

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2017

HUMANITIES BULLETIN

**HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT**

**COMSATS INSTITUTE
OF INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY, LAHORE**

1.5 km off Raiwind Road, Defense Road.

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MESSAGE FROM H.O.D

THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AT COMSATS enjoys unique collaborative position among other



faculties and departments. The department links the technical knowledge in the fields of technology and management with the essential skills in language and social insight.

Since the inception of department, it has secured the satisfaction from the parents and students alike. Department plays its pro-active role in the progression of human knowledge through innovation. To serve the purpose, I encourage my faculty members to go beyond the traditional

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means of doing research and help students learn the spirit of innovation and curiosity. The department is flourishing with the addition of many exciting components in the academic side and also with the timely update of the existing course contents.

As it is unfolding, world is witnessing emerging trends in academic research and teaching. Therefore, it is highly needed to catch-up with the upcoming trends and in this pursuit Department of Humanities is not way behind the other departments at COMSATS. I as in charge of the department always seek the highest standards of academic discipline, inclusion of emerging trends in teaching and research, and burning aspiration for innovation and productivity among my faculty members.

Dr. Ammad Ul Haq
Head Of Department

MEET THE TEAM

PATRON

DR. AMMAD UL HAQ

EDITOR

MS. UMARA SHAHEEN

CO-EDITOR

MS. MARYAM JAHANGIR

MS. MARIA SHAMIM

DESIGN INCHARGE

MR. FASIH UR REHMAN

CIMUN 17 DELEGATION VISITS EMBASSIES AND FOREIGN OFFICES ISLAMABAD

After the successful accomplishment of the 3rd COMSATS International Model United Nations (CIMUN), the Students Directorate of CIMUN'17 paid visits to Palestinian, Nepalese, and Portuguese Embassies in Islamabad. The students had formal meet ups with the ambassadors of the respective embassies on 24th April, 2017. The visit was planned and organized by Ms. Rabia Ashraf (Faculty Adviser CLDS) with the coordination of Mr. Abubakar Siddique (MS) and Ms. Muneeba Shakeel (HUM) who also accompanied the group.



CIMUN'17

COMSATS INTERNATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

The 3rd edition of COMSATS International Model United Nations Conference (CIMUN'17) was held from 31st March to 2nd April, 2017. Over 400 delegates (students) from all over Pakistan, including 30 Afghan students from CIIT campuses, 20 chairs (renowned MUN speakers from Lahore, Karachi, Islamabad and Nigeria), guests from esteemed organizations, UN representatives, ambassadors and a huge body of students from CIIT Lahore campus were part of CIMUN'17. The conference was facilitated by the department of Humanities under the patronage of the Director of CIIT Lahore, Prof. Dr. Qaiser Abbass. The Chief Guest of ceremony, Ms. Rubina Nadeem (Education Specialist from UNICEF) appreciated the efforts of the CIMUN team for arranging an international level MUN simulation conference.

The Diplomatic Meet and Greet was honored with the presence of His Excellency-the Portuguese Ambassador, Mr. Jao Sabido Costa and His Excellency-Krygz Ambassador, Mr. Erik Beishembiev. Both Ambassadors delivered speeches at the commencement of the meet which were followed by a detailed

question answer session in which the delegates and guests posited a discussion session concerning the areas of trade, education and study scholarships between the countries.

Graced by the esteemed



presence of the Nepalese Ambassador, Ms. Sewa Lamsal Adhikari, the closing ceremony had a touch of nostalgia and a MUN all-encompassing feature. The chairs announced the awards of their eight respective committees and shields were handed over by the chief guest. The efforts of the convener, Ms. Rabia Ashraf and co organizers including Mr. Abubakar Siddique and the directorate of CIMUN'17 were acknowledged and appreciated. The ceremony was followed by a formal dinner.



INSIGHTS

A SERIES OF ISLAMIC INTELLECTUAL SEMINARS

The Department organized a series of seminars based on the theme "Insights" throughout the semester, SP17. The first event of the series entitled "*Discover Yourself -Your True Power is within you*" was held on March 13, 2017. Dr Muhammad Ammad-ul-Haq, Incharge Humanities, Mr. Rizwan-ul-Allah Khan, CEO RFT Brains, and Mr. Zafar-ul-Allah Zahid, CEO HR consultancy firm "Syntax Resources", social activist, and entrepreneur, were invited to address the audience.

The second event entitled "Is Life Just a Game" was organized on April 6, 2017. The speaker Raja Zia-ul-Haq (President/CEO Youth Club) was specially invited



from Islamabad to address the audience.

The third and last session of the series was held on May 10, 2017 on the topic "*Mysticism and Characteristics of a True Saint*". Syed Bilal Qutab, scholar of Sufism, and famous celebrity of Electronic and Social Media, was invited to address about the technical topic.

CONTEST

CIIT INTER DEPARTMENTAL BILINGUAL DECLAMATION CONTEST 2017



The Guest of Honour, Dr. Ammadul Haq, distributing the prize to the winner of contest.

COMSATS Lahore Debating Society and the faculty adviser Ms. Rabia Ashraf organized CIIT Inter-Departmental Bilingual Declamation Contest on 10th April, 2017. Almost 28 students from all departments participated in the contest and maximum participants were from the Department of Humanities in both serious and humorous categories. Three winners in both categories were awarded with cash prizes and shields.

The Guest of Honour Dr. Ammadul Haq, In Charge Humanities, briefed that such co-curricular activities are central to the overall grooming of the student body. He also added that the scale of such events should be expanded with more variations and that the practice of organizing speaking events on frequent basis at the campus is also need of the hour.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Dr Shamim Fatima has been nominated as an HEC approved supervisor.
- Ms Ayesha Aziz has been nominated as a professional trainer by the *Faculty Development Academy*.
- Dr Farzana Asharaf's research paper was awarded the third prize among 35 papers at the *International Conference on Health Psychology: Issues and Challenges* on 14th May, 2017.

COMPLETION OF ONLINE COURSE

Dr Shameem Fatima successfully completed an online course titled "Facebook as a research tool" sponsored by American Psychological Association on 11th April, 2017. The primary objective was to train researchers to use facebook as a research tool to explore various conflicts and issues people are currently faced with.

ONE-DAY WORKSHOP ON 'SEXUAL HARRASMENT: AWARENESS AND PREVENTION'

Ms. Shazia Gulzar organized a one day workshop on "Sexual Harassment: Awareness and Prevention" on May 29, 2017. The workshop aimed to train students and faculty in skills needed to control and prevent behaviors involving sexual harassment. Ms. Maryam Amjad, Clinical Psychologist and Lecturer in Humanities Department, was the guest speaker. Certificates were distributed among the participants at the end of the session.

OTHER CO-CURRICULAR EVENTS

SEMINAR ON CHINESE CULTURE: FEW ASPECTS

The Department of Humanities arranged a seminar on "Chinese Culture: a Few Aspects" on 16th May, 2017. The Speaker was Dr. Meilan He, a Chinese researcher from Hebei Normal University, Shijiazhuang. Dr. Meilan He has majors in World History and has several publications related to the history, society



and culture of Pakistan, Indonesia, Egypt and Peru on her credit. In her seminar, she highlighted some important aspects of the diverse Chinese culture such as symbols, colors, food and festivals.

STUDENTS' EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE AT NUST MUN

Under the guidance of Ms. Rabia Ashraf, faculty advisor, COMSATS Lahore Debating Society, students of CIIT Lahore

performed tremendously well at NUST MUN held from 2nd February to 5th February 2017 at NUST Islamabad.

MOTOTECH'17

Ms. Tooba Ahmed, Lecturer in English, Department of Humanities, organized an Auto Show during the students' week. A number of students, faculty and staff came to enjoy the show. Auto Mania, Tariq cars, Thunder Bikes, Throttle Group, 7 G, Bashir Cars, and Flex Wheeler participated in the event. A number of sports cars, vintage cars, and bikes were displayed.

Moreover, the event was a center of attraction not only for males but also for the females as female bikers also participated in the show. Dominos, Pepsi, Ajwa and Gawadar City sponsored the show. The show ended with distribution of certificates and shields among the participants who contributed to make this event a huge success.



OTHER CO-CURRICULAR EVENTS

ALL PAKISTAN INTERVARSITY NAAT COMPETITION 2017



COMSATS Islamic Cultural Society arranged "All Pakistan Intersarsity Naat Competition" on April 12, 2017. Students from renowned universities of all the provinces of Pakistan participated in the event. The jury for the evaluation of the students' performance consisted of Haseeb Hussain, grandson of great Naat Khwan Azam

Chishti; Hafiz Zain Noorani, former winner of All Pakistan Naat Competition; Ali Bakhsh, Gold Medalist in Naat Competition; and Azam Waheed, renowned NaatKhwan. In the end, certificates and awards were distributed among the winners and participants.

MEHFIL-E-MUSHAIRA

COMSATS Literary Society arranged a Mushaira under the supervision of its faculty advisor, Ms. Saima Chattha and co-organizer, Ms. Maryam

Jahangir. It was a pleasant evening of Monday, 10th April when renowned literary figures satisfied the aesthetic sense of the audience. Dr. Khursheed Rizvi, a renowned poet and scholar, presided the mushaira and great poet Ahmad Hammad hosted it with all the delicacies of a literary event. Mr. Shah Nawaz Zaidi, Azhar Faraz, Sughra Shafi, Afzal Ajiz, Ahmad Baqi Pori, Gul-e-nokhaiz Akhtar, Mansoor Afaq, Nadeem Bhabha and others graced the occasion.



PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS' EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE AT MENTAL HEALTH WEEK, GCU



The members of COMSATS Psychological Society (CPS) performed excellently at the Inter-University Poster Competition and Inter-University Performing Arts Competition at GC University, Lahore, on 24th April, 2017, during Mental Health Week 2017.

RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Dr. Farzana Ashraf presented six research papers in the 1st International Conference on "Clinical Psychology and the Developing World's Issues, Challenges and Solutions" (March 9-10, 2017) organized by the Institute of Clinical Psychology, University of Management & Technology, Lahore.

Ms. Sadaf Fatima presented her research paper in 4th International Conference on "Language, Literature and Society" (ICLLS), held from 5th January to 8th January, 2017 in Islamabad by Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL).

Ms Javaria Farooqui participated in the 2016 conference of the International Association for the Study of Popular Romance, which took place in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, from June 22-26, 2016. She presented her work entitled "Raging Seas and Cloudy Skies': Macro to Meso Level Psychosemantic Movement in Stephanie Laurens' Black Cobra Quartet."

OTHER CO-CURRICULAR EVENTS

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL ESSAY WRITING COMPETITION

Ms. Sadaf Fatima, Ms. Sumaira Saleem and Ms. Kainat Khalid organized the 1st Interdepartmental Essay Writing Contest, 2017. The program was held in three steps: A training session was held on 17th April, 2017, the writing competition was held on 19th April, 2017 and a prize distribution ceremony was held on 16th May, 2017. The students were supposed to write an argumentative extempore essay from a selected topic given by subject experts. The students from various departments took part in the contest with zest and zeal and won cash prizes and certificates of appreciation.



Multiple universities of Lahore participated in a grand Music/Drama festival organized in the student week 2017 by Ms. Ayesha Aziz. Numerous music bands and dramatic teams participated in the festival. The event was a great success.



Ms. Ayesha Aziz, Lecturer Humanities, organized a three day Archery Competition during the students' week. This archery competition was a very exciting indoor as well as outdoor game and most of the people in Pakistan are not aware of the basic rules and techniques of this game. Thus, it was a golden opportunity for the students to learn the basic techniques of archery.



During Students' Week 2017, a three day Bubble football competition, was organized by Ms. Ayesha Aziz in which a huge number of students participated. The event was highly appreciated in the campus and covered by media as well.



Mr. Samar Kamal Fazli, Ms. Amna Naveed, and Ms. Shamaana Mudasser (Assistant Professors) of the Department of Humanities participated in Management Training at the University of Bedfordshire UK from 15th to 23rd July. The training was financed by the CIIT R&D Department of the Principal Seat. A total of 40 faculty members and staff officers from all the campuses of CIIT participated in the training workshop.



SUMMER ACTIVITIES

WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP FOR IN-SERVICE SCHOOL TEACHERS

A training workshop for In-service school teachers was organized by the In-Charge, Humanities Department, Dr. Ammad Ul Haq, and Mr. M. Asif Ikram Anjum. The workshop was held from 31st of July to 4th of August, 2017. The participants of the workshop were in-service teachers of Ali Gargh Public School (Gulberg and Manga Campuses). The team of resource persons comprised of Mr. Samar Kamal Fazli; Mr. Aurengzeb; Ms. Amna Naveed; Ms. Maryam Jahangir; Ms. Ayesha Aziz; Ms. Rabia Ashraf and Ms. Javaria Farooqi. They delivered training on

diverse topics such as teachers' role, creative thinking/writing, lesson planning, assessment and evaluation techniques, learners' learning styles and differences, and employment of online resources for teaching purposes. The content of the workshop proved to be commendable and contributive for the participants. Campus Director, Professor Dr. Qaisar Abbas, and In Charge Humanities Department, Dr. Ammad ul Haq, gave away certificates to the participants, trainers, and organizers of the workshop.



TWO-WEEK TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR SG EMPLOYEES OF THE CAMPUS

Department of Humanities organized a two-week training workshop for SG employees of the campus. In the first week, the 1st cohort (SG-I&II employees) was given training. The trainers included Dr. Ammad ul Haq, Mr. Farooq Abdullah, Mr. Babar Farooq, Dr. Musferah Mehfooz, Dr. Hafiz Muhammad Zubair, Ms. Ayesha Aziz, and Mr. Inamullah Khan. Topics included are as follows: Sense of Responsibility, Time Management Skills, Sense of Ownership, Apparatus Handling, Interpersonal and Non-verbal Communication Skills on the Job. In the second week, SG-III&IV employees were given training. The trainers included Dr. Imran Haider Naqvi, Dr. Ammad ul Haq, Dr. Muneeba Shakeel, Dr. Abdus Sattar Abbasi, Mr. Ahmad Ejaz, Ms. Sara Khan, Ms Javaria Farooqi,

Mr. Samar Kamal Fazli, Ms Sadaf Fatima, and Mr. M. Asif Ikram Anjum (Training Coordinator). Topics included the following: Self Motivation, Sense of ownership, Devotion, Confidentiality, Code of conduct, Official Language, Writing ethics, Dress code, and Communication Skills.



RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

- **Mirza Muhammad Zubair Baig** (2017). "Sisterhood in Question: Rewriting a Life of Binaries in Margaret Atwood's The Penelopiad.", Journal of Research (Humanities) Vol: LIII, pp: 101-123.
- **Zulfiqar Ali Shah , Abrar Ahmed & Asif Ikram Anjum** (2017). Improving English Listening Skills of IELTS Students through Smart Phones. ELF Annual Research VOL. 18 page no 123-136 ISSN 1026-7026.
- **Rabia Ashraf** (2017). Psychodynamics of Mother Daughter Relationship: Degrees of Deprivation, Oppression and Dispossession in Doris Lessing's Fiction. Khazar Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences VOL. 20 DOI: 10.5782/2223-2621.
- **Musferah Mehfooz, M.** (2017). Al-Sukākī's Classification of Metaphor and Qur'ānic Discourse. Al-Idah 34 p, 107-121, Y Category.
- **Musferah Mehfooz & Rabia Ashraf** (2017). Lībās (Garment) Metaphor in Holy Qur'ān: A Conceptual Metaphorical Analysis, Pakistan Journal of Islamic Research, Vol 18, Issue 1, 2017, p, 15-30, Humanities Y Category
- **Musferah Mehfooz & Huma Ejaz** (2017). Eloquent Hadith – A Conceptual Metaphorical Analysis, Al-Qalam p, 22-38. Y Category.
- **Tahira Jibeen** (2017). Unconditional Self Acceptance and Self Esteem in Relation to Frustration Intolerance Beliefs and Psychological Distress. Journal of Rational - Emotive and Cognitive - Behavior Therapy, 1 June 2017, 35(2), 207-221.
- **Farzana Ashraf, & N. Najam** (2017). Co-Morbidity of Specific Learning Disabilities and Depressive Symptoms in Non-Clinical Sample of Adolescents. Journal of Postgraduate Medical Institute. (2017)31(2) 105-109 X Category.
- **K. A. Chaudhry, M. Amjad, N. Anjum & S. Imtiaz** (2017). Friendship concepts among female medical students: A qualitative approach. Pakistan Journal of Madical & Health Sciences11 (1) 136-139 Humanities (ISSN: 1996-7195) 1
- **Maryam Jahangir** (2017). Teaching Grammar to Pakistani ESL Learners and Essay Writing Skills: A Case Study of COMSATS Lahore Undergraduates. International Journal of Humanities and Social Development Research. Vol: 1 (1) ISSN: 2521-1439.
- **Farzana Ashraf & Najma Najam** (June, 2017). Identification of Learning Disabilities among Students: A Gender Perspective.

RESEARCH

Pakistan Journal of Social & Clinical Psychology.15 (1). n.a (HEC Y Category Journal).

- **Farzana Ashraf & Najma Najam** (June, 2017). Co-Morbidity of Specific Learning Disabilities and Depressive Symptoms in Non-Clinical Sample of Adolescents. Journal of Postgraduate Medical Institute. 31(2). 105-109. (HEC X Category Journal).
- **Saleha Fatima** (2017), "Role of Juristic Disagreement in Extensiveness of Shariah-A Study of Conflicting Fatawas on Human Organ Donation", Pakistan Journal of Islamic Research (HEC Recognized Y Category), pp: 1-26, Vol: XVIII, Issue: 1.
- **Shazia Aziz, Rabia Ashraf & Dr Mirza Zubair Baig** (2017). Tapping into the Tradition: Tracing the Greco Roman Allusions and Medieval Milieu in 'The Tragical History of the Life and Death of Dr. Faustus'.Gomal University Journal of Research. Vol.33(1).June 2017). (pp.128-139).
- **Dr. Rafi Amir-ud-Din, Shazia Aziz & Sidra Rasool** (2017). Achieving the Objective of Interest-free Economy: Challenges and Prospects. COMSATS Journal of Islamic Finance. Volume 1(2).2017. (pp.1-18).

NEWLY
INDUCTED
FACULTY

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