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MONTHLY
CONNECT

MARCH | 2025

Alumni Associations Elections 2025-27

The alumni meeting was organized to foster stronger connections between graduates and their respective alma maters, with the aim of supporting student growth and enhancing academic excellence. Chaired by the Dean, the event brought together faculty members, department heads, and newly elected alumni representatives from various disciplines.

The discussions focused on four key areas: Research & Innovation, Placement, Endowment, and Engagement. The alumni group set both quarterly and annual goals to improve career opportunities for students, boost research initiatives, and strengthen collaboration between academia and industry. Efforts were also made to create a sustainable support system that could assist students in their academic and professional journeys, ensuring that the bond between graduates and their universities continues to thrive. The meeting also underscored the importance of continuous alumni involvement in shaping educational policies and fostering innovation.

Workshops and Seminars

Shahveer Jafry's Content Creation Workshop

Mr. Shahveer Jafry, content creator, influencer and YouTuber, visited UCP for a workshop on content creation, where he shared insights with students. He also toured Takhleeq, our startup incubator, engaging with young entrepreneurs and creative minds.

His session covered strategies for building a digital presence, personal branding, and engaging audiences. Students gained practical knowledge on content creation and the evolving digital landscape. It was a unique opportunity to learn from one of the leading influencers in the field.

CSO Resume Building Training Session

The CSO Resume Building Training Session aimed at helping students create professional and impactful resumes. It focused on equipping them with essential skills to stand out in the job market. The session provided tips and guidance to enhance their job application process. Students also learned how to highlight their strengths and experience effectively. This training helped boost their confidence in applying for future career opportunities.

FOIT&CS Learner Centred Course Design Training Workshop

FOIT&CS organized a Learner Centred Course Design Training Workshop aimed at all Computer Science faculty with a particular focus on the HCI group, provided insights into designing learner-centered courses within the OBE (Outcome-Based Education) framework. The primary objective was to guide participants on how to create and deliver courses that enhance learner engagement, leading to improved knowledge and skill outcomes. It was coordinated by Misbah Naz, the workshop was led by trainer Muhammad Mustafa Hassan.

LIC's Microsoft PowerPoint Training Session

LIC organized a Microsoft PowerPoint training session for faculty and staff, led by Mr. Gulfam Ahmad, Senior Manager of Analytics, Policy Planning & Implementation. The session focused on enhancing skills in creating impactful presentations, designing visually appealing slides, and using advanced PowerPoint features for effective communication and teaching.

FOE's Session on Digital Power System of USA and the Way Forward

The Faculty of Engineering organized a lecture titled "Digital Power System of USA and the Way Forward" by Dr. Muhammad Humayun, a Senior Consultant at EnerNex, a US-based company specializing in the electric power industry.

The session, attended by students and faculty from the Electrical and Civil Engineering departments, covered advancements in the US power sector, the integration of renewable energy with the power grid, and differences between the power systems of the US and Pakistan. Dr. Humayun also met with Dr. Muhammad Babur and Dr. Ali Ahmad to discuss the latest tools and software used in Power Engineering.

This session provided insights into the evolving power industry, enhancing students' understanding of global trends and technologies in the energy sector.

CSO x FOPS Resume Building Workshop

The Career Services Office hosted a Resume Building Workshop for Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences students, led by Mr. Arslan Imtiaz. The session equipped students with the skills to craft professional resumes, covering everything from structuring resumes to highlighting key skills. It is a valuable initiative to enhance students' job prospects and pave the way for career success!

Guest Speaker Session on WAVE Accounting Software

Ms. Sierra Polk from Communities Unlimited Arkansas, USA, conducted a training session on bookkeeping using WAVE Accounting Software, offering a practical alternative to traditional systems like Oracle and Peachtree for small businesses. Mr. Aideed Bashir co-hosted an interactive session with Mr. Trent Thompson on using Rubix blockchain software for accounting, guiding students through creating blocks and generating hashes, highlighting how blockchain can improve security and transparency in bookkeeping.

UCP Business School's Session on Advanced Financial Management: Leveraging Decision Making for Performance Optimization

A session, organized by Mr. Aideed Bashir from UCP Business School, focused on Advanced Financial Management and the role of decision-making in optimizing performance. The session was led by Mr. Aqil Kirmani, a Chartered Accountant and Director at Symbiote Technology. Mr. Aqil provided insights into how effective financial decisions can drive business performance. The session was engaging, with students participating and asking questions, demonstrating their enthusiasm and interest in the topic.

This interaction not only deepened their understanding of financial strategies but also equipped them with practical knowledge they can apply in real-world business scenarios. The session added immense value by bridging the gap between theoretical learning and practical implementation.

UCP Alumni Association General Body Meeting

The UCP Alumni Association General Body held a meeting to discuss key strategies for shaping the future of the community. The focus was on leading students in the best possible way, ensuring strong leadership, and fostering unity within the university. These efforts aim to enhance alumni engagement and create a lasting impact on both current students and graduates. The meeting was further strengthened by the presence of the university leadership, who participated in the discussions.

27th Academic Council Meeting

The 27th Academic Council Meeting of the University of Central Punjab was chaired by Dr. Hammad Naveed, Pro-Rector UCP. The meeting focused on strengthening the academic framework and enhancing the student experience, with key decisions made on academic initiatives and strategic priorities.

Discussions covered revisions to curricula, the introduction of new courses in multiple faculties, and approval of twelve new programs, including two MS programs. The Council also reviewed the Grading Scheme and amendments to UCP's undergraduate regulations. Additionally, the establishment of a new Department of Interdisciplinary Studies was announced, reflecting UCP's commitment to innovative education.

LIC's Teaching Excellence Training Program 2025

LIC conducted the Teaching Excellence Training Program for new faculty members. The program covered key topics including student engagement, interactive teaching, mental health, facilitation skills, and AI in education. It also focused on team building, empathy development, grading techniques, and teaching multilingual students. The training concluded with a certificate ceremony attended by the Pro-Rector, Deans, and Director Administration, who commended the faculty's commitment to teaching excellence.

LIC x Admin Department Workshop on Security Enhancement Training for Campus Guards

The Learning Innovation Centre, in collaboration with the Admin Department, organized a workshop for campus security guards on "Enhancing Security through Gender Sensitization, Harassment Prevention, Stress Management, and the Importance of Security Training in Universities." The session aimed to provide security personnel with essential knowledge and skills to create a safer, more inclusive, and stress-free campus environment, highlighting the importance of comprehensive security training in academic institutions.

Retired Colonel Mr. Atta Ur Rehman, Security Head of Punjab Group, served as the Chief Guest and Lead Trainer, offering valuable insights on security management and best practices to strengthen campus safety, ensuring a more secure educational setting for all.

Student Pedagogy Partnership Spring 2025 Orientation

LIC conducted the Student Pedagogy Partnership Orientation Session for the Faculty and Student Partners of Spring Session 2025.The training workshop focused on pedagogy, its approaches, and methods, equipping participants with effective teaching and learning strategies. The session emphasized enhancing collaboration with partners and optimizing course delivery and course design for a more impactful educational experience.

Faculty Townhall

LIC organized a Faculty Townhall, bringing together faculty members from all departments for an enriching session focused on open dialogue, knowledge sharing, and collaborative engagement. The Townhall provided an excellent platform for faculty to discuss research opportunities, explore innovative teaching and research practices, exchange creative ideas, and collectively contribute to enhancing the academic environment at UCP.

LIC's Daycare Training

LIC organized Daycare Training Session that equipped participants with essential childcare skills. The session featured expert guidance, hands-on learning, and emergency response training for child-centric care. In collaboration with the Admin & Security Dept., Evercare Hospital, and LIC, UCP trained the caretakers to meet international standards.

SPACE4ALL: Inspiring the Next Generation of Engineers

The Space Research Center (SRC), UCP, in collaboration with RESOLVE and the National Space Agency SUPARCO, organized a seminar titled "SPACE4ALL: Inspiring the Next Generation of Engineers" at UET, Lahore. The event aimed to spark curiosity and passion for space technology among students and aspiring engineers. The seminar was dedicated to Electro Optical (EO-1) satellite Team – SUPARCO.

FOST x UBAS 3-Day Hands-on Training

The Department of Microbiology, FOST, in collaboration with University of Biological and Applied Sciences (UBAS) conducted a three-day comprehensive training for students of Medical Laboratory Technology (BS-MLT), focusing on cutting-edge molecular techniques, hematological procedures, and advanced laboratory practices.

CSO x Arbisoft Team Building Training Session

CSO hosted a Team Building Training led by Ayesha Tariq, Director of HR at Arbisoft. This engaging session focused on fostering collaboration, enhancing communication, and strengthening teamwork within the department. Through interactive activities and insightful discussions, the team gained strategies to work more efficiently and support students in their career journeys. This session underscores UCP's dedication to continuous improvement and fostering a culture of efficiency.

Recruitment Drives

CSO x ConnectedHE Recruitment Drive

CSO organized a recruitment drive in partnership with ConnectedHE Pakistan, a top educational consultancy. The drive aimed to hire recent graduates for the position of Account Officer (B2B). Candidates had the chance to attend on-the-spot interviews, offering them a direct opportunity to join a growing organization. This initiative was designed to connect talented graduates with job opportunities, helping them start their careers in business development and education consultancy.

CSO x Gourmet Foods On-Campus Recruitment Drive

The Career Services Office organized a recruitment drive for FOMS alumni in partnership with Gourmet Foods. Candidates explored various career growth opportunities and participated in interviews for MTO (Retail Operations) roles. This event was a valuable opportunity for students, offering them direct interaction with industry professionals. It not only provided a deeper understanding of career paths in the retail sector but also gave students a platform to showcase their skills and secure potential job placements.

CSO x Ignicube Recruitment Drive

The Career Services Office, in collaboration with Ignicube, held a recruitment drive to connect students with job opportunities. The event aimed to help students explore career options, gain insights into the industry, and secure internships or full-time positions. A test was conducted as part of the recruitment process to assess the skills and qualifications of the participants. This initiative provided valuable support for students in their career development journey.

MOUs

FOHSS x ISSI MOU

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FHSS) at the University of Central Punjab (UCP) has entered into an online Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) to promote student internships, as well as academic and research collaboration. The MoU was officially signed by Mr. Malik Qasim Mustafa, Director of Arms Control & Disarmament at ISSI, and Prof. Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at UCP.
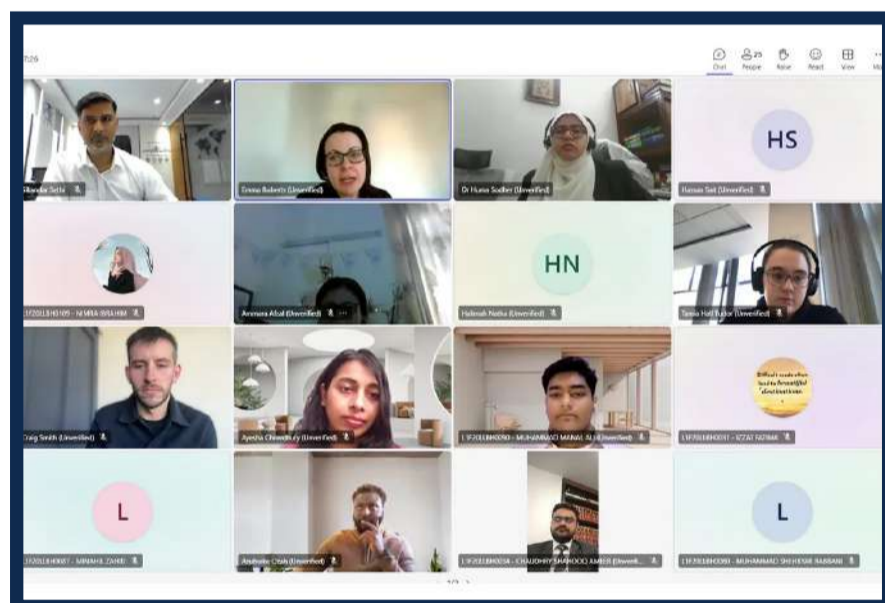
This partnership aims to provide valuable opportunities for both students and faculty to engage in research and academic development. By fostering closer ties between academia and strategic studies, this collaboration will enhance practical exposure for students, while contributing to the ongoing advancement of research in critical fields.

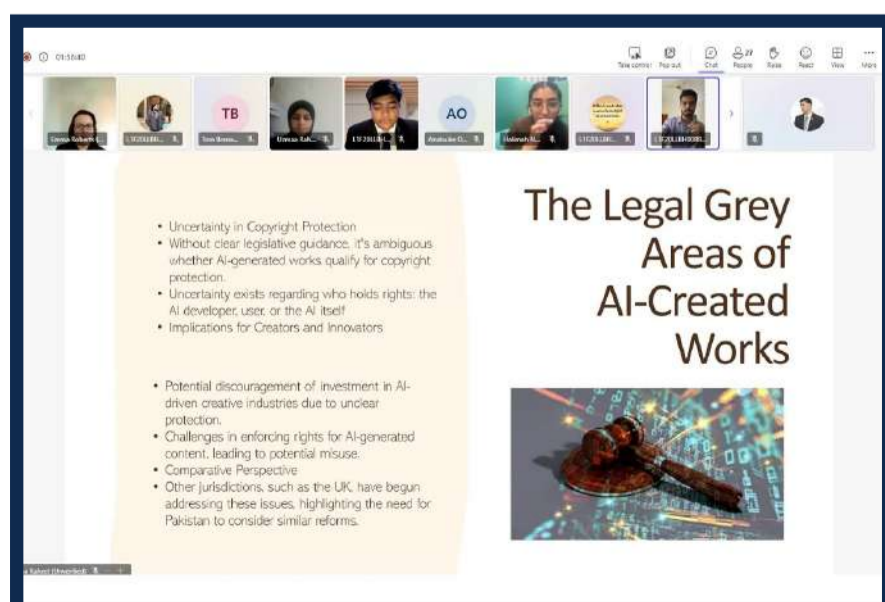# UCP Business School x EmpowerNet Global MOU

UCP Business School has signed an MOU with EmpowerNet Global to enhance industry-academia ties and create new opportunities for students. The agreement, signed by Dr. Muhammad Athar Siddiqui, Dean of UCP Business School, and Ms. Uzma Kamal, CEO of EmpowerNet Global, was honored by the presence of Pro-Rector Dr. Hammad Naveed, Director of Student Affairs Jawad Pervez Khan, and FILO FOMS Mustafa Hanan Mehboob. The collaboration will focus on industrial partnerships, workshops, academic research, and internships.

UCP x Salford Law School COIL Project

UCP International Office, in collaboration with the UCP Faculty of Law and University of Salford Law School, recently completed a COIL project. Students from diverse backgrounds worked together on legal research topics like AI and Law, Environmental Justice, and Gender Equality. They proposed innovative policy reforms and presented their findings to a panel of experts. This project fostered collaboration across cultures and academic boundaries, enhancing their global understanding.

FLL x PILAC MOU

The Faculty of Languages and Literature, UCP, has signed a MOU with the Punjab Institute of Language, Art & Culture (PILAC) to foster collaboration in promoting language, literature, cultural research, and co-curricular activities.

The MOU was formally signed by Dr. Fehmida Sultana, representing FLL, and Ms. Beenish Fatimah Sahi (Director General) on behalf of PILAC. The event was organized by Mr. Nohaiz Mehmood and Ms. Fatima Urooj.

The delegation from PILAC included Ms. Beenish Fatimah Sahi (Director General), Dr. Muhammad Asim Chaudhry (Director, PILAC), Raja Hassan Jalil (Focal Person & Senior Producer), and Farrukh Abbas Khan (Admin Officer). This MOU signifies FLL-UCP's commitment to providing students with enriched learning experiences and practical exposure to cultural and linguistic research.

CSO x PILDAT Meeting

The Career Services Office held a meeting with the Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency (PILDAT) to discuss potential collaborations. This partnership aims to open new placement opportunities and offer valuable experiential learning for UCP students. By joining forces with PILDAT, UCP is committed to enhancing students' professional growth. The initiative will provide hands-on experiences in a range of fields, helping students build essential skills for their future careers. Exciting opportunities lie ahead as both institutions work together to empower students.

Industry Visits

Department of Political Science and International Relations' Study Tour to Islamabad

The Department of Political Science and International Relations organized a 3-day study tour to Islamabad, where students visited five key institutions: IRS, Air University, IPRI, MoFA, and ISSI. The tour provided insights into economic development, regional studies, aerospace, policy research, and diplomacy, offering valuable academic and practical exposure to political and international affairs.

CSO's Visit to Bank of Punjab

CSO visited Bank of Punjab, Head office to explore potential collaborations aimed at enhancing student development and placement opportunities. The discussion focused on bridging the gap between academia and industry to foster a more seamless transition for students into the professional world.

Mr. Waqar Zulfiqar Sheikh Vice President Talent Aquisition at Bank of Punjab, provided insights into prospective collaborative initiatives between the two.

University Events

O-Day Spring 2025

Our Orientation Day was an exciting and enriching experience for all the new students who joined us! It was filled with energy, engagement, and learning as we welcomed them into the UCP family. O-Day allowed students to settle in, connect with each other, and get a sneak peek into the amazing journey ahead. At UCP, we are proud to provide a supportive, inclusive, and dynamic environment for growth academically, socially, and personally. This is just the beginning, and UCP will continue to be a community that supports and inspires you at every step.

Climate Change Research Council Meeting

The Climate Change Research Council (CCRC) held a meeting chaired by Dr. Hadia Awan. The council is focusing on various environmental challenges, including wastewater treatment, nano filters, biodegradation of plastics and dyes, food safety, biogas production, biofertilizers, microplastics, and air quality monitoring devices. During the meeting, members provided updates on their ongoing projects, highlighting progress and collaborative efforts. The council continues to work on developing solutions to support environmental sustainability.

Berger Paints Delegates' Visit to UCP

This Women's Day, we created a space for voices to be heard and stories to be shared. A media wall was a canvas for thoughts, tributes, and reflections, where participants penned down their views on Women's Day 2025. From heartfelt messages to bold statements of empowerment, the wall became a testament to women's strength, resilience, and aspirations. It was a day of action, appreciation, and advocacy—one that celebrated women's unwavering spirit and their role in shaping a better future. The words on the wall may fade, but the impact of this day will continue to inspire change.

Berger Paints Delegates' Visit to UCP

Sadia Aurangzeb, Head of HR at Berger Paints Pakistan, visited UCP to explore potential collaborations for the upcoming recruitment cycle. Placement Partners from all nine faculties presented a detailed overview of the structured processes aimed at improving recruitment efficiency. This visit paves the way for establishing a long-term partnership with Berger Paints Pakistan.

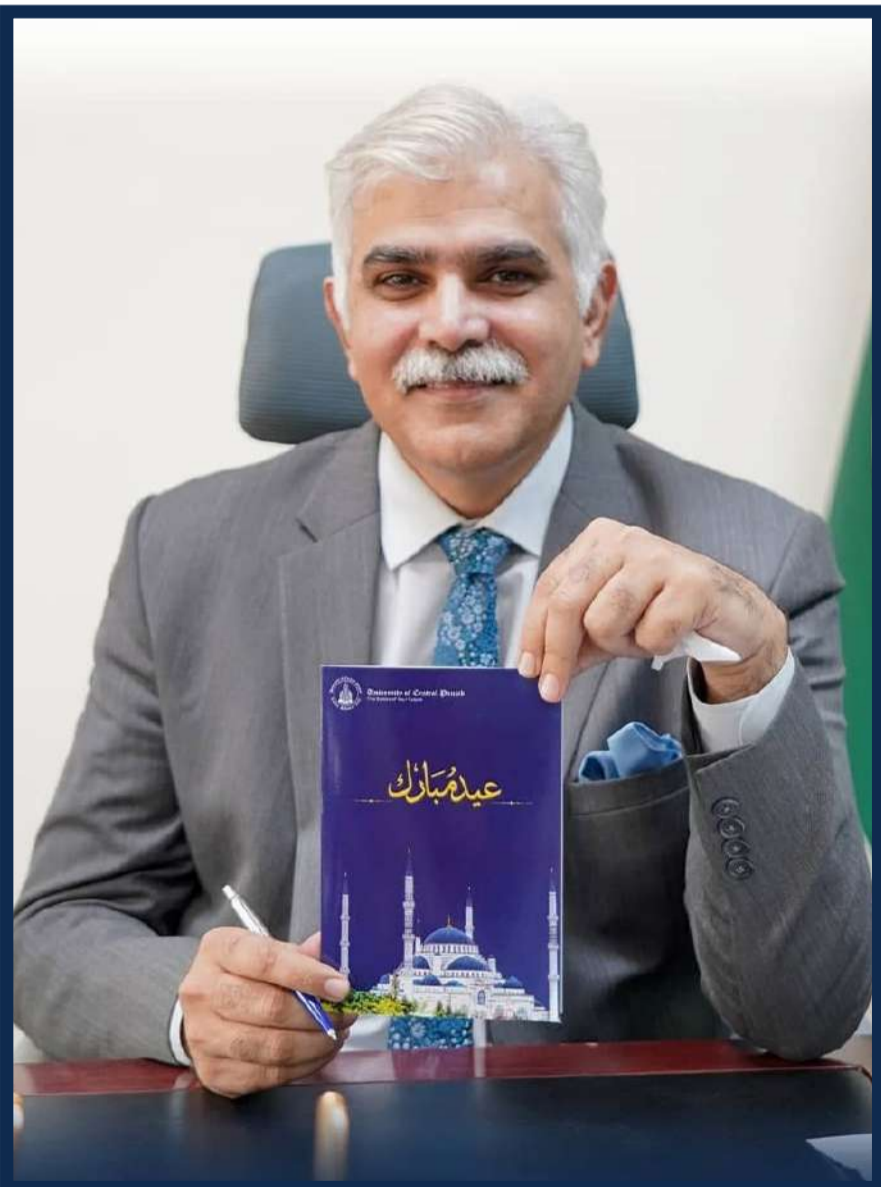## Empowering Women & Accelerating Action on Women's Day

This Women's Day, UCP took a step towards empowering mobility and accelerating action by inviting the Ride with Pride team to conduct scooty riding lessons for women, fostering confidence and independence. To honor the women who inspire us, a media wall was setup, where participants shared names of the remarkable women who have shaped their lives. We celebrated strength, self-reliance, and the power of women to drive change.

FOE hosted PPSC Recruitment Exam

Faculty of Engineering hosted the proficiency test for the recruitment of Assistant Director (Architecture – CAD) in the Communication & Works Department of the Government of Punjab. The test was conducted by the Punjab Public Service Commission.

This event showcased the high academic standards and credibility of UCP, with PPSC placing their trust in the university for its transparency and facilities. The test was organized smoothly, thanks to the support from the IT Department and skilled staff from the Civil Engineering Department. UCP's security team also ensured the safety and comfort of all candidates.

Eid Greetings from University Leadership

UCP leadership continues the tradition of spreading joy and warmth during Eid by personally signing cards for our stakeholders and external partners. This gesture reflects the spirit of unity and celebration within our academic family. By keeping this tradition alive, we not only share festive wishes but also strengthen the bonds that make UCP a close-knit community.

Takhleeq Business Incubator x IEC Hult Prize UCP Chapter

The Hult Prize UCP Chapter was led by Campus Director Arfa Iqbal in collaboration with IEC and Takhleeq Business Incubator. The competition provided a platform for aspiring entrepreneurs from UCP and beyond to pitch their innovative business ideas addressing the UN SDGs. The competition was judged by Muhammad Zulkifl Hassan, Ms. Sadia Zia, Dr. Amina Rizwan, Mr. Kaazim Ali, and Mr. Muhammad Hammad-ur-Rehman, who shared their valuable insights with the participants.

This achievement reflects UCP's commitment to fostering entrepreneurship and innovation, made possible under the mentorship of Takhleeq's Director, Yaser Amir Awan, whose support played a crucial role in shaping the event's success. The winning team, Relife (also a contestant on Shark Tank Pakistan), will now compete on the national stage. The first runner-up was Nutra Box, followed by Vital Vines in third place.

UCP x Alkhidmat Foundation Medical Kits Drive

UCP volunteers and Alkhidmat Foundation organized a drive to pack medical kits to be sent to Palestinians living in refugee camps. Alkhidmat Foundation and UCP volunteers helped pack 30,000 kits for our Palestinian brothers and sisters who have been displaced. The activity aligns with SDG #1 No Poverty, SDG #2 Zero Hunger, SDG #10 Reduced Inequalities, and SDG #17 Partnership for the Goals. This initiative not only provides vital medical support to those in urgent need but also fosters global solidarity.

Esaar-e-Ramzan Iftar Drive

VIS department and UCP-Welfare Society have embraced the spirit of Ramzan, which is sacrifice. During the holy month of Ramzan, Iftar is arranged for UCP guards, office boys, and support staff every Friday. Our major collaborative partners this year are Allah Walay Trust, Alkhidmat Foundation, and Sawera Khadim Foundation. This activity aligns with SDG #1 No Poverty, SDG #2 Zero Hunger, SDG #10 Reduced Inequalities, and SDG #17 Partnership for Goals. At UCP we are committed to foster a sense of community and solidarity.

IBTIDA Iftar Drive

IBTIDA organized an Iftaar Drive, bringing underprivileged children to the University of Central Punjab. In partnership with Allah Waly Trust, these young guests had the chance to break their fast and experience the university. A special thanks to the Welfare Society UCP for their support in making this event possible. Events like these create a sense of community and highlight the importance of giving back. We look forward to more opportunities to serve and support those in need.

Campus Chronicles: A Photographic Exploration of the Campus

FLL organized "Campus Chronicles: A Photographic Exploration of the Campus", a captivating photography competition that invited participants from across Pakistan. Teams gathered to explore and capture the essence of campus life, highlighting unique perspectives and moments from every corner of the university.

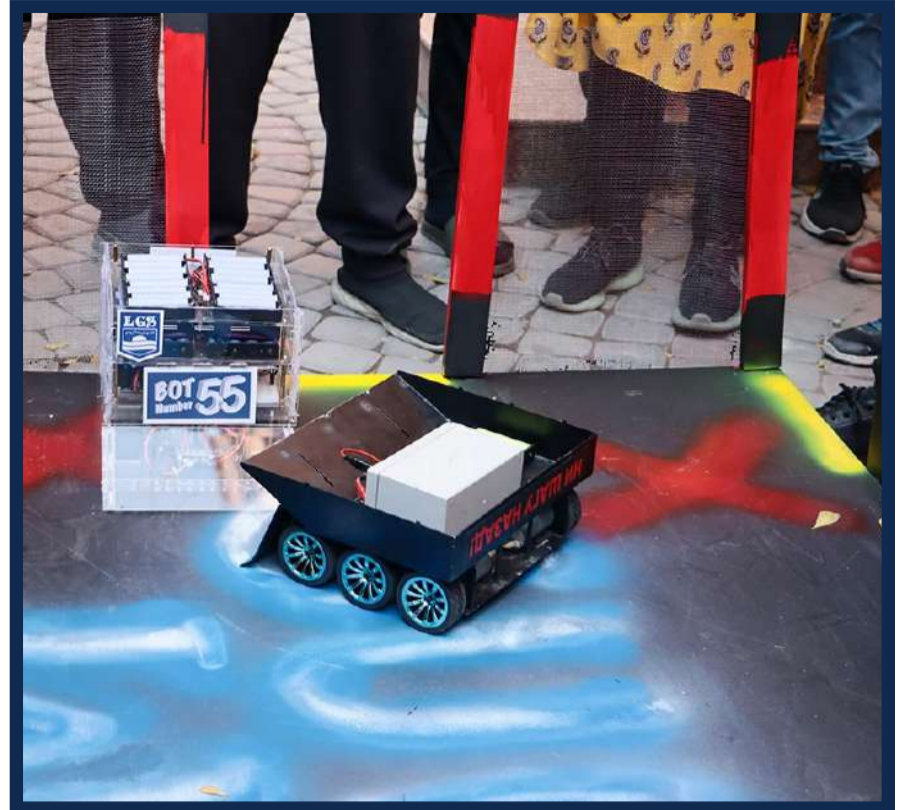## Alumni Relations Office's Fundraising Iftaar

The UCP Alumni Relations Office initiated a fundraising iftaar as a way for alumni to support students. At UCP, we are committed to ensuring that no student faces financial barriers and is able to continue their education. This initiative reflects our ongoing dedication to creating opportunities for all students. The General Body of Alumni Association and university leadership were present to support this event.

Student Achievements

FOE's SumoWar Robotics Competition

The Faculty of Engineering organized the SumoWar Robotics Competition under the Mech Tech Category of UCP Taakra 2025. Students from across Pakistan participated to showcase their engineering and robotics skills. Participants were tasked with designing, building, and programming robots to compete, and demonstrate their engineering knowledge.

Muhammad Salman's PhD Defense

Mr. Muhammad Salman defended his PhD dissertation titled "Role of TV Web Channels in Child Sexual Abuse Literacy Campaign: Towards Policy Guidelines". His research work was supervised by Dr. Noor Hayat Sargana, Assistant Professor at FMMC, UCP. The external evaluators were Dr. Mudassir Mukhtar (Associate Professor, NUML, Islamabad), and Dr. Ashraf Iqbal (Assistant Professor, GC University, Faisalabad). Dr. Ali Ashraf (Assistant Professor) served as the internal examiner.

The arrangements were made by Dr. Aisha Hakim (Assistant Professor & PhD Coordinator at FMMC) in collaboration with GSO. Dr. Sadaf Zahra (Assistant Professor at FMMC) also attended this defense.

PMI Lahore Chapter Knowledge Exchange Seminar 2025

The students of BS Business Analytics batch, along with their teacher Abdur Rehman, had a great experience at the PMI Lahore Chapter Knowledge Exchange Seminar & Iftar Dinner 2025. The event offered discussions on the importance of structured project management in driving business success, the role of AI and data-driven decision-making in today's fast-paced world, and the value of networking in unlocking new opportunities and collaborations.

Bashir Ahmed Shaheen's PhD Defense

Mr. Bashir Ahmed Shaheen has completed his PhD in Biochemistry. He defended his doctoral thesis, titled "Genetic Basis of Obesity and Associated Biomarkers in Selected Population of Pakistan" and his PhD Synopsis Defense was conducted by the Graduate Studies office of UCP. His research was conducted under the supervision of Dr. Muhammad Afzal, Associate Professor at the Department of Basic and Applied Chemistry, UCP, with Dr. Zia ur Rahman, Assistant Professor at the Department of Biotechnology, UCP, serving as Co-Supervisor.

The Thesis Defense Committee was chaired by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology, UCP. The thesis evaluation was carried out by esteemed external examiners, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tayyab from the University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS), Lahore, and Prof. Dr. Tahir from the University of the Punjab.

Fraz Bakhtiyar's PhD Defense

Mr. Fraz Bakhtiyar defended his doctoral dissertation, "Adoption of Rescue Mobile Application for Communication during Emergency: A Case of Punjab Emergency Service Department," under the supervision of Dr. Fawad Baig, Dean of FMMC at UCP.

The external evaluators were Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad, Incharge & Assistant Professor at the Department of Digital Communication and Media Technology, GC University and Dr. Hilal Fatima, HoD & Assistant Professor, Department of Mass Communication, Lahore Leads University. Dr. Farahat Ali served as the internal examiner. The session, convened by Dr. Atif Ashraf, HoD at FMMC, concluded with his congratulations to Mr. Bakhtiyar on this academic milestone.

International Office Initiatives

International Office x College De Paris Global Partnership

The International Office at UCP facilitated a visit from College De Paris, where Pro-Rector Dr. Hammad Naveed met with Mr. Syed Osama Abbas, Regional Director, to discuss student and faculty mobility, joint research, and transnational education (TNE). This collaboration represents a significant step in expanding UCP's global partnerships and enhancing academic exchange opportunities. By engaging in these discussions, UCP strengthens its international academic network, offering students and faculty broader opportunities for growth and development. Furthermore, the collaboration will pave the way for future research and educational initiatives that benefit both institutions.

Alumni Associations Strategic Meetings'

FMMC Alumni Association's Strategic Meeting

The Faculty of Media and Mass and Communication hosted an alumni meeting aimed at strengthening alumni engagement and enhancing student development. The meeting, chaired by Dr. Fawad Baig, Dean of the Faculty of Media and Mass Communication, was attended by faculty members, department heads, and the newly elected alumni representatives. The agenda focused on four key domains: Research & Innovation, Placement, Endowment, and Engagement. The alumni body set quarterly and yearly targets to enhance student career opportunities, support research activities, and establish industry-academia linkages.

FOL Alumni Association's Strategic Meeting

The Faculty of Law hosted an alumni meeting aimed at strengthening alumni engagement and enhancing student development. The meeting, chaired by Dr. Hadia Awan, Dean of the Faculty of Law, was attended by faculty members, department heads, and the newly elected alumni representatives. The agenda focused on four key domains: Research & Innovation, Placement, Endowment, and Engagement. The alumni body set quarterly and yearly targets to enhance student career opportunities, support research activities, and establish industry-academia linkages.

FOMS Alumni Association Strategic Meeting

FOMS leadership, under the guidance of Dean Dr. Athar Siddiqui, met with the UCAA FOMS Alumni Body to discuss key strategic initiatives aimed at boosting UCP's growth. President of the Alumni FOMS, Amjad Bhatti, shared a set of ambitious ideas, which were fully supported by Dr. Ather Siddiqui.

These initiatives focused on enhancing student placements and career growth, fostering industry engagement and activating the alumni network, creating an endowment fund for academic and research excellence, and advancing research and innovation. This collaboration marks a significant milestone in strengthening UCP's influence in both academia and industry, opening the door to exciting opportunities for the future.

FOST Alumni Association's Strategic Meeting

Faculty of Science and Technology, Alumni Association held a strategic meeting with the Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh Dean, FOST to finalize the quarterly and yearly Key Performance Indicators for the newly elected alumni body. The session focused on defining a roadmap to enhance alumni engagement, strengthen industry connections, and promote institutional development.

The meeting concluded with a consensus on the action plan, and a quarterly and mid-year review was to assess progress. The initiatives set forth in this meeting will play a pivotal role in strengthening the UCP alumni network and ensuring meaningful contributions to the academic and professional landscape.

FOIT & CS Alumni Association's Strategic Meeting

The Faculty of Information Technology and Computer Science Alumni Association convened a strategic meeting with Dr. Muhammad Amjad Iqbal, Dean of the Faculty of Information Technology and Computer Science, to finalize the quarterly and yearly Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the newly elected alumni body. The meeting focused on enhancing alumni engagement, fortifying industry connections, and advancing institutional growth.

By aligning alumni goals with institutional objectives, the session produced a clear action plan and a review schedule to assess progress. This initiative will play a crucial role in strengthening the UCP alumni network, fostering continuous academic and professional development, and creating valuable opportunities for both alumni and current students.

FLL Alumni Association's Strategic Meeting

The Faculty of Languages and Literature's Alumni Association hosted a strategic meeting with Prof. Dr. Fehmida Sultana, Dean of FLL, Mr. Nohaiz Mehmood, Industry Liaison Officer, and Ms. Fatima Urooj, Senior Program Coordinator, to finalize the quarterly and yearly Key Performance Indicators. The session focused on enhancing alumni engagement, strengthening industry ties, and driving institutional development. Key action points were outlined, with a review schedule in place to ensure continuous progress.

The discussions also emphasized the importance of ongoing alumni collaboration to drive positive change. The outcome is a clear roadmap to further enrich the UCP alumni network while fostering both academic and professional growth.

FOE Alumni Association Strategic Meeting

The Faculty of Engineering hosted a highly productive alumni meeting aimed at strengthening alumni engagement and enhancing student development. The meeting, chaired by Dr. Rizwan Shad, Dean of FoE, was attended by faculty members, department heads, and the newly elected alumni representatives.

The agenda focused on four key domains: Research & Innovation, Placement, Endowment, and Engagement. The alumni body set ambitious quarterly and yearly targets to enhance student career opportunities, support research activities, and establish industry-academia linkages.

FOPS Alumni Association's Strategic Meeting

The Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences organized an alumni meeting to foster stronger alumni connections and support student growth. Chaired by Prof. Dr. Mahtab Ahmad Khan, Dean of the

Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, the meeting brought together faculty members, department heads, and newly elected alumni representatives.

The discussions centered around four main areas: Research & Innovation, Placement, Endowment, and Engagement. The alumni group set both quarterly and annual goals to improve career opportunities for students, boost research initiatives, and strengthen ties between academia and industry.

Faculty Achievements

UNODC Integrity, Ethics, and Anti-Corruption Module – Cohort 4 Training of Trainers

UCP faculty members have completed the UNODC-Integrity, Ethics, and Anti-Corruption Module – Cohort 4, held at Punjab University Pharmacy College and Ramada Lahore. The training focused on ethical leadership, public integrity, and anti-corruption strategies. The participants were Dr. Sumera Zaib (HOD, Basic and Applied Chemistry), Dr. Mohsin Gulzar (Assistant Professor, Microbiology), Mr. Muhammad Idrees (Principal Lecturer, Applied Computing), and Mr. Mohsin Sami (Senior Lecturer, Software Engineering).

Dr. Sumera Zaib's Keynote Speech at the National Centre of Industrial Biotechnology

Dr. Sumera Zaib, Head of the Department of Basic and Applied Chemistry, was the Guest Speaker at the National Centre of Industrial Biotechnology (NCIB) at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi. She gave a lecture on "Good Laboratory Practices" to postgraduate students, junior researchers, and faculty members.

During the session, Dr. Zaib explained the importance of following standard procedures in labs to ensure accuracy, reliability, and integrity in scientific research. She emphasized how these practices are essential for producing high-quality research, meeting regulations, and making the research applicable in industrial settings. The lecture also opened doors for future collaborations.

Muhammad Awais Shafique's Participation in the 1st Climate Change & Green Sustainability Conference

Dr. Muhammad Awais Shafique, Associate Professor at the Department of Civil Engineering, was invited by NESPAK to serve as a panelist on the topic of "Green Mobility & Sustainable Transport Systems – Reimagining Urban & Inter-City Connectivity" at the inaugural Climate Change & Green Sustainability Conference. The session offered a platform for Dr. Shafique and other experts to discuss sustainable mobility solutions and the future of eco-friendly transportation in Pakistan. During the session, several participants raised questions related to the topic, and Dr. Shafique provided detailed and satisfactory responses. He also shared the initiatives taken by UCP Lahore to address transportation challenges and mitigate the environmental impacts of climate change.

Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh's Keynote Speech at 3rd ICSTI 2025

Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, Dean, FOST, delivered a keynote lecture on "The Role of Machine Learning in Advanced Characterization of Graphene-Metal Oxide Nanocomposites" at the 3rd International Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation at Kinnaird College for Women, Lahore.

In his keynote address, he highlighted the transformative impact of machine learning on the characterization and performance optimization of graphene-metal oxide nanocomposites, emphasizing their potential applications in catalysis, energy storage, and environmental remediation. His lecture provided an analysis of how artificial intelligence enhances material property predictions, leading to accelerated research and innovation in nanomaterials science.

Social Work

IBTIDA UCP x Rizq UCP Chapter Iftaar Drive

IBTIDA UCP organized an Iftaar Drive in partnership with the UCP Rizq Chapter, giving IBTIDA Scholars the chance to break their fast on the UCP campus during Ramadan. This event helped create a sense of community and gave the scholars a chance to rest and refocus on their studies. It was a great example of the unity and kindness that Ramadan represents, and IBTIDA UCP appreciates the support and participation of everyone involved.

Journal

UCP-JMC, Volume 2, Issue 2

We are pleased to announce the release of Volume 2, Issue 2 (July–Dec 2024) of the UCP Journal of Mass Communication, recognized in the HEC Y-Category.
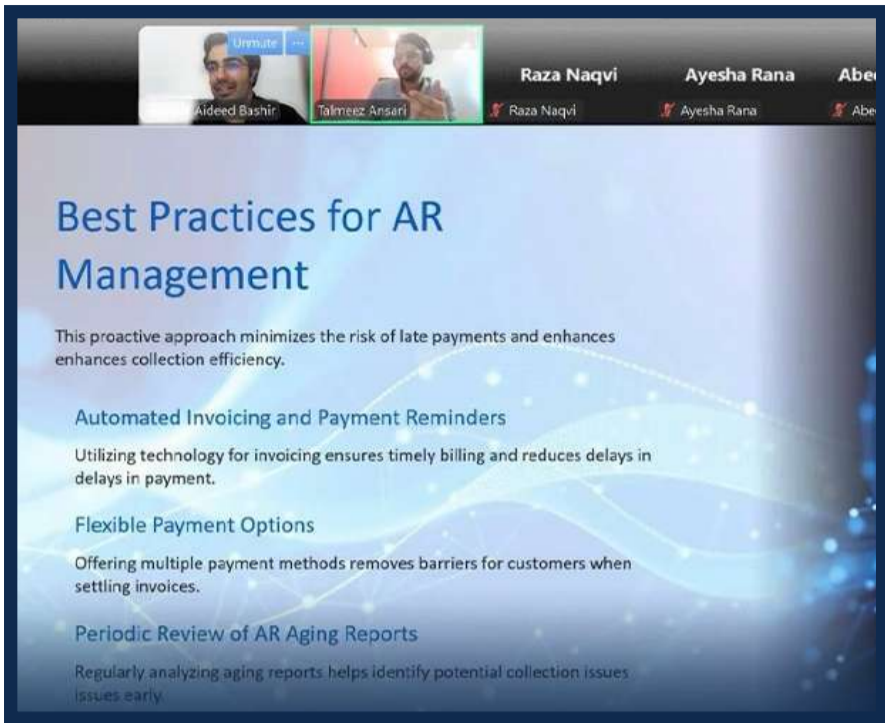
Faculty Achievement

Congratulations to Prof. Dr. Akhyar Farrukh on his appointment as the Director of Research! We wish him success in driving new opportunities and advancements in the field of research.

FOMS' Session on Optimizing Accounts Receivable Management

FOMS organized a session "Optimizing Accounts Receivable Management" featuring Mr. Talmeez, Assistant Manager of Finance at Contour Software. The session was organized by Mr. Aideed Bashir from the Faculty of Management Sciences (Accounting & Finance).

During the session, Mr. Talmeez provided a comprehensive overview of the importance of ERP systems in managing accounts receivable. He emphasized how ERP tools can streamline processes, enhance cash flow, and reduce payment delays, offering practical strategies that can be effectively applied in real-world financial management.

FMMC's Workshop Misinformation, Media Literacy, and Fake News: How to Verify Facts

The Faculty of Media and Mass Communication organized a faculty development workshop titled 'Misinformation, Media Literacy, and Fake News: How to Verify Facts.' The session was led by Ms. Benazir Shah, Editor of Geo Fact Check, with Dr. Atif Ashraf, HoD at FMMC, serving as the focal person. Ms. Yakhshi Saleem, Senior Lecturer at FMMC, hosted the event.

Dr. Hammad Naveed's Interaction with Ibtida Scholars

IBTIDA Scholars met Dr. Hammad Naveed, Pro-Rector UCP. The children were warmly welcomed on campus, reflecting the belief that education is a right for everyone. At UCP, we are committed to removing financial barriers so that these children can also contribute to the society.
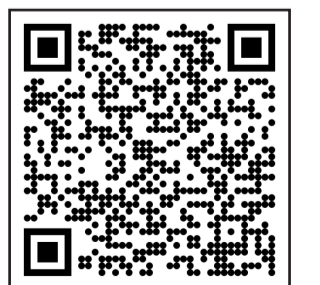
UCP Talks

Director Takhleeq, Mr. Yaser Awan, shares valuable entrepreneurial insights for budding entrepreneurs and much more. Scan to hear his expert advice and gain useful tips to kickstart your journey!

UCP Talks latest episode's trailer featuring Dr. Hammad Naveeed, Pro-Rector UCP. He spent years afar, but his heart always longed to return. Now, he's ready to give back to the country that shaped him. Scan and hear his vision for UCP.

EDITORIAL

In 1666, one of the greatest scientists in history, Sir Isaac Newton, had a moment of inspiration while walking in a garden. He watched an apple fall from a tree and wondered, "Why does the apple always fall straight to the ground? Why doesn't it go sideways or up?" He realized that the Earth must be pulling it down, leading him to the idea of gravity.

This apple story has become a symbol of those "eureka moments" when great ideas suddenly appear. However, many forget that Newton worked on his theory of gravity for nearly 20 years before publishing his groundbreaking book. The falling apple was just the starting point for his long journey of thinking.

The Big Question!

Is Creativity Something You're Born With or Something You Develop?

Creative thinking happens when we make connections between different ideas. But is it something we're born with or something we can improve? In the 1960s, researcher George Land studied 1,600 five-year-olds and found that 98% of them were highly creative. But by age 10, only 30% were still in the highly creative range, and by age 25, just 2% of them scored highly for creativity. As people grow up, they often lose their creativity.

Other studies show a similar trend: even though IQ scores have gone up since 1990, creativity scores have dropped. While some people might be more naturally creative, research suggests that most of our creative skills can be improved with practice.

Intelligence and Creativity

To unlock your creative potential, you don't need to be a genius. You just need to be smart enough and then practice consistently. As long as you have a basic level of intelligence, you can develop your creativity with hard work and dedication. Research has shown that once you meet a certain level of intelligence, your personality traits become more important for creativity.

Growth Mindset and Creativity

A key part of creativity is how we think about our abilities. If you have a fixed mindset, you believe that your talents and skills are unchangeable. But with a growth mindset, you believe you can improve through effort and practice. Carol Dweck, a psychologist, explains that praising effort and persistence, not just talent, helps foster a growth mindset.

For creativity, this means embracing the process, even when you might feel embarrassed or frustrated. It's about being willing to make mistakes and keep going, knowing that failure is part of learning.
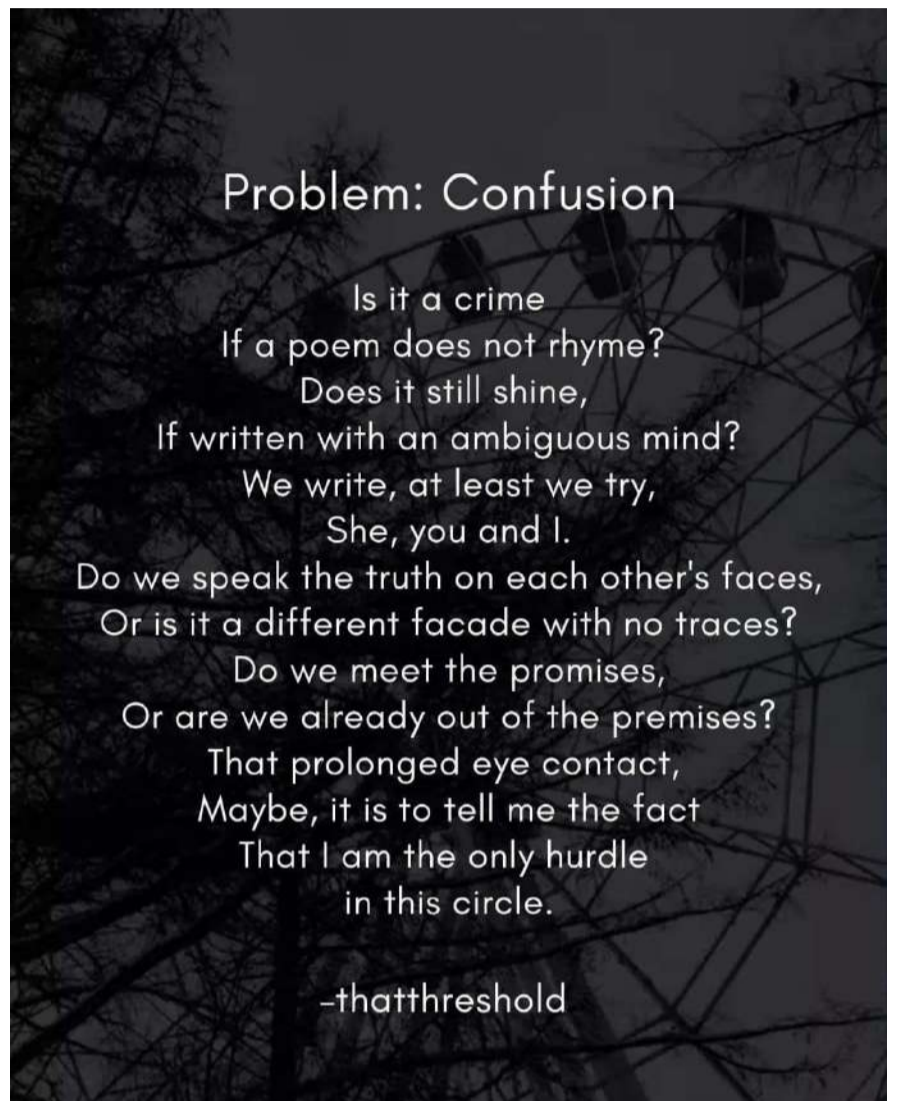
How to Be More Creative?

If you're ready to put in the work and face your fears, here are some practical tips to boost your creativity:

1. Set limits: Creating constraints can spark creativity. For example, Dr. Seuss wrote his famous book using only 50 words. Limiting yourself can make you more resourceful.

2. Write more: Writing regularly, even if it's not perfect, can help you discover great ideas. The more you write, the more likely you are to come across something amazing.

3. Broaden your knowledge: Explore different topics and ideas. The more you learn, the more connections you can make.

4. Sleep well: Good sleep is crucial for creativity. Lack of sleep can reduce your ability to think creatively.

5. Spend time in nature: Studies show that spending time outdoors can boost your creativity. Nature and sunlight can help your brain think more creatively.

6. Think positively: Being happy can help you think more broadly and make creative connections. Positive thinking can improve your ability to solve problems and generate new ideas.

7. Keep creating: Creativity is all about hard work. Consistency is key, so commit to making something regularly, even if it's not perfect at first.

Creativity is a process, not just a sudden flash of brilliance. It takes time, effort, and practice to develop. Like Newton, you might need to work on your ideas for years before seeing them come to life. But by practicing the strategies above, you can unlock your creative potential and keep improving. Creativity is something you can develop, not something you're born with.

Amna Raza
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Problem: Confusion

Is it a crime
If a poem does not rhyme?
Does it still shine,
If written with an ambiguous mind?
We write, at least we try,
She, you and I.
Do we speak the truth on each other's faces,
Or is it a different facade with no traces?
Do we meet the promises,
Or are we already out of the premises?
That prolonged eye contact,
Maybe, it is to tell me the fact
That I am the only hurdle
in this circle.

–thatthreshold

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