

CAMPUS STORIES

FALL 2024

**Breathing
Life into the
Written Word**

***Shadowlands:*
Documenting
Lyari's Struggles
and Resilience**

**Welcoming
New
Leadership**

**Out of Office:
LUMS Edition**



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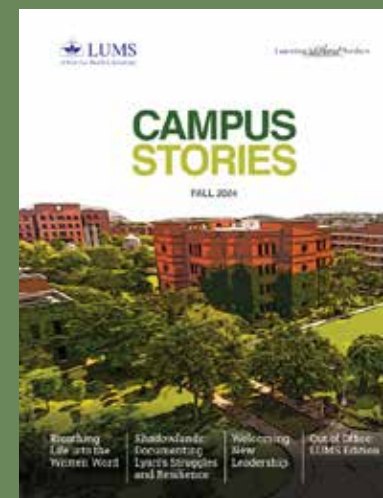
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Campus Stories Fall 2024



MESSAGE FROM TEAM ADVANCEMENT

Dear Reader,

We are happy to present another exciting edition of *Campus Stories*!

This issue highlights the LUMS community's incredible efforts in making our campus a hub of innovation and fresh ideas. From pioneering initiatives to fostering a strong community spirit, there's so much to celebrate and be proud of.

In this edition, we spotlight the three SOE MPhil students who have improved children's literacy in rural Punjab by providing structured learning resources; the global impact of *Shadowlands*, a documentary by an MGSNSS faculty member, which has raised awareness of the socio-political issues in Lyari; the AMRC 2024, an international management conference hosted by SDSB that brings together scholars from across the world to shape future economic and societal developments; at SBASSE, AI is redefining education and research, with applications ranging from classroom learning tools to innovative experiments in physics and astronomy; and SAHSOL faculty's commitment to social justice through initiatives like the prison paralegal clinic, and the upcoming legal aid clinic. Our community shares their stories too - from their favourite meals on campus to how they unwind and re-energise as a team.

We are thrilled to include contributions from guest writers in this issue and encourage more members of our community to share their stories and ideas. Your feedback and suggestions are always welcome to help us make

each edition better than the last and truly capture the essence of the LUMS spirit. Please feel free to reach out to us at communications@lums.edu.pk.

Thank you for being an integral part of our community.

Happy reading!





Harnessing AI for Advancing Research and Innovation

The Syed Babar Ali School of Science and Engineering (SBASSE) at LUMS is integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) into its curricula and spearheading groundbreaking research projects. By preparing a new generation skilled in AI, the School is also pioneering solutions to some of the most pressing global challenges.

AI in the Classroom: Shaping Future Innovators

Faculty at SBASSE are successfully integrating AI technologies to enhance teaching methodologies and foster a new generation of thinkers. As AI tools become more integrated into educational settings, they help personalise learning,

improve engagement, and enable students to achieve academic success at unprecedented levels. This transformation is equipping students with the skills and insights needed to become the innovators of tomorrow. Through real-world examples and

expert insights, faculty share the potential of AI to revolutionise education by supporting both educators and students in creating more effective, inclusive, and dynamic learning environments.



“ Artificial Intelligence is taking centre stage in learning at SBASSE. Ranging from harnessing the plethora of rapidly expanding AI resources that sharpen the pedagogical experience, to discovering new approaches in machine learning (ML) for data analytics and extracting meaningful inferences, our faculty and students are joyously utilising this technology in their teaching projects and research work. As a physicist, I would like to mention something closer to my work. In the PhysLab (which is our fancy way of referring to the Physics Lab), we are gradually introducing ML-inspired physics into our laboratory experiments, whereby models can be trained to predict and forecast the kinematics of complex objects. Our upcoming laboratory, called the Astrolab, is also employing AI in computational astronomy experiments for students. I believe our incoming students can now relish a rich tapestry of AI and ML-inspired techniques from the very beginning.

I am also excited about the prospects of the launch of the dedicated MS programme in AI that welcomed its first cohort of interdisciplinary practitioners this fall. This programme was launched, purposely, inside the School and outside the scope of departments, enabling a truly cross-cutting systems-level approach to the discipline. SBASSE's primary focus will be on shaping a programme that remains futuristic and builds upon strong mathematical fundamentals. ”

Dr. Muhammad Sabieh Anwar
Professor, Physics



“ Reducing the cognitive cycles that people have to spend to search for information can really contribute to improving human life. In that regard, I see a lot of possibilities and I am very optimistic about it. As educators, as researchers, and as practitioners, it is very important to be mindful of the limitations of ChatGPT-style systems, yet we should also be very excited about what they would enable in terms of changing industries and verticals going forward. ”

Dr. Ihsan Ayyub Qazi
Associate Professor, Computer Science



“ At SBASSE, the practice of using advanced tools based on AI is becoming a day-to-day activity with an aim to revolutionise teaching, education, and pedagogy. Our faculty uses AI for new course content development and standardisation. In an era where knowledge is dynamic, these tools aid in curating and updating course materials by analysing the latest trends and advancements in various fields. ”

Dr. Muhammad Tahir
Associate Professor, Electrical Engineering

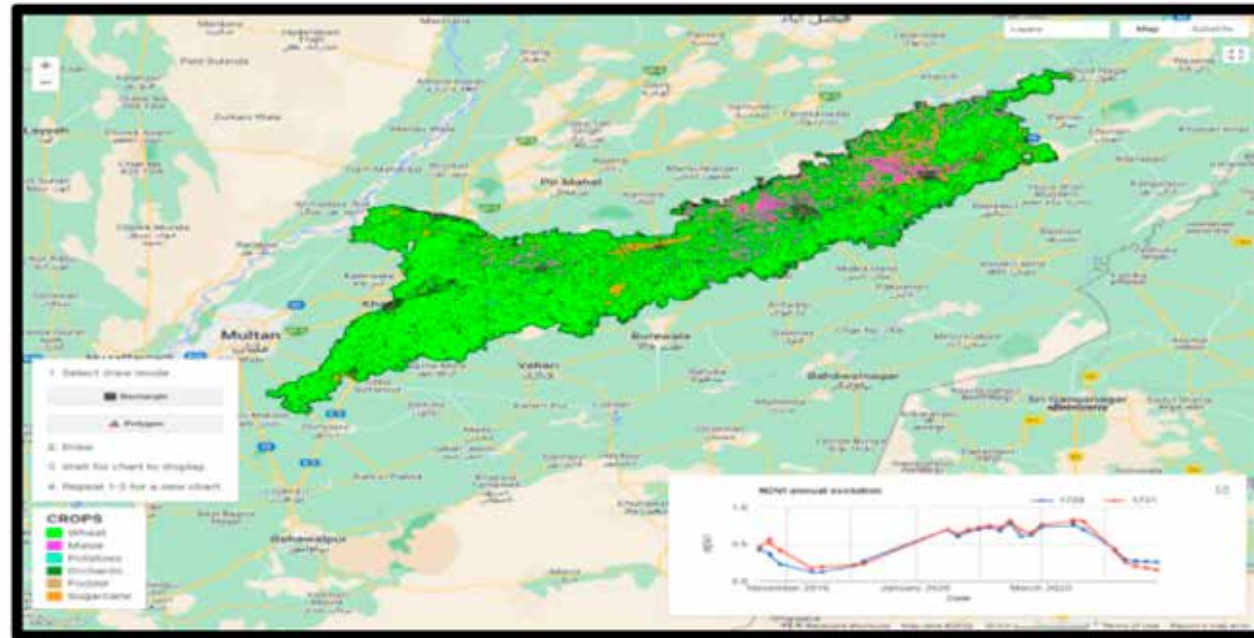


“ Integrating generative AI into educational practices could revolutionise how we democratise knowledge. However, this integration must be seamless, well-planned, and strategically implemented to maximise benefits and minimise drawbacks. The primary advantage of AI in education is its ability to offer personalised learning paths tailored to individual students needs, enabling learners to grasp complex concepts at their own pace and receive immediate feedback. Furthermore, automated grading can free up valuable time for educators, enabling them to focus on mentoring and curriculum development. Such a personalised approach not only enhances the learning experience but also supports an inclusive environment where students of diverse abilities can thrive.

However, reliance on technology poses risks, such as undermining skill development. To mitigate this, students should receive thorough foundational training before using AI tools for assessments. They need to become adept at prompting and reviewing AI outputs to ensure accuracy and quality. Despite these challenges, the transformative potential of AI in education promises a more interactive and efficient learning environment. ”

Dr. Agha Ali Raza
Assistant Professor, Computer Science

Leveraging AI for Water Management



Screenshot of a map over the Lower Bari Doab Canal from Google Earth Engine

NCRA Agriculture and Robotics Lab (NARL) has partnered with the Punjab Irrigation Department in a project funded by the Asian Development Bank and led by Dr. Murtaza Taj at SBASSE alongside Dr. Usman Nazir. Their collaborative efforts have resulted in significant advancements in water distribution systems, particularly in the Lower Bari Doab Canal (LBDC) region.

Using earth observation data from satellites, they have achieved remarkable accuracy in identifying

different crops across the LBDC area. This breakthrough has paved the way for precise water allocation based on crop type and age, thereby optimising irrigation practices and maximising crop yields.

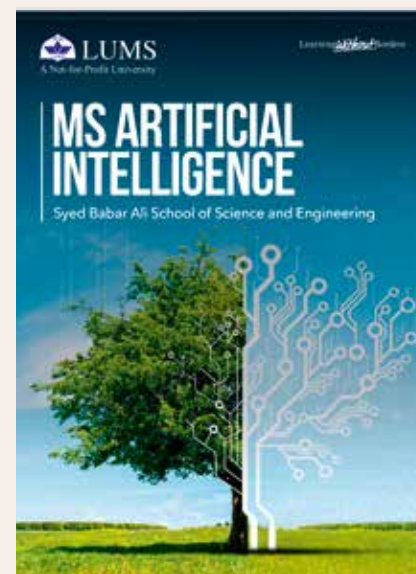
Moreover, the application of AI extends beyond routine irrigation management. Following the devastating floods in 2022, researchers at LUMS collaborated with the NASA HARVEST team to assess the impact on winter crops in flood-affected districts. By analysing

pre- and post-flood satellite data, they mapped flooded areas, classified crops, and monitored soil moisture levels to predict agricultural recovery post-flooding.

This innovative approach not only enhances agricultural resilience in the face of natural disasters, but also contributes to sustainable water management practices essential for food security in Pakistan.

DID YOU KNOW?

SBASSE now offers an MS in Artificial Intelligence. This unique interdisciplinary programme features core classes on weekends for both traditional students and working professionals. It aims to provide theoretical knowledge and practical skills in AI and Machine Learning, fostering strong problem-solving abilities and domain-specific expertise applicable across diverse fields.



Revolutionising Maternal Healthcare: The Awaaz-e-Sehat Initiative

In a nation with subpar pregnancy outcomes, Dr. Maryam Mustafa, Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Director, Saida Waheed Gender Initiative at LUMS, addresses the challenge of undocumented medical records for expectant mothers. *Awaaz-e-Sehat* is a voice-enabled, mobile phone-based AI assistant designed to empower maternal healthcare workers in Pakistan. This tool facilitates the creation and management of electronic medical records, vital for precise diagnoses considering socio-economic and lifestyle factors impacting maternal health outcomes.

Awaaz-e-Sehat captures audio responses in various local languages through an intuitive system, converting them into text to populate electronic medical records in Urdu. The tool undergoes evaluation by maternal healthcare workers at the Shalamar Hospital in Lahore, focusing on its ability to collect records from 500 patients.

Dr. Mustafa presented *Awaaz-e-Sehat* at the 78th United Nations General Assembly in September 2023. A

part of the session on 'Artificial Intelligence for Accelerating Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals', her project secured a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation from among 1,300 global proposals. Collaborating on the project are Dr. Hassan Mohy Ud Din

(Project Co-PI, LUMS), Dr. Beena Ahmed (Project Co-PI, UNSW), and Dr. Fozia Umer (Project Co-PI, Shalamar Hospital).



Enhancing Digital Literacy Through Gamification

Dr. Ihsan Ayyub Qazi, Dr. Agha Ali Raza, and Dr. Ayesha Ali have proposed an innovative solution to address misinformation and improve digital literacy among low digital literacy populations.

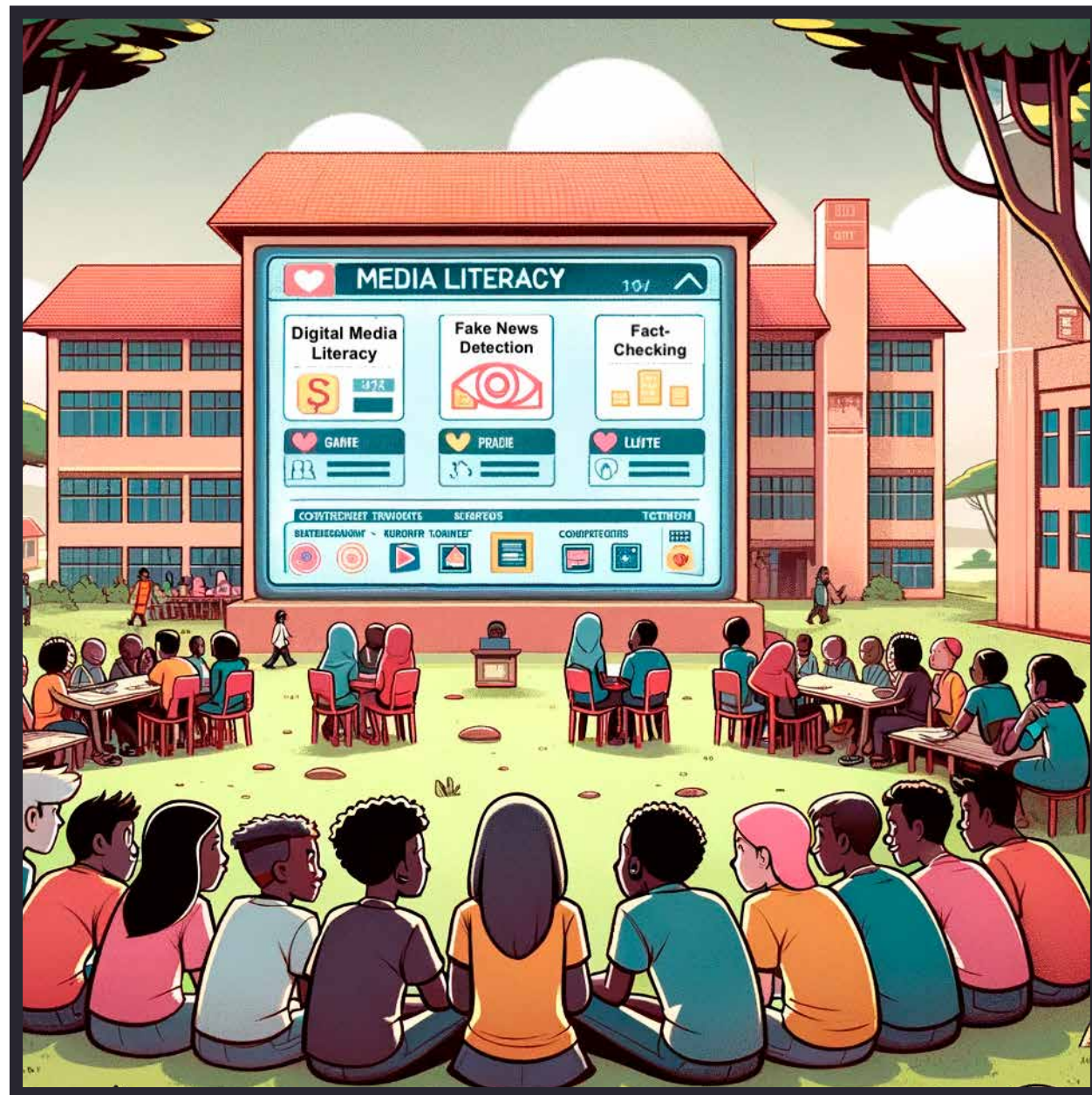
Their award-winning project, 'Gamifying Media Literacy Interventions', utilises AI technology to combat misinformation, a pressing issue with the rise of social media in developing countries. The research

aims to design and test digital media literacy interventions that enable individuals with low digital literacy skills to critically evaluate online information.

The researchers emphasise the urgency of the issue, highlighting the correlation between low digital literacy and susceptibility to misinformation. Traditional methods of combating fake news, such as machine learning models and human content moderation, face challenges in scalability and effectiveness.

To address these challenges, the team proposes a gamified approach to digital media literacy. By creating an engaging game, they aim to deliver effective interventions that are entertaining and accessible to low digital literacy users. Their innovative proposal has received the Meta Foundational Integrity Research

Award 2022-23, demonstrating its potential impact in addressing the challenges of misinformation in the digital age.



Justice for All: How SAHSOL is Committed to Equity



What if a law school could not only educate future lawyers but also drive social change? The Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law (SAHSOL) at LUMS is doing just that.

In addition to training students in the intricacies of Pakistan's legal system, the School also aspires to create a more inclusive and just legal framework.

"Our law school has always had a very strong sense of social justice," explains Ms. Angbeen Mirza (BA-LL.B

'08), Assistant Professor, SAHSOL. "Law schools are responsible for their surrounding communities. Law is a service profession."

This commitment to social justice and practical learning has led to several impactful initiatives. These include SAHSOL's elective Street Law programme, and the inception of the planning and preparation for a comprehensive legal aid clinic. Through these, SAHSOL is actively engaging with the community - particularly those segments of society

that are traditionally left out of formal legal service delivery systems. They are also ensuring that students gain hands-on experience to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world legal practice. In doing so, students also learn from the communities they seek to serve.

STREET LAW: THE LION, THE MOUSE, AND THE VERDICT

How do you get sixth graders to learn about the law? You engage them in role play and hands-on activities!

Every Friday, students taking the Street Law course at SAHSOL visit low-income middle schools in Chungi to engage with them in matters of basic knowledge about the law, their rights, and the role they play as informed citizens of the world.

For these classes, the Street Law students do the heavy lifting. They do the research, make a lesson plan, get feedback from their classmates, and conduct a demonstration as practice. There is one rule: the classes must be

activity-based. The students cannot simply go and deliver a lecture. Rather than simply *telling* these young scholars about the law, they are made to learn by doing. "What we aspire towards is that students in school should look forward to these classes. It's not the same old lecture – it's something that encourages them to get off their seat and forces them to think," explains Ms. Mirza.

This has pushed the Street Law students to get creative! For one session, they transcribed the Goldilocks fact pattern onto a story about a lion's family and a mouse. The premise was that a mouse enters

a lion's home thinking it's a hotel, and then the mouse is put on trial. The middle schoolers had to choose sides, role play, make witness statements, preside as a judge, and go through all the stages of a trial. For the course of the hour-long class, the students were extremely invested in the story (and the verdict!) and, almost unknowingly, had acquired so much knowledge.

Previous topics have also included the *Nikkah Nama*, where students had to fill out the paperwork as an activity and thereby learn about their legal rights concerning each clause in the document.



Legal Lingo You Need to Know

Bail: When someone is arrested and awaiting trial or sentencing, they can be temporarily released with a financial guarantee, or bail.

Pro Bono: Legal work undertaken voluntarily and without payment as a public service.

Remission: A reduction or decrease in the length of a prison sentence as a reward for good behaviour or participation in certain programmes.

ADVOCATING FOR THOSE BEHIND BARS

SAHSOL is also running a prison paralegal clinic. Under this programme, 10 law students instructed about 45 prisoners in

fundamental laws, particularly those relating to their time in prison, preparing them to serve as paralegals and educate their fellow inmates. An

additional incentive for prisoners is that they will be entitled to remission if they complete the programme and deliver it to their peers.

COMING SOON: THE LUMS LEGAL AID CLINIC



Several years in the making, this endeavour promises to make a meaningful difference in Pakistan's legal landscape. Set to launch next semester, SAHSOL has laid the foundation for a pro bono legal clinic, where clinic students will be offering marginalised communities free legal services for bail petitions and *khula* cases, under the supervision of a lawyer.

For students, the hands-on experience is invaluable. Working on real cases under licensed lawyers provides essential practical skills and insights for their future careers. It also instils a sense of responsibility that is true to SAHSOL's ethos. By engaging with real clients and navigating complex legal challenges, students can deepen their understanding of legal ethics,

professionalism, and the societal impact of their work.

For clients, the biggest advantage would be access to a lawyer who would provide them with quality representation. Without this, clients often incur unnecessary fees or are given poor advice. Through the legal aid clinic, clients would be assured that their interests are effectively advocated for in legal proceedings, increasing their likelihood of achieving a favourable outcome.

For now, the team is working towards establishing this centre. In the future, they hope to expand their services and have a physical presence in District Courts. For SAHSOL, the clinic is just the beginning – but an important first step in a larger framework towards social justice.



DID YOU KNOW?

Dr. Sikander Ahmed Shah, Director, Centre for Chinese Legal Studies (CCLS) and Associate Professor at SAHSOL, has been honoured with the prestigious Friendship Award 2023 by the Consul General of the People's Republic of China, H.E. Zhao Shireen.

Shadowlands: Documenting Lyari's Struggles and Resilience



Lyari, a densely populated area in Karachi, has long been a battleground involving political parties, criminal gangs, and law enforcement for decades. Dr. Nida Kirmani, the producer of *Shadowlands* and an Associate Professor at the Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School of Humanities and Social Sciences at LUMS, highlights an often-overlooked aspect: the lingering emotional trauma from decades of conflict.

The documentary *Shadowlands*, supported by the Education Justice and Memory Network (EdJAM), sheds light on the stories of Lyari's residents who lived through years of conflict. Screened in the US and the UK, it has garnered international acclaim, including winning the Audience Choice Award at the South Asian Film Festival 2023.



The Motive Behind *Shadowlands*

This heart-wrenching film focuses on two Lyari residents, Amna Baloch and Nawaz Laasi, whose lives have been upended by violence. Their stories pose a critical question: has true peace been attained in Lyari?

"A lot of time what happens is that conflicts happen and then nobody talks about what people have experienced. There is no discourse about the trauma or the pain. *Shadowlands* was our way of creating a space where people could do that," says Dr. Kirmani.

Dr. Kirmani, a feminist public intellectual and an Associate Professor of Sociology, has published widely on issues related to gender, Islam, women's movements, development, and urban studies in India and Pakistan. The focus of her PhD research was women's lives in a Muslim-majority locality of Delhi and how these women experienced

multiple forms of marginalisation based on religion, gender, and class. This, she says, drew her more into researching the issue of marginality in urban contexts. In 2013, her PhD research was published as a book titled, *Questioning The 'Muslim Woman': Identity and Insecurity in an Urban Indian Locality*.

In 2012, a French political scientist and colleague, Laurent Gayer, whom she had worked with earlier in India on Muslims and marginalisation, was writing a book on Karachi. He invited Dr. Kirmani to come along with him to Lyari. Since she had also wanted to study urban marginality in Karachi, she readily agreed. From that point, there was no looking back and Dr. Kirmani spent more than 10 years studying Lyari. *Shadowlands* is the culmination of over a decade of fieldwork in this area.

The Making of *Shadowlands*

In 2008, the Peoples' Aman Committee (PAC) was founded by Rehman Dakait, who was accused of being involved in organised crime and gang wars in the area. The PAC was thought to have been supported by various wings of the Pakistani state. The PAC ruled much of Lyari from 2008 to 2013 when the state launched a paramilitary operation in Karachi targeting the Lyari gangs, the Taliban and the MQM.

Dr. Kirmani wanted to learn how the pattern of violence had changed over the years and what this new peace meant to the people living there. The locals were very scared and insecure about speaking about what was happening. Conducting any sort of research at that time involved a lot of difficulties. In 2021, an opportunity presented itself – two of Dr. Kirmani's colleagues at LUMS, Drs. Tania Saeed and Sameen Mohsin, were working with EdJAM and encouraged her to get involved. Dr. Kirmani, who was collaborating with Dostain Baloch, a filmmaker from Lyari, excitedly took up the offer. Both had already worked together and produced two short documentaries on Lyari previously, based on Dr. Kirmani's research. Dr. Kirmani and Baloch began by conducting focus groups in different localities in Lyari. Some residents were afraid to speak up, afraid of any consequences that they may have to encounter. However, many were also eager to share their stories. They were helped by their female driver, Maha, a resident of the Baghdadi neighbourhood of Lyari. "Why don't you have one of these focus group discussions in my neighbourhood because it has gone through a lot of violence and a majority of people have been affected?" she suggested. The next day, Maha managed to



gather many of her neighbours on her roof-top and during the focus group discussion, the filmmakers met Nawaz Laasi. "Nawaz lost four sons, two to gang violence and two at the hands of the police. His story stood out and he was very compelling and charismatic," recalls Dr. Kirmani.

The other person selected to be featured was Amna Baloch, a widow of one of Rehman Dakait's right-hand men, Nazeer, who was killed along with Rehman in 2009, leaving her to fend for five children at an early age. She later turned into an activist working for human rights in Balochistan. The film depicts not just Laasi's and Baloch's tragic stories but also their resilience, especially Laasi's, whose account moves one to tears.

The Film's Impact

The film's audience in the USA has drawn parallels to the police violence in the USA, where Black men are victimised and killed by the police. The film has also been screened across the UK, Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, France, the UAE, and Hong Kong both in person and on-line. "During screenings in Lahore and Karachi, people have come up to me and expressed appreciation for how the real trauma has been brought to life, and not shoved under the carpet as done by media outlets in the past. There have been some who have

voiced that the stories could have been much longer and more in-depth," adds Dr. Kirmani.

In other parts of Karachi, the audience's reactions were quite positive. "I think people were also shocked because they didn't realise how bad the situation was. Lyari has come to be known as a no-go area so when they saw *Shadowlands*, they could draw parallels with what has happened in other parts of Karachi. Similarly in Lahore, the audience has made connections because sadly there are similar stories all over Pakistan," says Dr. Kirmani. The film has also been screened in Islamabad and at a conference hosted by the University of Peshawar where many people from Pakistan's peripheries drew parallels to conflicts in their own region.

As real-life stories have been documented, Dr. Kirmani hopes that all involved will learn from the mistakes of the past. "I think it's important to document Lyari's past and make efforts to make it a part of our history rather than forget about the people we have lost. We also hope that it inspires other projects and other academics, filmmakers, and artists to make these kinds of films about other conflict-affected areas so change can be made possible for the future generation."

Reaccreditation by AACSB International



AACSB representatives with LUMS leadership



The AACSB International Board of Directors has recently renewed the accreditation for the degree programmes offered by the Suleman Dawood School of Business (SDSB) at LUMS.

In 2019, SDSB became the first business school in Pakistan to achieve AACSB International accreditation. The recent extension of this accreditation highlights the high quality of education provided by SDSB, placing it among the top 6% of business schools globally.

Renowned for its commitment to the highest standards of excellence since 1916, AACSB offers quality assurance, business education intelligence, and learning and development services to over 1,900 member organisations and more than 1,000 accredited business schools worldwide. AACSB promotes engagement, drives innovation, and enhances impact in business education.

Achieving AACSB accreditation is a mission-driven, rigorous process

that includes an in-depth assessment of internal activities, mentorship with an AACSB advisor, and a peer-reviewed evaluation focused on continuous improvement. During this multi-year path, schools focus on developing and implementing a plan to achieve their mission and align with AACSB's accreditation standards. These principles-based standards require excellence in areas relating to strategic management and innovation, research, and teaching and learning.

Dr. Ali Cheema, Vice Chancellor LUMS, remarked on this achievement, "The AACSB reaccreditation highlights the exceptional quality and impact of our business programmes at SDSB. It is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our faculty, staff, and students, who consistently uphold the highest standards. This achievement not only reaffirms our status among the top business schools globally but also reflects our dedication to nurturing future leaders who will drive positive change worldwide."

"We are delighted to have achieved the reaccreditation, which speaks to the quality and impact of our business programmes. It is a reflection of our commitment to excellence and continuous improvement in all areas of our activity," said Dr. Fazal Jawad Seyyed, Dean SDSB.

Director of Accreditation, Dr. Kumail Rizvi added, "The AACSB reaccreditation highlights the unwavering dedication and hard work of countless individuals at SDSB. Our journey to reaccreditation has been marked by a relentless pursuit of quality and continuous improvement."

This milestone reaffirms SDSB's commitment to providing top-tier business education and contributing to the global business community.

SDSB Hosts Asian Management Research and Case Conference 2024



From left to right: Shafqat Bhatti, Shoaib Masood, Dr. Fazal Jawad Seyyed, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, and Ayesha Khan

Featuring 83 full papers and case submissions, the conference garnered active participation from national and international scholars, researchers, and practitioners.



Dr. Ali Cheema and Dr. Ishrat Husain

This year's Asian Management Research and Case Conference (AMRC), hosted by Suleman Dawood School of Business (SDSB) at LUMS from January 12-13, 2024, centred around the theme 'The Digital Age: Transformation and its Societal Impacts'.

The AMRC is a pivotal element in the research landscape of SDSB. This year's annual conference, with

a sub-theme of '10 Years of CPEC: A Critical Review and Way Forward', was conducted in partnership with the esteemed UAE University and the University of Dhaka.

Featuring 83 full papers and case submissions, the conference garnered active participation from scholars, researchers, and practitioners. Following a meticulous blind review process,

67 submissions were accepted, showcasing the growing interest in management research.

Dr. Fazal Jawad Seyyed, Dean of SDSB, welcomed the participants, setting the tone for an engaging and intellectually stimulating conference. A video message from Dr. Mohamed Madi, Dean of the College of Business and Economics at UAE University, emphasised the importance of collaboration in advancing knowledge.

Keynote speakers, including Dr. Ishrat Husain and Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, provided valuable insights on Pakistan's progress and reflections on a decade of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), respectively. Dr. Husain, Professor Emeritus at IBA Karachi, shared valuable perspectives on 'Preparing Pakistan for the Challenges of the 21st Century', emphasising strategic readiness. He commented, "In Pakistan, the goal of reducing income inequality can be addressed by reviving accelerated economic growth through various measures. These include investing in human capital, devolving financial and administrative powers to the local governments for delivery of public services, progressive taxation and pro-poor public expenditures, greater participation of females in the labour force, special attention to less advanced regions, expansion of vocational and technical training, and robust social safety nets."

Senator Sayed, Chairman of the Senate Defence Committee, shed light on 'A Decade of CPEC: Past, Present and Future', touching on the transformative potential of CPEC. He stated, "When we look at the future, I would say the best of CPEC is yet to come, because a key element of that is the relocation of Chinese small and medium industries outside of China, whether to Pakistan, Sri Lanka,

Delegates from 38 universities attended the event, representing countries including Malaysia, China, France, Italy, UAE, Saudi Arabia, New Zealand, and Norway, emphasising its global significance.



From left to right: Dr. Faiza Ali, Dr. Hamid Kazeroony, and Dr. Syed Zahoor Hassan

Bangladesh, Malaysia, Indonesia, or the Philippines. We must provide a conducive environment for that."

On the second day, Dr. Hamid Kazeroony, Senior Contributing Faculty at Walden University, USA/ NWU, South Africa, discussed 'Decoloniality Praxis First Step: Shifting the Research Paradigm'. Stressing the importance of moving towards a decolonial research method, he stated, "We must infuse indigenous research and understand its imperatives and be aware of the colonial and modernist, as well as postcolonial, postmodernist, and structuralist approaches."

The panel discussions provided additional opportunities for in-depth exchanges on critical issues, fostering a deeper understanding of challenges and opportunities in the digital age and management research.

Overall, AMRC 2024 emerged as a vibrant platform for scholarly exchange and collaboration, solidifying its position as a leading conference in the field of management studies.



DID YOU KNOW?

The EMBA programme at SDSB jumped to 14th in Asia-Pacific and 111-120 globally in the QS Executive MBA Rankings 2024, up from 25th and 121-130, respectively, in 2023. This impressive rise reflects LUMS' strong impact on career outcomes, with a 90 per cent score in this category!



Storytelling Among the Sand Dunes: An Initiative by SOE Students

Twelve-year-old Safiya* picks waste in the early mornings and late evenings with her parents on the outskirts of Bahawalpur, Punjab, while attending a tent school near Qila Derawar in the mornings. During one of her daily routines, she finds a book, which she takes home to read later. The following day, she spots the same book in her tent classroom, lying in a colourful trunk placed by the Digi Kutab Khana (DKK), a living library initiative of the Children's Literature Festival and *Idara-e-Taleem-o-Agahi*. Safiya's joy is boundless as she reads a page from the book to her classmates during a storytelling session.

This moment was made possible by Hui Qui, Anam Masood, and Sara Amjad, students of the MPhil in Education Leadership and Management programme at the Syed Ahsan Ali and Syed Maratib Ali School of Education (SOE). As part of their mandatory Practicum, these students were tasked by the School's Partnership Office to enhance engagement during storytelling sessions using the DKK trunk, which contains 127 books on local culture, dictionaries, worksheets, arts and craft materials, maps, and a tablet. Despite its beautiful design and rich resources, the trunk's potential was untapped if teachers were unsure how to use it effectively.

Under the guidance of Dr. Razia Iram Sadik, Associate Professor at SOE, the students set out to monitor and evaluate the trunk's impact since its introduction nearly three years ago. They aimed to determine if this innovation was addressing learning losses and promoting lifelong learning in Pakistan through culturally relevant and community-based education.

In December 2022, the students visited Bahawalpur to conduct qualitative research. They interviewed teachers and observed students in the tent schools, which led them to the idea of recording and introducing designed storytelling sessions as part of a resource kit for teachers using the DKK trunk. These sessions were based on the MCI (Memorisation, Connect, and Improve) model.

The journey to the remote site of Qila Derawar was challenging, taking nearly two hours from Bahawalpur through sparse roads among sand dunes. The school they visited was barely more than a tent, where two young teachers managed a classroom of nearly ninety students of various ages. With the students primarily speaking Seraiki, the teachers had to adapt the sessions to the local dialect. Anam explained that they communicated slowly with the teachers to ensure understanding.

Anam and her team advised the teachers to conduct sessions in any language as long as it kept the children engaged. They introduced role-playing and arts and crafts-based activities to foster creativity and engagement. The teachers asked prepared questions at the end of

each session to gauge understanding, which helped refine the MPhil students' model.

As a result, the intervention enhanced both the teachers' ability to conduct engaging storytelling sessions and the children's reading habits. Over time, the students not only retold the stories but also answered questions about them and eagerly read aloud to their classmates.

Following this successful intervention, the DKK is now expanding across Pakistan, replicating the resource kit developed by the MPhil students. Dr. Sadik highlighted the need for structured interventions in Pakistan's educational sector, praising the students for their impactful work.

"Challenges related to Pakistan's educational landscape cannot be tackled in isolation. Several educational start-ups in Pakistan require structured interventions. The DKK project was an opportunity for our students to develop a meaningful curriculum that significantly impacts our community. I am incredibly proud of their achievements," Dr. Sadik elaborated.

*Name changed to protect privacy



Breathing Life into the Written Word



HOW DID YOUR JOURNEY WITH CALLIGRAPHY START?

In 1965, I was brought to Lahore by my brother to learn calligraphy, a skill I mastered under Sufi Khurshid Alam over three years. Despite a tempting job offer in Karachi, I chose to stay in Punjab. Two years later, Packages advertised a calligraphy position. Though I initially missed the interview, a second opportunity arose after five days, and I secured the job along with two others. Joining Packages in March 1971, I remained there for 35 years.

Post-retirement, Mian Sahab (Founding Pro Chancellor, LUMS, Syed Babar Ali) suggested I teach calligraphy, leading to seven years of teaching. Eventually, I declined an invitation from another university but accepted an offer from LUMS two years later. Teaching calligraphy on Mondays and Wednesdays became my role here.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT CALLIGRAPHY THAT YOU FIND SPECIAL? WHAT SETS IT APART FROM OTHER FIELDS?

Calligraphy is rooted in languages like Punjabi, Urdu, and Arabic, and requires genuine interest and passion. Learning the alphabet may take time, but with dedication, it becomes easier.

When I started calligraphy, it took me one year and three months on the 'ibtedai patti - Hamza se lay kar ya tak'. I went to another calligrapher saying, "My teacher is taking a lot of time, so I want you to teach me." He jokingly said to me that he beats his students if they don't perform well. I said, "It's okay, please teach me."

Beyond alphabets, calligraphy is about creativity. In my experience

at Packages, I executed designs, refining, and reimagining until they met satisfaction. Passion drives the art of calligraphy.

IS IT TRUE THAT TO LEARN CALLIGRAPHY, ONE MUST DEDICATE THEIR LIFE TO IT?

Certainly. Many LUMS kids, and others as well, express a keen interest in learning calligraphy upon hearing about it. However, once they start practising, they struggle to produce the required work. They quickly realise that there is hard work behind calligraphy, and it is not as easy as it seems. In my experience, no LUMS student has done it for more than three months— that is the maximum duration. They tend to leave it shortly after. I hope I get students who would genuinely want to learn.

WE SEE LOTS OF CALLIGRAPHERS WHO ARE LEARNING

OR WHOSE WORK ISN'T AS INTRICATE, BUT THEY HAVE A LOT OF EXHIBITIONS AND ARE QUITE POPULAR. WHEN WE MEET YOU, WE DON'T HEAR ABOUT EXHIBITIONS. IS THAT NOT IMPORTANT TO YOU?

In reality, this is something that comes from within. My father was a Hafiz-e-Quran. I am like my father in many ways. I do not want people to praise me, I do not want fame. I do not have the wish to be known as a professional calligrapher. I want people to point out my mistakes so I can keep learning.

I THINK YOU RELATE TO A FARSI PROVERB WHICH SAYS IF GREED COMES IN BETWEEN, THEN TALENT WOULD



We had the privilege of engaging in a captivating conversation with Mr. Sher Zaman, a seasoned calligrapher on campus. With a breadth of skill and knowledge spanning 55 years, Mr. Zaman has dedicated his life to perfecting his craft.

From his early inspirations to his evolution into a revered teacher, the conversation also delved into how his love for calligraphy has become an integral part of his identity.



BE AT STAKE.

Absolutely. I have never had a conversation with someone about money. They can give me whatever they want. Even if it is less, I would keep it without any question, but I have never asked for any remuneration.

AT 75, YOU WALK SIX KILOMETRES DAILY. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO LEARN FROM PEOPLE LIKE YOU WHO HAVE LIVED A VERY HEALTHY AND ACTIVE LIFE. WHAT IS YOUR SECRET?

I believe the key is expressing gratitude for the blessings we have in life. When a person genuinely appreciates their blessings, those blessings becoming an integral part of their life. Thank Allah for the health and strength that He has given you and thank Allah for giving



you the ability to be thankful. I start my day at 5:30 am and pray at the mosque. I always make sure I go to the mosque farther away from my house, not the one next to it. After prayer, I occasionally take a walk before heading home. This routine has contributed greatly to my overall well-being.

YOU SPENT 35 YEARS AT PACKAGES AND WORKED WITH BABAR SAHAB TOO, WHOM YOU REFER TO AS MIAN SAHAB. WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ABOUT YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM?

Calligraphy forms the foundation of my bond with Mian Sahab. Our connection spans 53 years, during which he has developed a deep understanding and respect for my work. He often requests personalised calligraphy pieces, especially when visiting someone's home. Notably, I created a piece for China's president during his visit to Pakistan, and he expressed immense joy, even planning to display it in his home in China. This artistic journey with Mian Sahab has extended to various places like Naqsh, ITU and LUMS, guided by his direction.

Interview courtesy: Gurmani Centre for Languages and Literature



LUMS to House the Extraordinary 'Lutfullah Khan Sound Archive'!

LUMS is proud to announce the acquisition of the extraordinary 'Lutfullah Khan Sound Archive', a comprehensive collection that embodies the literary, cultural, musical, and intellectual heritage of Pakistan and beyond. Unmatched in scale and richness, this archive will significantly enhance interdisciplinary scholarship, student learning, and community outreach across numerous disciplines, including history, sociology, religion, cultural studies, musicology, film studies, and more.



The Lutfullah Khan Sound Archive, curated by the renowned Mr. Lutfullah Khan (1916–2012), a Pride of Performance awardee, is a treasure trove of cultural heritage. It features rare recordings from over 800 prominent figures, including artists like Bade Ghulam Ali Khan and Suraiya Multanikar, and spans classical, semi-classical, instrumental, and folk music. This extensive collection encompasses tens of thousands of hours of audio from Pakistan and the broader region, meticulously catalogued in nearly 40 volumes.

Ms. Zahida Lutfullah Khan chose LUMS for its commitment to preservation, expressing confidence in the University's handling of her husband's lifelong work. Dr. Ali Cheema, Vice Chancellor of LUMS, emphasised the collection's role in

enriching Pakistan's cultural narrative and its potential to inspire future generations.

The collection will be housed at the Gad and Birgit Rausing Library. LUMS plans to catalogue, digitise, and enhance public accessibility of these materials, exploring opportunities for collaborative research, public exhibitions, and educational programmes.

LUMS appreciates the Gurmani family's generous support in acquiring this archive. Special thanks go to Professor Kamran Asdar Ali, former Provost, LUMS and former Dean, MGSJSS, for his pivotal role in this initiative and to the MGSJSS faculty, particularly Dean Dr. Ali Khan and Associate Professors Dr. Ali Usman and Dr. Ali Raza, for leading this project.

Welcoming New Leadership

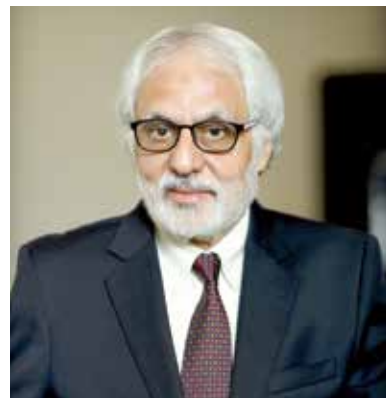
LUMS is proud to welcome on board the following inspiring individuals; each of whom bring forth impeccable personal and professional standards to their roles.



Dr. Ali Cheema

A leading Economics faculty member at LUMS for over two decades, Dr. Cheema now serves as the Vice Chancellor of the University. He joined LUMS in 1999 and was the Chair of the Economics Department from 2004 to 2010. He also served as the Director of the Mahbub Ul Haq Research Centre at LUMS.

Dr. Cheema's contributions extend beyond academia; he has actively engaged with policy-making bodies, serving on government task forces and commissions, including the National and Punjab's Provincial Finance Commissions. His role as an Invited Researcher at MIT exemplifies his commitment to addressing pressing societal challenges through evidence-based approaches. With a strong foundation in economics, governance, and political economy, Dr. Cheema's appointment marks an exciting new chapter for the University as it continues to strive for innovation and excellence in education and research.



Dr. Fazal Jawad Seyyed

As the Dean of the Suleman Dawood School of Business (SDSB) at LUMS, Dr. Seyyed brings a distinguished academic and professional background. A faculty member since 2012, Dr. Seyyed spearheaded the AACSB accreditation, making SDSB the first business school in Pakistan to achieve this recognition. His research focuses on emerging financial markets and has been published in several international journals.

Dr. Seyyed holds a PhD from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, USA, and is a member and charter holder of the CFA Institute, USA.



Dr. Walther Schwarzacher

Dr. Schwarzacher, the newly appointed Dean of the Syed Babar Ali School of Science and Engineering (SBASSE) at LUMS, brings a distinguished academic background from the UK. As a Professor of Physics at the University of Bristol since 2005, Dr. Schwarzacher's research expertise spans electrochemistry, nanoscale physics, materials physics, and ice nucleation.

His leadership extends beyond academia, evidenced by his tenure as Chair of the Electrodeposition Division of the Electrochemical Society and his pioneering of an international mentoring programme at Bristol, which earned him the University Education Award.



Dr. Tayyaba Tamim

Dr. Tamim has assumed the role of Dean at the Syed Ahsan Ali and Syed Maratib Ali School of Education (SOE) at LUMS. Holding a PhD from the University of Cambridge, she brings a wealth of expertise in promoting social justice and inclusivity in education.

Since joining SOE as an Associate Professor in 2018, Dr. Tamim has played a pivotal role in shaping the School's identity and fostering its growth. As Director of Academics, her leadership has been instrumental. With a track record of leading research projects funded by prestigious organisations like USAID and The World Bank, her impact extends far beyond academia. She has also facilitated training programmes for faculty across universities, emphasising SOE's community impact.



Dr. Shakeel Jajja

Dr. Jajja is an Associate Professor of Operations and Supply Chain Management and Associate Dean (Graduate Programmes) at SDSB. Since January 2014, he has directed the Executive MBA and founded the MS in Supply Chain and Retail Management at SDSB. Dr. Jajja has also provided leadership at the REDC as Faculty Director. He completed his PhD in Operations Management from LUMS and held a Fulbright Postdoctoral Fellowship at Stanford University in 2023. His research focuses on technology, sustainability, and innovation in supply chains, published in top-tier journals and presented at leading international conferences.



Mr. Samir Ahmed

Mr. Ahmed, the new Director of the Rausing Executive Development Centre (REDC), brings over 35 years of distinguished experience in financial services across Pakistan, the Middle East, and Asia-Pacific. His leadership includes CEO roles at the Pakistan Mercantile Exchange and IGI Investment Bank, along with significant board memberships in national financial institutions. Since 2014, Mr. Ahmed has enriched LUMS as a teacher of financial markets and corporate governance, and his role as Executive in Residence at SDSB emphasises his dedication to shaping future financial leaders.



Dr. Farah Nadeem

Dr. Nadeem, Director of the Office of Accessibility and Inclusion (OAI) and Assistant Professor at SOE, leads efforts to create inclusive campus environments. With a PhD in Electrical Engineering from the University of Washington, she merges data analytics with education, enhancing learning outcomes. A Fulbright Scholar and a Husky 100 awardee, she is committed to driving accessibility and innovation in education. Dr. Nadeem's work extends globally, collaborating with The World Bank to inform higher education policies. Her mission is simply to empower learners and educators equitably using evidence and technology.



Celebrating Our Exceptional Faculty

The finest educators also serve as exemplary leaders, motivating, mentoring, and igniting a passion for continuous learning among their students. This year, the Vice Chancellor’s Awards for Teaching Excellence honoured five outstanding teachers at LUMS. This initiative, crafted by the LUMS Learning Institute in partnership with the Office of the Vice Chancellor, acknowledges the diligent effort, innovation, and commitment of these faculty members.

Winning Cohort 2023-2024



Dr. Abubakr Muhammad
Electrical Engineering
Syed Babar Ali School of Science and Engineering

“ The announcement of my VC Teaching Excellence Award came a few days after the death of my father, who touched the lives of hundreds of students. May he rest in peace. My thoughts and eternal gratitude go to all of my teachers who have inspired me, and all of my students who have become better than myself. My teaching philosophy comes from my first teacher—my mother, who taught me the art of learning via play; showed me how to discover interconnections; and induced new awakenings with every lesson. For both my teachers and students, I feel lucky and thankful! ”



Dr. Agha Ali Raza
Computer Science
Syed Babar Ali School of Science and Engineering

“ This recognition reflects the ideals I strive to achieve in my teaching – to connect with students’ aspirations and kindle their curiosity. By aligning with students’ goals and igniting their passion for the beauty of knowledge, I aim to create a learning environment that inspires and empowers students to reach their true potential. This award is a tribute to the power of empathetic teaching, which I believe is the cornerstone of a truly transformative educational experience. It reinforces my commitment to fostering an inclusive and stimulating classroom where every student feels valued and motivated to explore their intellectual boundaries. I am profoundly grateful to my students, teaching assistants, families, and the LUMS family for their unwavering trust and support. ”



Dr. Hassan Jaleel
Electrical Engineering
Syed Babar Ali School of Science and Engineering

“ Winning this award is a great honour and a true pleasure. For me, success is like a puzzle that can only be solved through hard work, consistency, and, most importantly, learning from one’s failures. This achievement motivates me to uphold and even exceed the standards I have set for myself. ”



Hiba Akbar
Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law

“ I am delighted to receive this award. In my six years of teaching law at LUMS, I have brought real-world impact to discussions and activities in classrooms, innovated new methods and activities with support from the LUMS Learning Institute, and developed new courses that take a fresh look at uniquely South Asian problems. During this time, I have let go of old ideas around teaching and learned to see the classroom as a dynamic teaching environment, which has made me a more humble educator. It is an honour to have these efforts recognised by the university. ”



Marva Khan Cheema
Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law

“ I am deeply honoured to receive this award. I am lucky to be part of such an inspiring and enriching environment. But more importantly, I am thankful for the unwavering support I have had along the way, not just from my family and friends, but also from my students and colleagues over the years. My accomplishments are certainly a reflection of a team effort, and it is my support system that made this award possible. This recognition motivates me to continue striving for excellence in legal education and to make a lasting impact on my students’ lives. ”

DID YOU KNOW ?

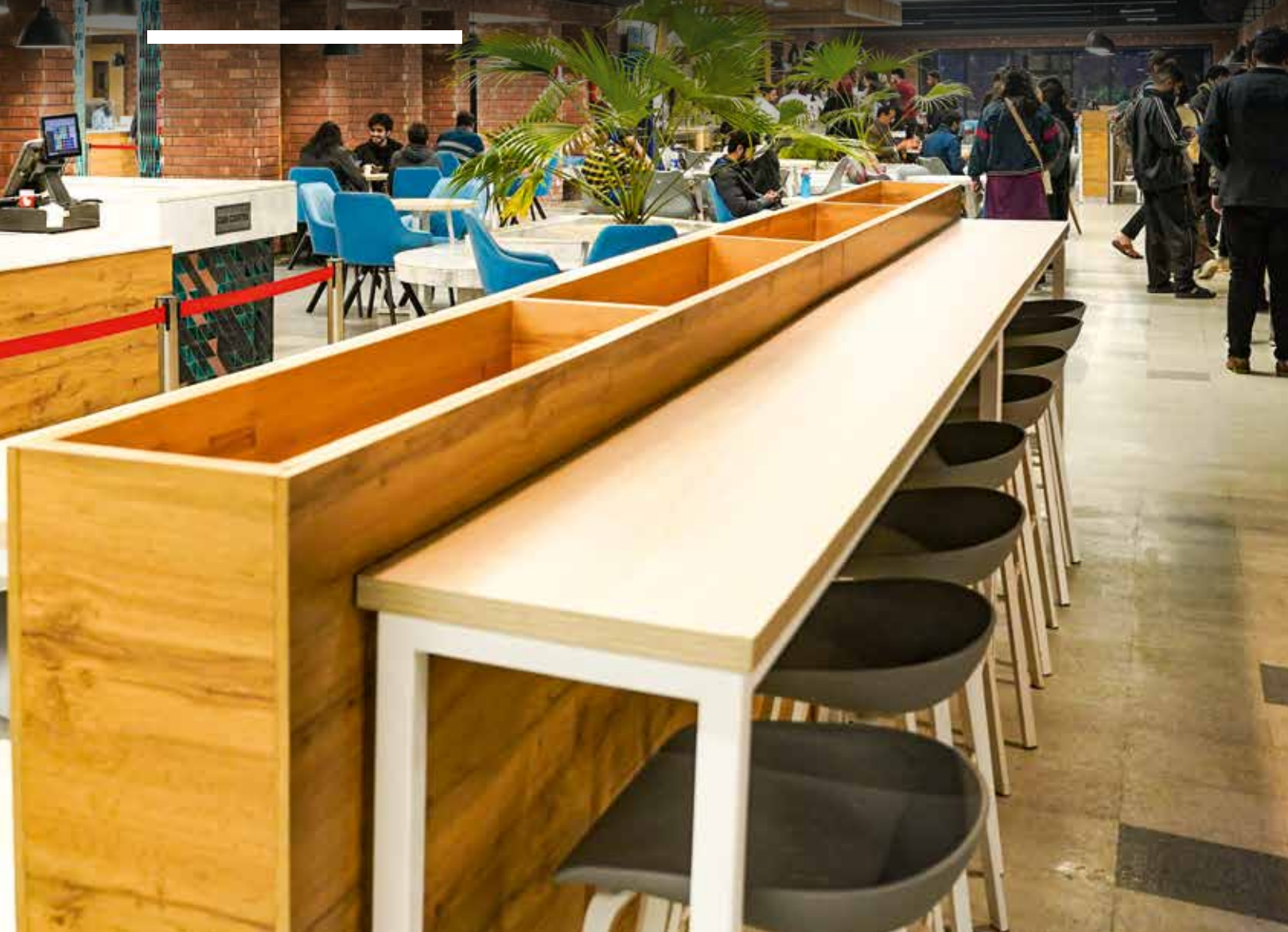
LUMS is the first South Asian institution to host the IEEE Workshop on Control and Modelling for Power Electronics (COMPEL) 2024, bringing together global experts in power electronics!



The Revamped PDC

Since its inauguration in 1995, the Pepsi Dining Centre (PDC) has been a cornerstone of the LUMS experience. With each passing year, it has expanded and evolved to meet the ever-growing needs of our vibrant community.

Thanks to the unwavering support of PepsiCo, PDC has undergone transformative renovations, ensuring that every member of the LUMS family has a seat at the table! From diverse menus to expanded seating, PDC now promises a wide range of facilities!



DID YOU KNOW ?

The PDC, originally inaugurated in 1995, underwent significant expansions in 1999. During this expansion, two additional floors were added to accommodate a student centre and a food court. An exclusive executive dining area and office spaces were also established on the top floor. Covering an area of 51,000 sq ft, the PDC has been extensively upgraded with support from PepsiCo to better cater to the university's growing community.



Exploring PDC's Best Bites

What's your favourite?

Eager to uncover the top menu picks from the revamped PDC, we ventured across campus to canvass the opinions of staff, faculty, and students and learn more about the stories behind their favourites.

From classic comfort foods to culinary delights, each meal is a testament to the rich tapestry of tastes that define the most frequented eating place on campus!



Dr. Ali Khan

Dean, MGS HSS

Favourite PDC food: Virgin Eggplant and Khatay Baingun

"The khatay baingun is quite unusual – I haven't had it anywhere else in Lahore, but it has just the right amount of tartness to make it a signature dish."

Faisal Kheiri

Director, IST

Favourite PDC food: Anda Shami

"When Col Sb introduced the Anda Shami at LUMS, I was blown away by how good it was. It was just as authentic as – or perhaps more authentic than – Lasani Burger or Burger Corner, both Anda Shami heavyweights. The PDC had managed not just to replicate it, but to improve upon the enigmatic combination of desi and western ingredients that make up this bouquet of flavours – all in a hygienic and wallet-friendly environment. Now, any time I spot an Anda Shami – or Pappu as I remember it – I make sure to grab one and get an extra one packed for my brother at home."



Samir Ahmed

Director, REDC

Favourite PDC food: Salad with Chickpeas, Red Beans, and Yoghurt

"I visit PDC for lunch most days, and lunch has always been my lightest meal of the day. Lately, I am hooked on the salad bar. I typically get a serving each of chickpeas and red beans, along with yoghurt. It's very fresh and wholesome."



Khalid Mahmood Siddiqui

Manager Budget & Administration, SAHSOL

Favourite PDC food: Sindhi Biryani

"In this fast-moving world, it reminds me of the gatherings at my grandmother's and Khala's house where generations united over a steaming pot and family dinners turned into moments of laughter, togetherness and love. Those were the simple and best days."

Anum Hussain

Marketing and Programmes

Associate, CBS

Favourite PDC food: Beef Haleem



Ghazi Taimoor Mirza

Adjunct Faculty, SOE

Favourite PDC food: Daal Chawal, full plate!



Zainab Nasir

PhD Life Sciences candidate, SBASSE
Favourite PDC food: Beef Haleem



Hajra Mazari

Head of Talent Management, HR
Favourite PDC food: Salad and Chapli Kabab



Sajda Jabeen

Specialist, RO
Favourite PDC food: Chapli Kabab



Yassal Arif

Research Assistant, SOE
Favourite PDC food: Grilled Chicken



Fatima Kamran

Programme Coordination Specialist,
Department of Economics
Favourite PDC food: Saag



Mohammad Shaheer Cheema

BSc Politics and Economics '25, MGSHTS
Favourite PDC food: Biryani

Amani Jannat

BSc Economics '25, MGHSS
Favourite PDC food: Rice and Aloo Palak

Muhammad Ahmad Khanzada

BSc Accounting and Finance '25, SDSB
Favourite PDC food: Chow Mein

Hamna Hatif

Learning & Engagement Specialist, HR
Favourite PDC food: Halwa Puri



“As both a staff member and an alum of LUMS, Halwa Puri holds a special place in my heart due to the nostalgic memories it brings back. During my time as a student, Fridays often meant early morning classes at 8 am. To fuel ourselves for the day ahead, my friends and I would indulge in a hearty serving of Halwa Puri before heading to class. Even now, as a member of the staff at LUMS, having Halwa Puri at PDC evokes those cherished memories of camaraderie and shared experiences. It’s a reminder of the journey I’ve had at this institution and the connections forged over breakfast tables.”

Celebrating Our Alumni: Highlights from the University's 2023 Homecoming



Congratulations to the winners of the Vice Chancellor's Alumni Achievement Awards! Pictured here are Mr. Muhammad Usman Hanif Alvi, Ms. Annum Sadiq, Mr. Muhammad Bilal Lakhani, and Mr. Yahya Iqbal Ismail, joined by Ms. Nuzhat Kamran, Mr. Shahid Hussain, Mr. Abdul Razak Dawood, and Dr. Tariq Jadoon.

On December 23, 2023, LUMS hosted its annual Homecoming, reuniting alumni for an evening of celebration. Ms. Nuzhat Kamran, Director of Advancement and MBA '88 alum, welcomed alumni and their families, highlighting the University's achievements and alumni contributions. Rector Mr. Shahid Hussain stressed the importance of alumni support and lasting University values, while Provost Dr. Tariq Jadoon announced the Vice Chancellor's Alumni Achievement Awards, recognising global alumni accomplishments. MBA '97 alum Mr. Yahya Iqbal Ismail accepted the award on behalf of the alumni. Pro Chancellor Mr. Abdul Razak Dawood emphasised the alumni network's significance and encouraged continued collaboration for a brighter future.

Alumni also participated in a fun game of trivia about LUMS, enjoying the challenge and competing for prizes.



Rector Mr. Shahid Hussain converses with alumni about their achievements after LUMS



Alumni come together for an evening of nostalgia and cherished memories

The evening featured an enlightening dialogue between Mr. Adeel Hashmi, renowned artist, and Dr. Arfa Sayeda Zehra, historian and educationist. They explored the essence of education and the importance of nurturing future generations to be compassionate individuals. Additionally, they discussed the advantages of the alumni network and highlighted LUMS' efforts to contribute positively to both the university community and society at large. Here are a few highlights from the conversation:

“ If a place of education changes our life for the better, it deserves to be part of the celebration of that better life. That's why I'm happy to see LUMS alumni here today, sharing their successes with their alma mater. ”

“ You don't leave an educational institute having just learned a few courses. Instead, you leave with an imagination that stays with you for life. ”

“ Education is meaningless unless it is supported by good upbringing. Education is just a word; upbringing is the meaning of education and its interpretation. ”



Captivating dialogue: Mr. Adeel Hashmi and Dr. Arfa Sayeda engage in an insightful discussion



CONVOCAATION 2024: CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES

On June 29, LUMS celebrated the convocation of 1,407 graduates from its five schools during the University's 36th annual ceremony. The event featured two separate ceremonies, one for graduate students and another for undergraduates, attended by family, friends, and faculty.

Prominent University leaders, including Pro Chancellor Mr. Abdul Razak Dawood, Rector Mr. Shahid Hussain, and Vice Chancellor Dr. Ali Cheema, were present, along with trustees, deans, and faculty members.



Dr. Cheema addressed the graduates, urging them to focus on creating societal value and emphasizing the responsibilities that come with their education. Valedictorians Dua Zahra and Syed Muhammad Sarim Gillani reflected on their enriching experiences at LUMS, acknowledging the high-calibre education and community

they were part of. The keynote speakers, Prof. Ayesha Jalal and Mr. Musadaq Zulqarnain, imparted words of wisdom about resilience and following one's passion. The ceremony concluded with graduates looking forward to embracing the opportunities and challenges that await them.



Where Ideas Come to Life – The Makers Lab

By Sameen Mohsin
Assistant Manager,
Marketing & Communications, LCE

As a start-up founder, witnessing your idea take physical form can be a pivotal moment, bringing you closer to your ultimate goal.

This is why the vision of the LUMS Centre for Entrepreneurship (LCE) remains incomplete without The Makers Lab. A suite of 5 state-of-the-art labs established to ensure that every passionate entrepreneur or researcher gains access to facilities that will help them visualise, test, and create innovative products and real-world applications.

The Makers Lab, developed by LUMS and Fatima Ventures and managed by the LCE, not only facilitates start-ups in rapidly prototyping their products but also fosters a Makers culture in Pakistan. To date, The Makers Lab team has enabled 2,500+ jobs for clients from various industries.



The CNC Lab as part of the wider Makers Lab

The Facilities

The Makers Lab is one of the largest spaces in Pakistan, and through various partnerships, and with the help of generous donors, now houses all necessary equipment and facilities under one roof. It offers services at market-competitive rates and has expert technicians on board to assist with product development. The labs include:



Mr. Karamat operating the Band Saw at the Makers Lab

CNC Lab

Equipped with a 4+1 axis CNC machine and other machines for cutting, shaping, and manufacturing parts and prototypes



A Physfactory made for the Department of Physics in the Wood Lab

3D Printing Lab

Houses multiple printers for creating 3D prints in various sizes, resolutions, and materials, along with a 3D scanner for capturing object representations

Wood Lab

Includes industry-grade power tools and carpentry assistance for crafting required items



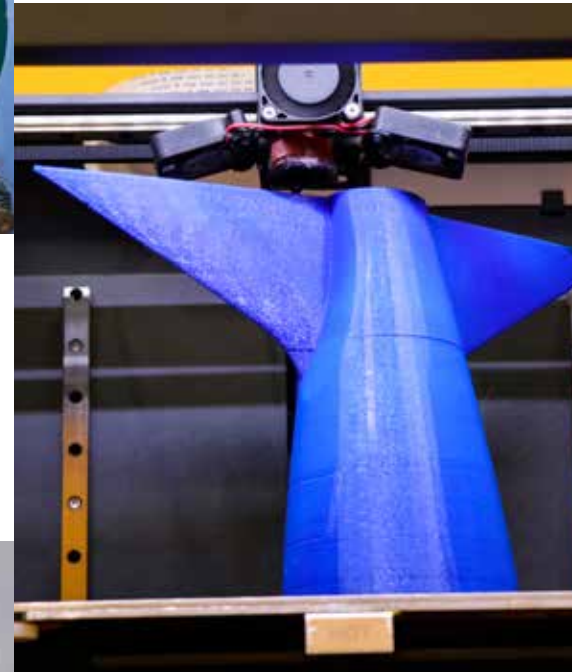
Metal grinding in the Metal Lab

Metal Lab

Provides an aluminum welding setup, power tools, bend presses, cutters, and slip rollers for shaping metal

PCB Lab

Enables the design and creation of circuits in multiple layers and sizes, with milling and wet etching facilities for device manufacturing



A part of an aircraft made in the 3D lab and assembled by a team of students from NUST

In-house Expertise

Meet the professionals responsible for overseeing The Makers Lab operations:



M. Zaka Ud Din

Mr. Din has 5 years of experience in the field of mechanical engineering, especially in plastic injection molds and dyes, CAD and CAM, new product development, and reverse engineering. At The Makers Lab, he is responsible for the CNC, Metal, and 3D Printing Lab Operations.



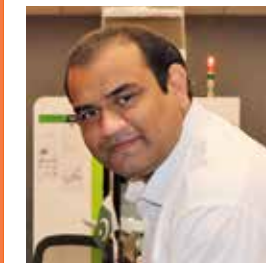
H. M. Shahid

Mr. Shahid has 14 years of experience in the fields of mechanical, electrical, and electronics engineering. He oversees PCB Lab operations, metal fabrication, 3D printing services, CNC machining centre operations, and CNC manual programming at the lab.



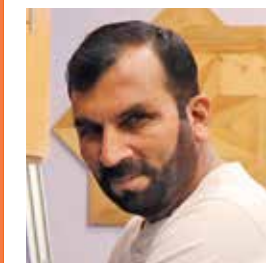
Abdul Ghafoor

Mr. Ghafoor brings over 20 years of experience in management roles spanning project and product management, design, development, and implementation of technological solutions across electronics, electrical, mechanical, and IT fields. He is currently the Manager of Technology and Product Development at The Makers Lab.



Arsalan Mirza

Mr. Mirza has over 15 years of experience in the field of mechanical engineering, with a specialisation in plastic injection molds and dyes, CAD and CAM, product development, and reverse engineering. He is responsible for managing the operations of The Makers Lab.



Karamat Ali Mughal

Mr. Mughal has over 12 years of experience working in the woodwork industry, specifically in furniture manufacturing. He is currently in charge of the Wood Lab at The Makers Lab.

DID YOU KNOW?

LCE's partnership with the EU-funded TAKE-UP [Transforming Academic Knowledge to Develop Entrepreneurial Universities in Pakistan] project, has also made it part of the FabLabs network. As part of this collaboration, the University of Saarland, Germany, has provided The Makers Lab with additional machines, including a wood router, CO2 laser, and an MSLA 3D printer.

A Rapid Prototyping Solution for Start-ups

The primary vision behind the inception of The Makers Lab was simple: to provide product start-ups with a convenient, accessible, and technically equipped facility to test out their ideas through rapid prototyping.

For Maydda Nabeel, Founder of Alif aur Art, The Makers Lab not only assisted in bringing her novel idea to life but also offered a sense of safety as a young start-up. She explains, "For start-ups that want to create a meaningful product not yet available in the market, they need a

place that will facilitate prototyping and also protect their intellectual property. Taking an original idea to an outside source for prototyping may risk design or idea theft by those with more resources and access to vendors. The Makers Lab serves as an incubation centre that not only safeguards your intellectual property but also fosters intellectual creativity. This peace of mind allows us the freedom to test and be creative with our ideas."

As the facility of choice for LCE start-ups, the Lab has always emphasised procuring state-of-the-art equipment to ensure no compromises on the quality of the products developed by start-ups.

Faaz Arbab, Founder of AYECo, found the care taken towards prototypes at The Makers Lab worth choosing over the market. He stated, "When manufacturing our products,

we realised the challenge of maintaining international standards within Pakistan. We wanted our product to be export-worthy worldwide, and that's when we decided to come to The Makers Lab. The CNC machine proved immensely helpful in crafting high-quality parts, especially since our products need to be designed with sensitivity for persons with disabilities, leaving no room for error as people's lives are at stake."

In addition to being a fully equipped facility, each lab has a technician on board to ensure products are made with the highest levels of finesse and accuracy. Jawad Shah, Founder of Heirloom, praised The Makers Lab for supporting artisans in his venture. He shared, "The Lab played a crucial role in our process, from sampling and prototyping to creating 3D models that provided our artisans a clear vision of our desired products."



Wood products made for the start-up, Heirloom

Having a physical model made replication easier compared to relying solely on verbal instructions.

The biggest advantage is the ease of explaining what we want to the team compared to the tedious task of going out in the market. The facility's sophistication and the technical expertise of the staff ensure they understand the specific needs of start-ups, streamlining the process and enhancing lead times, speed, and the final product finish."

Providing Support to Young Problem Solvers

The Makers Lab facilities have also benefited young students beyond LCE. Markhor3D, a start-up from the Syed Babar Ali School of Science and Engineering at LUMS, successfully produced its first batch of 3D printers with the help of services at The Makers Lab. Sharing his experience, Muhammad Umar Hassan, Founder of Markhor3D, said, "The Makers Lab came in when we had to move to a slightly rigorous production for our 3D printers. It is an essential lab as the first of its kind in Pakistan, and I believe it will only evolve with time. I encourage students, especially those interested in hardware, to pay a visit and avail the services."

The Makers Lab also proves to be an ideal space for researchers or students working on research projects that require hardware development. Muhammad Alam, now a Research Assistant at the Centre for Water Informatics and

Technology, shares his experience of working with The Makers Lab on developing an Agribot during his thesis. "We contacted the lab to develop the Agribot for our research. The team collaborated with us, ensuring our ideas and designs were feasible. Their continuous feedback was invaluable. My suggestion to other students would be to explore and experiment with your ideas, as The Makers Lab provides an ideal platform for doing so."

Taking The Makers Lab Vision Beyond LUMS

The Makers Lab is the heart of LCE's ambition to become a hub of innovation in Pakistan. That's why it welcomes all individuals with a passion for creation. Whether you're an aspiring entrepreneur with an idea to test, a hobbyist looking for a customised gift, or a researcher



CNC lathe machine

eager to test a model, The Makers Lab is the place for you.

For anyone with an idea, passion, or dream to create something that will change the world or push the boundaries of knowledge, The Makers Lab and LCE provide the perfect environment. What's even better is that the support you'll receive goes beyond the machines; you'll find partners dedicated to making your maker journey as fulfilling as possible!

To avail services at The Makers Lab, feel free to email makerslab@lums.edu.pk



PCB exposing machine

Out of Office: LUMS Edition

How do staff members at LUMS get into the team spirit? We asked them to share their most engaging team-building activities.



Technology meets terrain! The Centre for Water Informatics and Technology (WIT) visited Murree to enjoy the scenery and also test sensors and study the socioeconomic impacts of floods and climate change in the upper Indus Basin.



The Syed Ahsan Ali and Syed Maratib Ali School of Education (SOE) organised a de-stress activity, giving students and staff a chance to connect through outdoor fun.



The Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School of Humanities and Social Sciences (MGSHSS) takes staff well-being to new heights with stress relief sessions, a walking challenge, and an annual mountain retreat!



The Office of Student Affairs (OSA) team took a trip down memory lane over a relaxing meal and reminisced about how the department has evolved over the years.



The LUMS Centre for Entrepreneurship (LCE) team took a break at Playdium, enjoying arcade games, dodging cars, and hockey matches. They unleashed their competitive side, bonded, and created many fond memories.



The Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law (SAHSOL) has mastered work-life balance! From a faculty retreat with activities and curriculum discussions to the advising staff's outing at Kickstart in Lahore, SAHSOL sets the bar high.



Team Advancement spent a day at Greenfields and played antakshari, tug-of-war, and a round of cricket!



The LUMS Learning Institute (LLI) got together with their student partners for a casual meetup. They played some games, had interesting discussions, and took turns playing with the honorary member of the group!

DID YOU KNOW ?

The Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at LUMS is a free service aiming to enhance the lives of students, faculty, and staff by providing high-quality clinical services and minimising disruptions caused to learning by mental health issues or concerns.

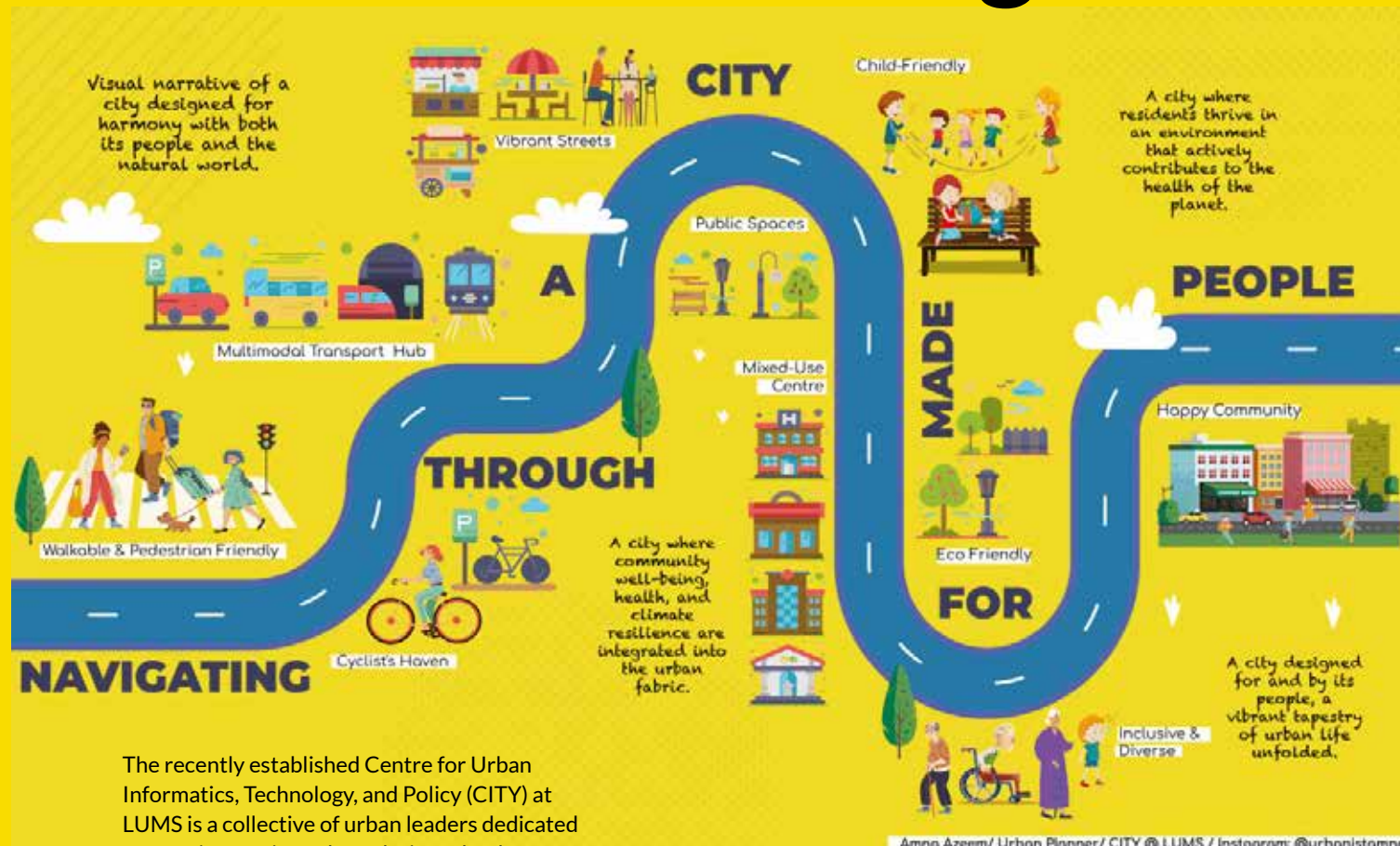


FREE
YOUR
MIND

WITH

LUMS Counselling & Psychological Services

CITY: Exploring Sustainable Solutions to Urban Challenges



The recently established Centre for Urban Informatics, Technology, and Policy (CITY) at LUMS is a collective of urban leaders dedicated to creating cutting-edge solutions that harness technology, data analytics, and policy for sustainable urban development. With a focus on research and innovation, CITY aims to pioneer evidence-based policy solutions addressing themes such as urban mobility, urban growth, and environmental and health concerns such as urban flooding, air quality monitoring, and optimising solid waste management. CITY's core research team includes Urban Planners, Transport Planners, Geo-Spatial Analysts, Data Analysts and Public Policy Makers. The Centre is led by Syed Babar Ali School of Science and Engineering (SBASSE) faculty Dr. Momin Uppal, Dr. Zubair Khalid, Dr. Muhammad Tahir, and Dr. Syed Muhammad Hasan.

“Together, the team is working towards a future where cities are not just smart, but also sustainable and inclusive. We aspire to cultivate urban environments that embody sustainability, resilience, and inclusivity. The goal at CITY is to bridge the gap between technology and policy, ensuring that the benefits of innovation are accessible to all.”

Dr. Momin Uppal,
CITY Lead

The Centre's Work

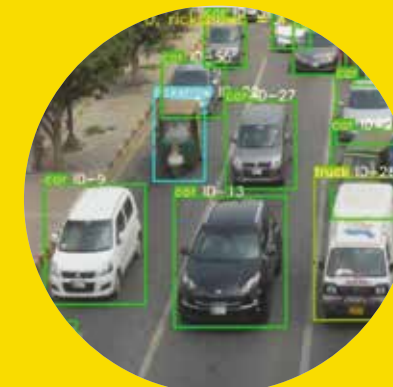
CITY aims to align its goals and work closely with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, making a global impact while addressing local needs, and differentiating itself through its holistic, multidisciplinary approach.

With global urbanisation on the rise, it is imperative to manage urban growth responsibly to safeguard both the environment and the well-being of inhabitants. This entails mitigating climate risks, reducing waste and pollution, and promoting social equity and inclusion.

Traffic

CITY uses advanced traffic analytics to pinpoint congestion areas, optimise traffic flow, and enhance transportation efficiency. Additionally, by analysing large datasets on commuting preferences and travel habits, the Centre tailors transportation services to various demographic needs, improving inclusivity and accessibility in urban areas.

With the Automated Parking Counts tool i.e. Intelligent Parking Solution (IPS) launched in 2023, CITY has leveraged technology to make the parking experience hassle-free. The tool detects available parking spaces and counts parked vehicles, making parking efficient and effortless.



Female Mobility



The Centre is dedicated to creating gender-sensitive transportation systems that meet women's specific needs, making it easier and safer for them to move around cities. This involves targeted research and outreach to improve transportation inclusivity. Additionally, it promotes walking through urban design changes like better sidewalks and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, supporting healthier, low-carbon lifestyles.

Population

CITY utilises demographic data and spatial analysis techniques to identify population densities across urban areas. The rapid expansion of urban areas necessitates efficient methods for mapping and monitoring build-up environments. Leveraging satellite imagery and machine learning algorithms, the Centre develops automated tools for detecting and delineating building footprints at scale.

Urban Poverty

CITY employs spatial analysis and socioeconomic data to create poverty maps that highlight areas of economic deprivation within cities. By identifying vulnerable communities and understanding the spatial

distribution of poverty, CITY supports efforts to implement poverty alleviation programmes, improve access to basic services, and foster inclusive economic growth.



Waste Management

The Centre used GIS-based tools for resource allocation and route planning of waste collection vehicles to save time and resources. It has enabled Lahore Waste Management Company (LWMC) to optimise resource allocation, reduce kilometres travelled for each shift, minimise the number of vehicles used, and achieve significant cost reductions on fuel and fleet maintenance. The Centre's team also conducted a workshop in Peshawar and provided training geospatial skills and cutting-edge tools, focusing on data-driven waste bin allocation and strategic route planning in urban settings.



Climate Change



Rapid urban growth leads to 'Urban Heat Islands', making cities like Lahore significantly hotter. CITY's study found that Lahore's built-up areas grow by 1.26% annually, and its surface temperature increases by 0.47 degrees Celsius each year. The Centre's research advised planners to quickly implement climate-friendly strategies to prevent future environmental issues.

CITY has strategically placed high-quality and cost-effective sensors to study air quality. The data reveals a significant need to enhance and

expand air quality monitoring. Expanding this network with smart software to optimise sensor placement is essential.

It utilises satellite imagery to identify the location and extent of solar panel installations. This data empowers informed decision-making for promoting sustainable energy solutions.

Using special camera images from satellites, CITY creates maps to see how floods affect people and buildings very accurately. Using this free data from *WorldPop* and *OpenStreetMap*, the Centre helps make smart decisions about handling disasters, changing the way they are managed.

Emergency Response Facilitation

By leveraging advanced analytics, CITY enabled Rescue 1122 to focus on hotspot analyses, capacity training, and proactive responses to enhance emergency preparedness and improve public safety. By analysing patterns and trends, the department

identifies areas with high frequencies of emergencies, enabling proactive planning and resource allocation.

CITY Academy

Workshops

CITY aims to shape a sustainable urban future with a core focus on capacity building. This has already taken a meaningful stride as the centre is spreading its expertise across various organisations and cities.



Family-Friendly!

How the Dean's Office at SBASSE Supports Working Parents

By Zubia Ahmad, Science Story Developer, SBASSE

Located at the top floor of SBASSE, the Dean's office stands out for its remarkable support of working mothers, embodying a culture of empathy and understanding. Among its team are two mothers with young children whose experiences highlight the office's commitment to inclusivity.

As a Science Story Developer at SBASSE, I sometimes bring my 3-year-old son, Hadi Akhtar, to the office. Hadi has become a beloved figure, warmly welcomed by all my colleagues, who have watched him grow.

Aleena Khan, Academic Affairs Lead, was provided a separate room to bring her then 3-month-old son, Saleh Ahmad Bilal, with her. Saleh's presence has been a source of joy for the office. During Aleena's meetings, colleagues enthusiastically volunteer to look after Saleh, fostering a supportive atmosphere that extends beyond professional duties.

This supportive atmosphere doesn't just make logistical sense; it enriches our office culture, turning professional space into a community. It's a reflection of our collective values, led by the former Dean and embraced by every colleague, proving that a workplace can truly support and celebrate its staff and their families.



Hazem Asif, our Science Illustrator and official office 'Mamu', spends his break engaging with Saleh, while Aleena, Saleh's mum, continues her work at her desk



Surrounded by the intellectual atmosphere, what better place than here to page through 'Quantum Physics for Babies'?



Even Dr. Sabieh Anwar made it a point to warmly greet our littlest member, Saleh, on his visits. Saleh had the honour of being part of both the farewell for the previous Dean and the welcome ceremony for the new Dean, Dr. Walther Schwarzacher, captured here in the arms of Bilal Khalid, Lead, Budget and Operations.

ALUMS Chat

Since its launch in 2022, the ALUMS Chat series has featured over 21 accomplished alumni in informal, one-on-one, virtual conversations about the unique personal journeys they have embarked on since graduating from LUMS. The series of live sessions, hosted over Facebook, offer our community the opportunity to get candid insights into the successes of LUMS alumni across Pakistan and the globe as they navigate different paths. Here are some of the many talented alumni who have been featured in ALUMS Chats:

Natasha Noorani
(BSc 2015)
Musician and Ethnomusicologist

Natasha Noorani is a musician, curator, and music historian from Lahore, Pakistan. She has a diverse range as a singer-songwriter, playback singer, and voice-over artist. Her curatorial work has influenced two of the country's biggest brands: Coke Studio and the Pakistan Super League (PSL). Natasha was the general manager of Coke Studio Season 10 and co-curated the lineup for Season 14. She also curated the PSL's *Groove Mera* anthem and *Taranay* soundtrack. Lahore Music Meet, Pakistan's premier music festival, was co-founded by Natasha in 2015, and provided the first stages for many of Pakistan's current musicians. *Peshkash* is Natasha's project to archive 20th-century Pakistani music.



Suneel Sarfraz Munj
(BSc 2002, MBA 2005)
Co-founder, PakWheels

Suneel Sarfraz Munj is the co-founder of PakWheels, Pakistan's number one automobile website that helps millions of Pakistanis buy, sell, and maintain automobiles through industry-first initiatives such as car inspection service and certified used cars with a warranty. He is also the Director of Pakistan General Merchandising Company, an importing house that deals in import, clearing and forwarding services of consumer goods including electronics, garments, gift items, and other retail products.

Huzaiifa Ahmad
(BSc 2017)
Co-founder, Rizq

Huzaiifa Ahmad co-founded Rizq in April 2015 alongside Musa Aamir and Qasim Javaid, all LUMS alumni who majored in Economics. They are playing a pivotal role in addressing the challenges of hunger and malnutrition in Pakistan. Rizq has garnered recognition with four prestigious awards: Points of Light, Award by Queen, Corona Heroes, and Pride of Pakistan Award.



Hirra Babar
(BSc 2010, MBA 2014)
Founder, Warp

Hirra Babar is quickly making a mark on global platforms with her unique accessories brand, Warp. The brand features a signature line of Hexella handbags, shaped in an elegant geometric structure. These bags have been showcased at several international trade fairs and fashion weeks over the years, including Mipel in Milan, the National Chamber of Italian Fashion, and Tranoi for three seasons of the Paris Fashion Week.

Mehreen Shahid
(BSc 2009)
Founder and Executive Director, Safe Delivery Safe Mother

Mehreen Shahid is the founder of the Safe Delivery Safe Mother (SDSM) social enterprise, which provides essential and life-saving maternal and reproductive healthcare for rural, remote and low-resource communities in Pakistan. She is a development practitioner with over 10 years of experience in health, education, gender equality, social protection and public-private partnerships, among other sectors. She has implemented models that strengthen public health systems, developed monitoring and evaluation frameworks, launched digital data reporting tools, conducted advocacy campaigns, and built capacity of community health workers and skilled birth attendants.



Dr. Haris Aziz
(BSc 2003)
Research Scientist

Dr. Haris Aziz is a globally recognised research scientist in the fields of artificial intelligence, theoretical computer science, and mathematical social sciences. Dr. Aziz was listed among the 2015 IEEE's biennial international list of AI's 10 to Watch, was awarded the CORE Chris Wallace Research Excellence Award for 2017, received the Julius Career Award (2016-18), and was recently honoured by the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) for his contribution to Game Theory and Artificial Intelligence (AI). Dr. Aziz is currently a Scientia Associate Professor, School of Computer Science and Engineering, University of New South Wales and the director of the UNSW AI Institute.



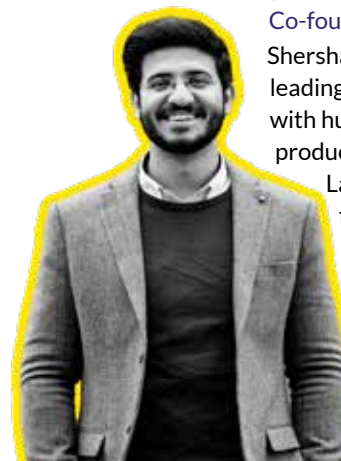
Khadija Shahper Bakhtiar
(BSc 2007)
CEO and Founder, Teach for Pakistan

Khadija Shahper Bakhtiar is the founder and CEO of Teach For Pakistan (TFP), a national non-profit organisation that nurtures leadership to end educational inequity. She is a Fulbright Scholar with a Master of Public Policy from UC Berkeley and a Bachelor's in Social Sciences from LUMS, which recognised her efforts through the 2019 Vice Chancellor's Alumni Achievement Award. TFP currently has 160 fellows teaching 10,000+ students across high-need public schools in rural areas around Islamabad.



Shershah Hassan
(BSc 2020)
Co-founder, KalPay

Shershah Hassan is the founder and CEO of KalPay, a leading Shariah-compliant financing fintech that works with hundreds of e-commerce merchants across multiple product and service categories to provide Buy Now Pay Later services for their customers. He graduated from LUMS in 2020 and has gone on to build three companies, starting his first one at the age of 18. Shershah has a background in finance and previously worked at Habib Bank and EY. Currently, he looks after Strategy, Finance, and Investor Relations at KalPay. In addition to this, he was featured in the *Forbes* 30 Under 30 Asia list in 2023.





CEO Retreat in Hunza Valley

LUMS' first-ever CEO Retreat in the stunning Hunza Valley brought together CEOs from diverse industries, transcending traditional classroom boundaries and offering an exceptional learning experience. Over a week, participants engaged in immersive sessions led by internationally renowned instructors against the scenic backdrop of Hunza.



"This programme created by LUMS has been phenomenal in terms of giving me the space to really pause, reflect, and learn new skills. As I head back home, I carry greater confidence, energy, and optimism. I have made connections with a strong group who will support me as I journey forward in creating a lasting legacy and change."

Sadaf Abid
 Founder and CEO, Circle Women Association

"A legacy is a reflection of what you really are. I think they have done a fantastic job; they have been able to help us identify first what we are and why we are the way we are."

Ali Nadeem
 CEO, IGI Insurance Ltd.

"It has helped me identify and learn more about myself, my vision, and my strengths. It has been a truly immersive learning experience and a unique opportunity."

Hamid Hussain
 Director, Service Sales Corporation

"I was particularly impressed by the entire setting of this retreat, including the place we are at. Hunza is one of the most scenic places in Pakistan; this time of the year it is an example of paradise."

Nofel Daud
 Chief of Staff and Strategy, Bank of Punjab

"Once you put up your big picture or the purpose based on your inner voice, that will give you direction."

Salman Hafeez
 CEO, Apparel Vertical, US Group



Our Partners Who Help Us Elevate the LUMS Experience

Enhancing Infrastructure



Atlas Foundation

LUMS held the groundbreaking ceremony for its first green building, the 'Yusuf H. Shirazi Complex', honouring the former Atlas Group Chairman and LUMS co-founder. The Complex will be a hub of research, innovation, and collaboration with the industry and the government to tackle South Asia's major challenges.

Faysal Bank

A delegation from Faysal Bank, including Mr. Yousaf Hussain, President and CEO, visited LUMS on May 14, 2024, to contribute towards the naming of a discussion room located on the ground floor of the Academic Block.



Supporting Talent



Dr. Gohar Ejaz

Dr. Gohar Ejaz, CEO of Lake City Holdings and philanthropist, a supporter of LUMS scholars since 2017, has reaffirmed his commitment to the University's National Outreach Programme.

Founding Pro Chancellor, Syed Babar Ali

An interactive session featuring Syed Babar Ali Scholarship Fund recipients was held at LUMS, attended by Syed Babar Ali, Founding Pro Chancellor of the University, who has generously supported the Programme since 2008.



HEC and USAID-funded MNBSP



LUMS partnered with HEC and USAID to host a session under the USAID-funded Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Programme (MNBSP), supporting female students from various regions in Pakistan to study at LUMS.



Al Moiz and Thal Industries

Al Moiz and Thal Industries have renewed their commitment to LUMS by sponsoring additional National Outreach Programme scholars, continuing their support since 2018. The agreement was signed by Dr. Ali Cheema, Vice Chancellor of LUMS, and Mr. Iftikhar Babar, Senior Vice President CSR and Corporate Affairs at the organisation.



Defence Housing Authority (DHA)

An interactive session at LUMS connected donors and recipients of the DHA Scholarship Fund, established through an MoU in 2023 to support the National Outreach Programme. This event was attended by DHA senior executives, including Colonel Ahsan Ahmad Khan, Director HR, and Major Abdur Rehman Khurram Butt, Deputy Director HR.

US Apparel

US Apparel has committed to supporting LUMS' National Outreach Programme, formalising the partnership in June 2023 with a signing ceremony attended by key US Group and LUMS representatives.



Alumni Give Back

Faraz Ahmed (BS 2018)

Mr. Ahmed, Director of International Petrochemicals (Pvt.) Limited, signed an agreement alongside Dr. Tariq Jadoon, Provost of LUMS, to support the University's National Outreach Programme.



Diamond Paints

Diamond Paints has partnered with LUMS to sponsor the National Outreach Programme, formalising the agreement at a ceremony with LUMS Provost, Dr. Tariq Jadoon and Diamond Paints CEO, Mr. Mir Shoaib Ahmed.



Ahsan Sheikh (MBA 1998)

Mr. Sheikh, CEO of Kinetic Pakistan, and his family have established the 'Sheikh M. Yunus Scholarship Fund' and the 'Waheeda Yunus Scholarship Fund' in memory of his parents to support the National Outreach Programme and MBA students at LUMS.

BSc 2014

On the 10th anniversary of their graduation, the Class pledged their support and announced an endowment to sponsor the education of a National Outreach Programme scholar for the entire duration of their degree.



Faisal Raja (MBA 2002)

Mr. Raja set up the 'Justice Raja Muhammad Sabir Scholarship' in memory of his late father, a philanthropist and long-serving lawyer at Pakistan's Supreme Court and High Court, to support a National Outreach Programme scholar at the Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law.

BSc 2017

Three years ago, the Class united to sponsor a National Outreach Programme scholar at LUMS. With the student nearing graduation, the class has decided to enhance their support by establishing an endowment fund.



MBA 2012

The Class signed an MoU with LUMS to establish the MBA Class of 2012 Scholarship Fund supporting undergraduate and MBA students with interest-free loans.



LUMS Team Explores Collaboration Prospects with Gujrat Business Community

A LUMS delegation attended an iftar dinner in Gujrat hosted by Mr. Nabeel Ilyas (MBA 2006), COO of GFC Fans. This event facilitated networking with Gujrat's business leaders and highlighted GFC Fans' commitment to sponsoring National Outreach Programme scholars at LUMS.

Connecting with the Industry



Leaders at LUMS: Inspiring Insights with Mr. Kashan Hasan, CEO, Shan Foods

The session featured a discussion between Mr. Kashan Hasan and Mr. Muhammad Ali Khan, former Director of Strategic Initiatives at LUMS. Also present at the event were Mr. Abdul Razak Dawood, Pro Chancellor; Dr. Tariq Jadoon, Provost; and Ms. Nuzhat Kamran, Director, Office of Advancement. The session offered valuable advice on navigating the complexities of contemporary leadership.

LUMS Hosts Iftar Dinner in Karachi

LUMS hosted an iftar dinner in Karachi, uniting industry leaders and LUMS affiliates for discussions on strengthening the university's role in addressing Pakistan's challenges. The event focused on enhancing knowledge, leadership, and partnerships with corporations to forge social change and develop critical thinkers and leaders.



Honda's Senior Executives Visit LUMS

LUMS hosted senior executives from Honda including Mr. Shinji Aoyama, Executive Vice President and COO of Honda Motor Company; Mr. Noriaki Abe, Chief Officer of Motorcycle and Power Products, and Mr. Toshio Kuwahara, President and CEO of Asian Honda Motor Company, and members of the Shirazi family. During their visit, Atlas Honda gifted an EV to LUMS for research purposes and participated in a tree-planting ceremony at the future site of the Yusuf H. Shirazi Complex.



Give a Day to LUMS

Give a Day to LUMS (GADTL), the brainchild of Founding Pro Chancellor, Syed Babar Ali, and led by the Office of Advancement at LUMS, is a targeted campaign encouraging alumni to give back to their alma mater. It aims to provide deserving students with the same transformative LUMS experience that alumni have already had. In 2022, the campaign received the Best of CASE Asia-Pacific Region Award in the Fundraising - Targeted Campaigns and Appeals category.

Through the Give a Day to LUMS campaign, our supporters have made it possible for students coming from 162 towns, cities, and villages across Pakistan to become part of a diverse learning environment at LUMS.

This year, the Campaign has raised PKR 42 million from 220 donors from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

By giving as little as one day of your earnings, you can give a deserving student the gift of education.



Your one day's earnings can change someone's life forever!

GIVE A DAY TO LUMS

#ADayforLUMS



STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS



BSc '24 students Syed Muhammad Sarim Gillani and Muhammad Muqsit Nadeem were honoured as 'Heroes' at the World Youth Festival in Sochi, Russia. They secured the event's top honours, with Sarim being named 'Hero of the Festival' and Muqsit recognised as 'Hero of the Day,' representing Pakistan in front of 20,000 participants from over 180 countries.



Amani Jannat, BSc Economics '25, has made history by becoming the first ever female sports climber to represent Pakistan on the global stage. At the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, Jannat was only 0.256 seconds from qualifying for the final!

Haider Sultan, BSc Accounting and Finance '24, has become Pakistan's first-ever Silver Scholar at Yale University's MBA programme. He is one of only ten Silver Scholars worldwide for 2024, representing the top 5 per cent of applicants. Haider, also a recipient of the Dean's Scholarship at Yale, will begin his MBA immediately after graduating from LUMS.



For the second year in a row, LUMS' Model UN team won the Best Small Delegation award at Harvard's HNMUN 2023, with first-year student Sabeen Hamood also earning the Best Delegate award—a first for LUMS! The delegation comprised Rafay Hakeem, President, '24; Rohail Hasan Siddiqui, Captain, '24; Hubaib Sheheryar, '26; Sabeen Hamood, '27; Mahnoor Gul, '26; Danyal Khan, '26; Laiba Abid, '27; and Shanzay Hashim, '27.



Wardah Mahmood, a PhD candidate from the Department of Physics at SBASSE, secured the first position in the Quantum Optics and Devices category at the 48th International Nathiagali Summer College (INSC). This prestigious event, organised annually by the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC), showcases cutting-edge advancements in science and technology.



Wardah Noor, BA-LL.B '24, received the 'Humaray Heroes' Award at the HBL Pakistan Super League ceremony and was featured in *The Friday Times* for her remarkable journey from her hometown of Layyah to leading xWave, a tech-powered disaster relief initiative that empowers Pakistan's youth in low-learning communities through income-generating technology skills.

Students from SOE collaborated with Chiraagh and IREX to conduct the week-long Akash Winter Camp 2023, a community initiative to help the underprivileged children of Basti Dhup Sari, Multan, gain educational skills. This project was ideated by Jawad Dastgir, an MPhil ELM candidate at SOE, and co-headed by Alishba Ishtiaq. Other trainers from SOE included Amna Usman, Arshad Khan, Okasha Khan, Bisma Aslam, and Faryal Zehra.



SOE Celebrates Innovation at the Third Practicum Showcase

The Syed Ahsan Ali and Syed Maratib Ali School of Education (SOE) at LUMS held its third Practicum Showcase Conference in April 2024, featuring capstone projects by MPhil Education Leadership and Management students. These projects, developed over a semester with partner organisations, were presented to over 500 attendees, including faculty, students, LUMS senior administration, and education sector experts.

Dr. Ali Cheema, Vice Chancellor, praised the students' work, highlighting SOE's commitment to merging knowledge and practice to improve education in Pakistan. The one-day conference showcased a range of student projects in pedagogy, inclusive education, leadership, educational technology, and more. It also featured panel discussions on critical educational issues.

Keynote speaker Mr. Richard Geary, Founder and Director Programmes, Family Educational Services, emphasised the opportunities in Pakistan for those with creativity and determination. Dr. Tayyaba Tamim, Dean of SOE, reinforced the importance of strategic industry partnerships in addressing educational challenges and bridging the gap between research and practice.



Keynote speaker, Mr. Richard Geary addressing the audience



Students present and discuss their capstone projects



Founding Pro Chancellor Syed Babar Ali, Vice Chancellor Dr. Ali Cheema, and Rector Mr. Shahid Hussain at the Practicum Showcase Conference

Life@LUMS

Throughout the year, Human Resources organised a series of engaging employee programmes, with Christmas celebrations in December 2023 being just one of the highlights. These events are designed to foster a team spirit and create memorable experiences for all.



In January 2024, faculty, staff, and children explored the rich heritage of Old Lahore with the 'History by Night' tour, getting a glimpse into the city's past.



In March 2024, LUMS community members celebrated spring with a lively and fun-filled Carnival, enjoying games, entertainment, and festive activities.



Faculty and staff went on a memorable trip to witness the patriotic Flag Lowering Ceremony at Wagah in March 2024.



In February 2024, 'Women in Charge', a collaboration with Atlas Honda, empowered women with bike riding skills, focusing on road safety and independence through practical training and community support.



Our Sports, Wellness, and Recreation programmes provide students, faculty, and staff with opportunities to showcase their skills and teamwork in various sports activities and competitions, emphasising their dedication and competitive spirit.



At the **59th National Table Tennis Championships 2023**, the women's team clinched the bronze medal, with Fatima Khan ranking in the top four nationally in women's table tennis.



LUMS emerged victorious under the leadership of Sara Tariq at the **Prime Minister's Talent Hunt Squash Provincial League**.



The female swimming team secured the 2nd position, while the male team achieved the 4th position at the **43rd Men and 12th Women Intervarsity Competition by the Higher Education Commission**. Simrah Nasir was recognised as the Best Player.



LSF and Spring Fest attracted over 2,000 students from all across Pakistan to engage in various sports activities.



LUMS students earned the title of **Best Delegation** at the **Lahore School of Economics Sports Gala 2024**, bringing immense pride to the university.



The Sprint Fest Marathon 2024 was a great success, with 193 faculty, students, staff, and kids registrations.

DID YOU KNOW ?

Baithak, the new eatery on campus, offers a variety of desi breakfast and snack options, including authentic *lacha parathas*, traditional *doodh patti*, and dhaba-style dishes, and is open from 10 am to 2 am. Be sure to try their delicious menu, curated by the student council, faculty representatives, and PDC staff.



The LUMS Career Services Office (CSO) hosted the Annual Career Fair 2024, drawing over 200 prestigious national and international organisations and engaging with 1,800 students and alumni. Key participants included British American Tobacco, Unilever Pakistan, PepsiCo, Samsung, Teach for Pakistan, and Aga Khan University, among others. These representatives offered crucial career insights and discussed the evolving demands of the job market.



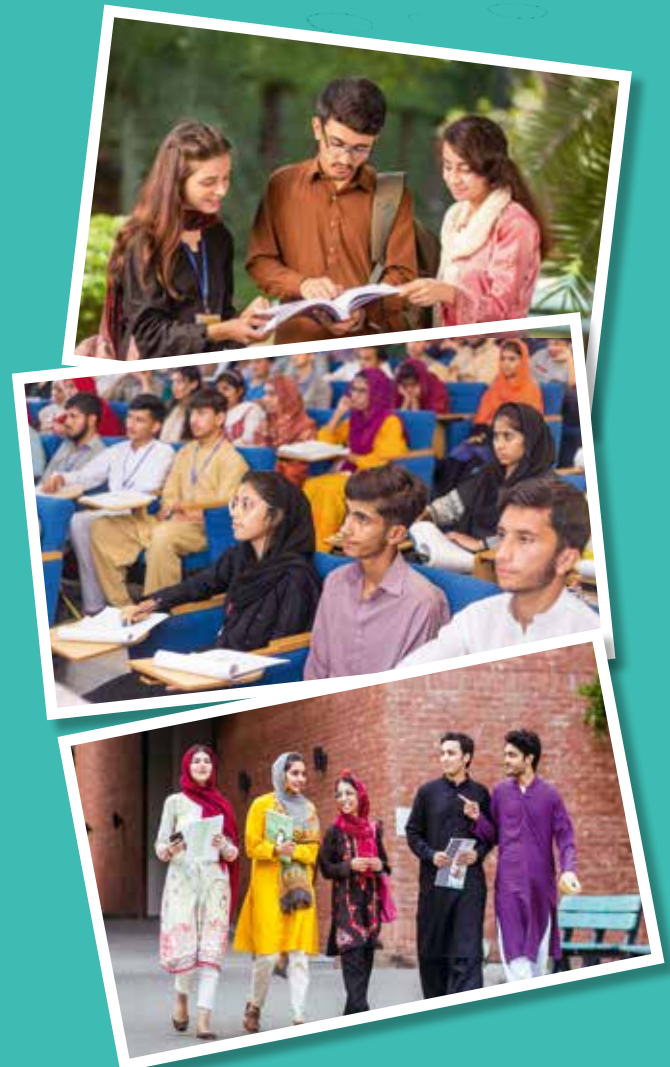
SUPPORT THE LUMS MISSION!

As valuable members of the LUMS community, you witness first-hand the impact of a LUMS experience on its students. The rich and diverse educational landscape at the University encourages them to think beyond boundaries and dream big. These students are imaginative, socially conscious and passionate, making their mark wherever they may go.

What sets LUMS apart is its unwavering dedication to providing world-class education to all meritorious students. One in three students at the University is on financial aid and to date, LUMS has disbursed PKR 11.6 billion in scholarships and financial awards.

We encourage you to spread the word and share the LUMS story with your friends, family and colleagues. You can also contribute to the effort by donating any amount to the various scholarships in place or directing your support towards a research project. Every contribution in this path matters. Every gift you make to LUMS can transform the lives of countless individuals and educate the brightest and the most motivated students across the country.

Please visit giving.lums.edu.pk to explore the different initiatives you can donate to.



Donate now!



OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT

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