successfully defended his PhD thesis titled "Secure and Robust Machine Learning for Medical Image Analysis." Supervised by Prof. Dr. Junaid Qadir, his research tackles key challenges in applying machine learning to medical imaging, ensuring security and robustness in the field.

Dr. Qayyum's work has been highly recognized, with findings accepted for publication in top-tier journals, including IEEE PAMI and RBME. His research also earned the prestigious Best Paper Award from the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, emphasizing its significant impact on healthcare and technology.

This achievement reflects Dr. Qayyum's academic excellence and contributes to advancing medical image analysis, with potential applications in disease diagnosis and healthcare improvements. Congratulations to Dr. Qayyum on this remarkable accomplishment!

DR.MUHAMMAD AKHTAR MUNIR SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDS PHD ON DOMAIN ADAPTATION IN OBJECT DETECTION

Dr. Munir's work has gained significant recognition, with contributions presented at top-tier conferences such as NeurIPS and CVPR. His cutting-edge research in object detection and domain adaptation has been widely acknowledged in the field.
This achievement highlights Dr. Munir's academic excellence and his valuable contributions to advancing computer vision technologies. Congratulations to Dr. Munir on this remarkable success!

Agha Mureed's Research on Cost Behavior and Financial Distress Published in Economics Letters

Agha Mureed, Teaching Fellow at the Department of Business & Management Sciences, has published his research paper titled "Asymmetric Cost Behavior and Financial Distress" in the prestigious journal Economics Letters (SSCI, ABS 3, ABDC A, W-category).

The study examines how asymmetric cost behavior (ACB)—where managers retain idle resources, leading to inflexible cost structures—contributes to financial distress. The research highlights the role of managerial optimism and overconfidence in corporate financial decisions and underscores the importance of effective cost management to mitigate risks associated with ACB.

This publication marks a significant contribution to the field of financial management and corporate decision-making. Congratulations to Agha Mureed on this outstanding achievement!

ITU PAYS TRIBUTE TO QUAID-E-AZAM ON HIS BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

On December 25th, Information Technology University (ITU) honored the birth anniversary of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founding father of Pakistan. His vision and leadership continue to shape the nation's identity, with his words on education serving as a timeless source of inspiration: "Without education, it is complete darkness, and with education, it is light."

Recognizing the transformative power of education, ITU remains committed to fostering academic excellence and innovation. The occasion served as a reminder of Jinnah's ideals and ITU's mission to equip future leaders with the knowledge and skills to drive Pakistan's progress.

"Without education it is complete darkness and with education it is light. Education is a matter of life and death to our nation."

Muhammad Ali Jinnah
December 25, 1876

ITU CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS EVE WITH FESTIVE CHEER

On Christmas Eve 2024, faculty, management, and staff at Information Technology University (ITU) came together to celebrate the joyous occasion. A cake-cutting ceremony, led by ITU's management, provided an opportunity for everyone to share in the festive spirit and create cherished memories.

As the year comes to a close, ITU extends warm wishes for harmony, success, good health, and countless joyful moments to all. May this season bring happiness and prosperity to everyone!

ITU FM 90.4 COMMEMORATES QUAID DAY AND CHRISTMAS WITH SPECIAL BROADCAST

ITU FM 90.4 marked Quaid Day and Christmas with a special segment in the show "Sham Se Pehle." Hosted by Sheeba Malik, the broadcast extended warm wishes to the Christian community for Christmas and to the nation for Quaid Day.

The segment emphasized the values of unity, religious harmony, and the protection of minority rights, echoing Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's vision as expressed in his historic address to the nation. The celebration served as a reminder of Pakistan's founding principles and the importance of fostering inclusivity and respect for all communities.