

#SurbulandUCP

MONTHLY CONNECT

APRIL | 2025



UCP Through April's Lens

Voices of our campus, moments that move us, and ideas that inspire.
This April, we grew, we led, we thrived together at UCP.

Highlight of the Month



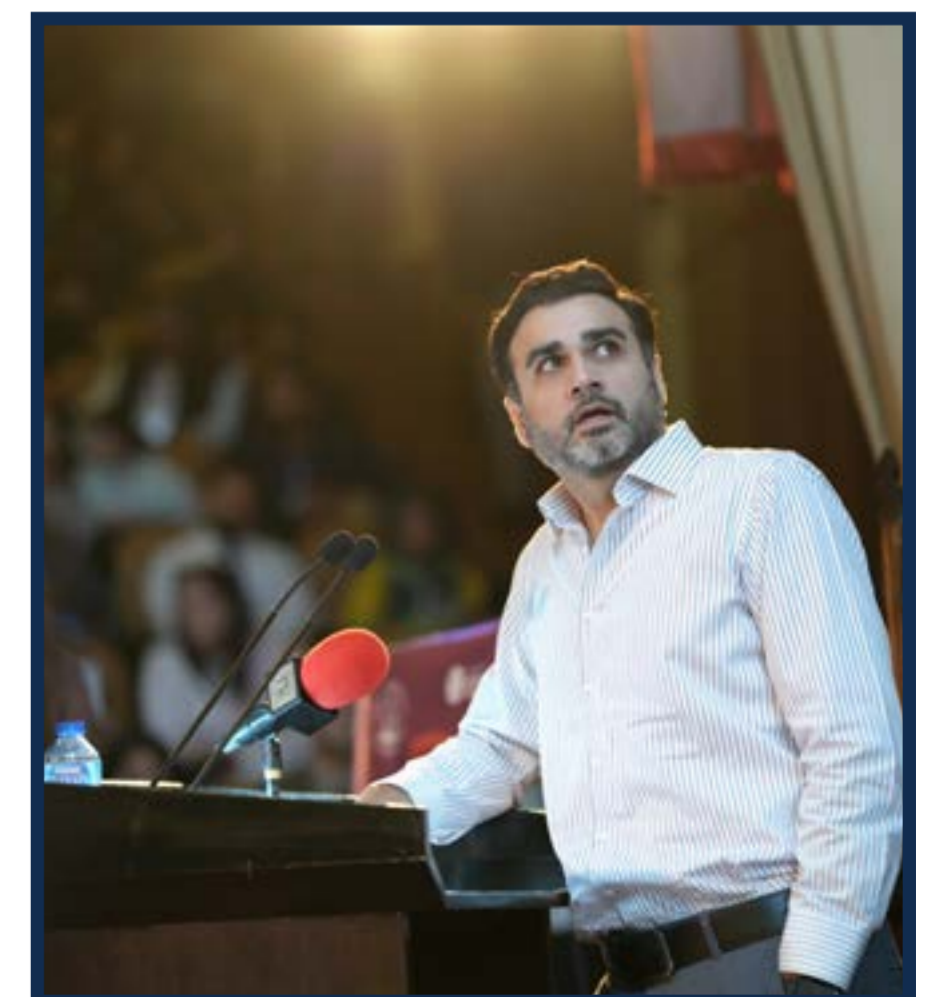
10th International Conference on Contemporary Issues in Business Management (ICIBM) 2025

Faculty of Management Studies organized the 10th two-day International Conference on Contemporary Issues in Business Management (ICIBM), focusing on research, innovation, and academic-industry collaboration.

Dr. Muhammad Athar Siddiqui, Dean, Faculty of Management Sciences, opened the conference with a welcome address followed by a virtual address from Prof. Dr. Şerife Zihni Eyüpoğlu (Near East University, Turkey). Dr. Muhammad Shehryar Shahid (LUMS) and Mr. Zeshan Qureshi (CEO, Sparx Smartphones) delivered keynote speeches on leadership and innovation. Dr. Hammad Naveed, Pro-Rector, also addressed the audience, emphasizing the role of research in addressing real-world problems.

The second half of the day included an online keynote by Dr. M. Azmat (Aston University, UK), a workshop on paper development by Dr. James Fleck (University of Edinburgh), and paper presentations across multiple tracks. The day concluded with the best paper awards and closing remarks from Dr. Talha Zubair Ahmad Khan.

Day 2 focused on skill development and student engagement. The day started with a Case Study Competition sponsored by Sparx Smartphones, judged by Dr. Mansoor Junejo (Sukkur IBA University) and Mr. Zeshan Qureshi. Parallel sessions included a simulation-based training by Dr. Nuno Arroiteia (Bradford School of Management, UK) and a hands-on SAP-ERP training by Certify Me.





International Conference on Contemporary Challenges for Democracy (IC3D) 2025

Department of Political Science and International Relations, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, hosted the International Conference on Contemporary Challenges for Democracy (IC3D) on April 23–24, 2025. The two-day conference brought together leading academics, diplomats, researchers, and policy experts from Pakistan and across the globe to discuss pressing democratic issues in the modern world.

The conference opened with a welcome note from Prof. Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt, Dean FHSS and Chief Organizer, who emphasized the importance of academic dialogue on democracy. Insightful keynote addresses were given by Dr. Hasan Askari Rizvi, renowned political analyst and former caretaker chief minister of Punjab, and H.E. Per Albert Ilsaas, ambassador of Norway to Pakistan. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Former Federal Minister, served as Chief Guest, compellingly reflecting global democratic trends and Pakistan's political landscape. Dr. Hammad Naveed, Pro-Rector, delivered the closing remarks for the inaugural session and presented souvenirs to the dignitaries.

Over two days, the conference featured parallel academic sessions addressing key themes such as populism, authoritarianism, human rights, ethnic politics, democratization in developing states, and the role of media in democratic processes. Sessions featured academics from institutions including the National University of Singapore, University of Delhi, Heidelberg University, University of Reading, and China University of Geosciences, alongside UCP's faculty and students, presented impactful research.

Regional issues like political instability in South Asia, digital authoritarianism, and the intersection of democracy with ethnic and security concerns were given special focus. UCP researchers contributed value to youth political engagement, peacebuilding in post-conflict regions, and democratic representation. A key highlight of Day 2 was the Policy Dialogue Session, which brought together senior scholars and practitioners to exchange ideas on real-world democratic solutions, moderated by Dr. Mohammad Irfan Ali Fani.

The closing ceremony featured Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan, Speaker of the Punjab Assembly, as Chief Guest. His remarks emphasized the importance of inclusive governance and democratic resilience in Pakistan. The conference concluded with a summary address by Prof. Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt, followed by closing remarks and souvenir distribution by Dr. Hammad Naveed.

IC3D 2025 stands as a landmark milestone for UCP, reinforcing its role as a hub for scholarly engagement, critical thinking, and global academic collaboration in the realm of political science and international relations.





4th International Conference on Navigating the Legal Challenges of Cybersecurity and Forensic Evidence in the Digital Era

Faculty of Law held its two-day 4th International Conference on Cybersecurity and Forensic Evidence on April 24-25, 2025, bringing together experts from law, technology, healthcare, and academia to examine how the digital age is reshaping legal responses to cybercrime and digital evidence. It explored a wide range of topics—cross-border legal issues, gender and privacy rights, scientific techniques in forensics, and the growing influence of AI and digital ethics in the legal domain.

Notable keynote speakers included:

- Prof. Ahmad Ali Ghouri, University of Sussex, UK
- Prof. Dr. Hadia Awan, University of Central Punjab, Pakistan
- Zaid Hamza, National University of Singapore, Singapore
- Prof. Mohiuddin bin Daud, International Islamic University of Malaysia
- Dr. Humera Shafi, Chughtai Healthcare, Pakistan
- Dr. Allah Rakha, University of Health Sciences, Pakistan
- Matilda Adedoyin Chukwuemeka, Lead City University, Nigeria

They were joined by presenters and legal experts from Pakistan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Indonesia, and the UK.

Seven Thematic Sessions

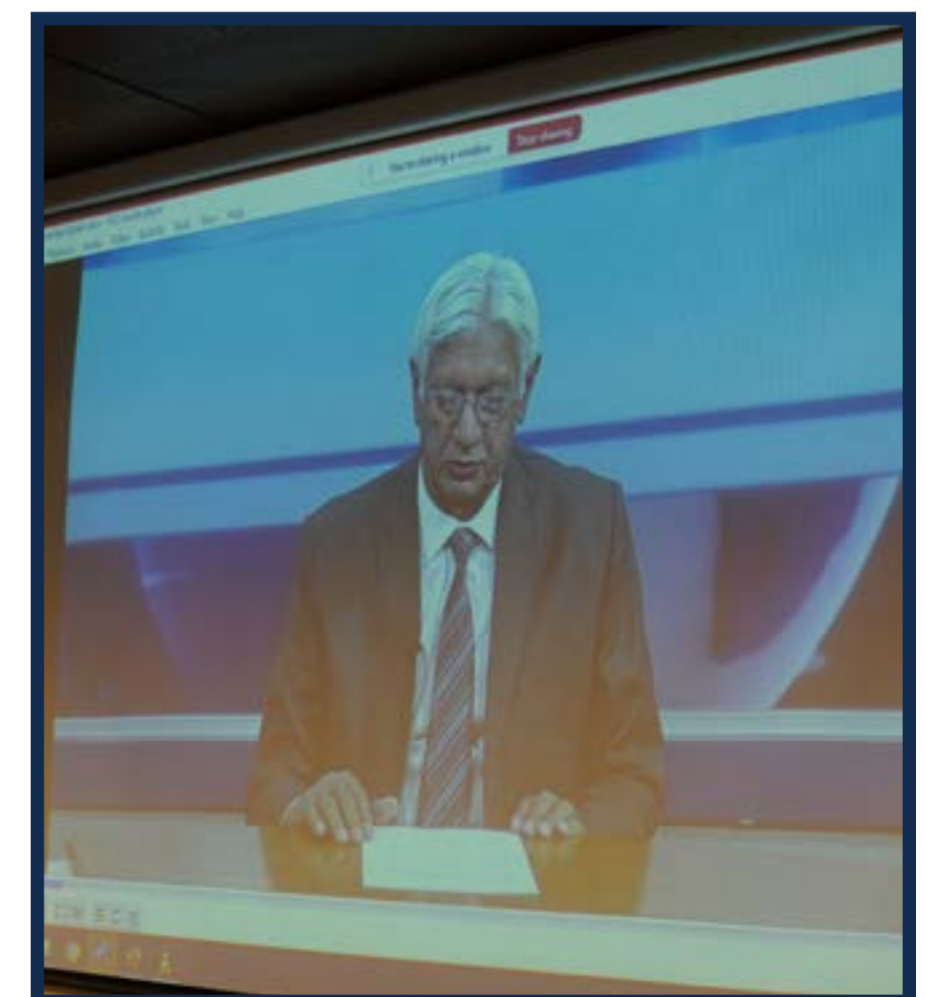
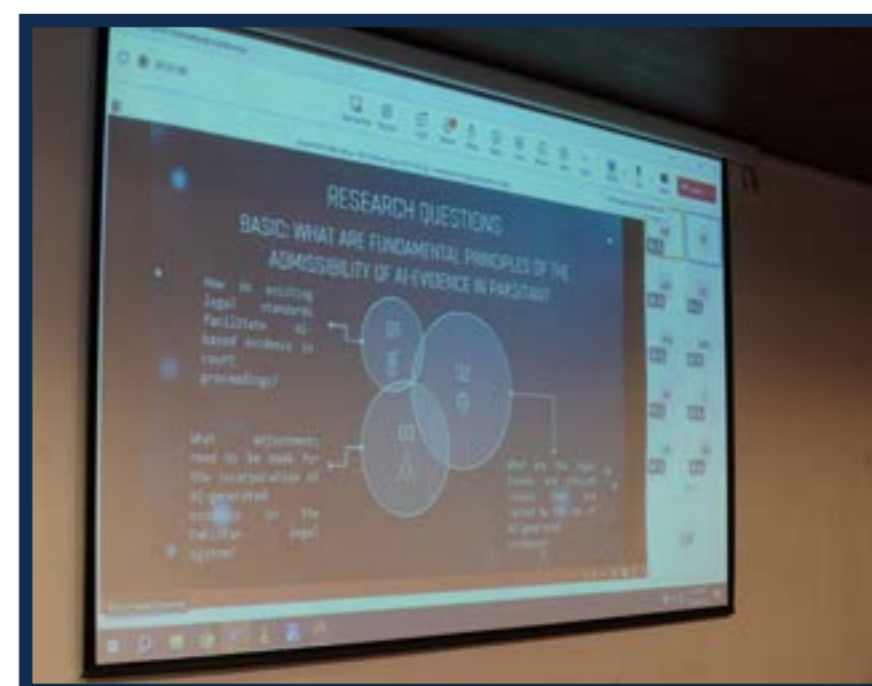
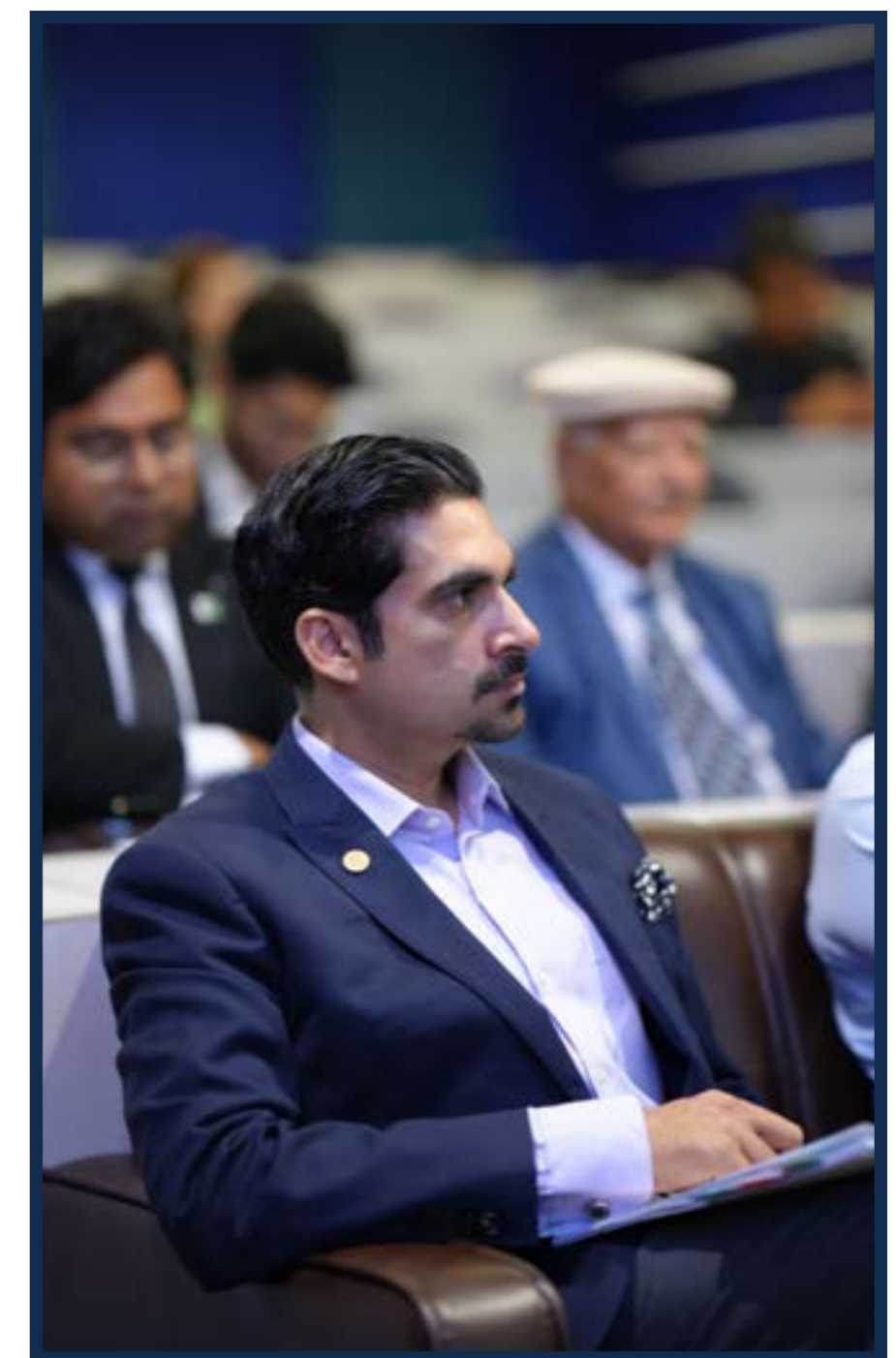
The conference was structured around seven focused sessions:

1. Bio-Forensics in Legal Investigations
2. Gender, Harassment & Digital Inclusion in Cyber Law
3. Cybercrime Laws and Global Frameworks
4. Privacy, Data Protection & Surveillance
5. Digital Forensics in Criminal Trials
6. Cross-Border Cooperation in Cyber Law
7. Ethics, AI & Media in Digital Justice

Each session featured multiple speakers, paper presentations, and Q&A segments, encouraging dialogue between researchers, legal professionals, and students.

In Numbers

- 30+ research papers presented
- 7 themed sessions chaired by legal and academic leaders
- Audience from over 6 countries



Workshops and Seminars

LIC's Master Class on Career Coaching and Employability



Learning Innovation Centre's Master Class on Career Coaching and Employability, led by Provost Mr. Muhammad Yaqoob aimed to strengthen the Career Services Office team's role in guiding students toward global opportunities, industry exposure, freelancing, and soft skills development. Key outcomes included actionable KPIs to enhance mentorship, student engagement, and employability – setting a new direction for impactful career support at UCP.

Reservoir System Analysis with HEC-ResSim Session



A technical session on "Reservoir System Analysis using HEC-ResSim (Hydrologic Engineering Center Reservoir Simulation)" was conducted at the Center of Excellence in Water Resources Engineering, University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore. The session was led by Dr. Muhammad Babur, Associate Professor Civil Engineering Department at the University of Central Punjab.

This focused training was organized for the students of the Dam and Reservoir Engineering class and also included professional participants from the Water and Power Development Authority. Dr. Babur engaged the participants in an in-depth exploration of reservoir operation strategies, system behavior modeling, and real-time decision-making using this software.

FOL x ADRI Foundation Mediation Course



UCP International Office in collaboration with Faculty of Law organized a one-day foundation mediation course for Law students and faculty in partnership with Alternate Dispute Resolution initiative (ADRI). Students and faculty learned the modern dispute resolution mechanisms and how to integrate them into legal and commercial frameworks.

The training was conducted by internationally accredited mediators Mr. Syed Akbar and Ms. Mehak Bari from ADRI. Following the successful completion of the foundation course the trainees will have the opportunity to opt for internationally accredited civil and commercial mediation courses recognized by CMC and IMI through ADRI. Dr. Hadia Awan, Dean, Faculty of Law and Pro-Rector, Dr. Hammad Naveed appreciated the efforts.

LIC's Pilot Roll-Out session for Faculty Self-Evaluation



Learning Innovation Centre's Pilot Roll-Out session of Faculty Self-Evaluation — a powerful tool for educators to assess their teaching practices. This reflective process improved classroom engagement, strengthened student connections, and more intentional pedagogy. The pilot phase included a select group of faculty members to explore the efficacy and impact of the process before wider implementation.

During the session, participants responded with enthusiasm and openness, eager to pause, reflect, and grow.

Bridging Words and Code: Career Pathways for BS English Graduates in IT and Law



Faculty of Languages and Literature's seminar "Bridging Words and Code: Career Pathways for BS English Graduates in IT and Law" broadened students' career perspectives by highlighting opportunities beyond traditional roles.

Alumna Ms. Aiza Irfan and Mr. Ahmad shared their professional journeys in the legal and IT sectors, emphasizing the relevance of English graduates in areas such as content writing, digital marketing, legal research, and communication.

The session concluded with a networking opportunity, presentation of souvenirs, and a renewed sense of direction and motivation among the participating students.

Driving Growth Through Smart Finance, Strategic Sales, and Strong Partnerships



Mr. Zain Farooq, Area Sales & Finance Manager, Engro Fertiliser Limited, delivered a talk on "Driving Growth Through Smart Finance, Strategic Sales, and Strong Partnerships."

Drawing from his professional journey, Mr. Farooq shared valuable real-world insights, highlighting how strategic financial planning, effective sales execution, and robust business partnerships serve as critical pillars for sustainable growth in today's competitive business environment.

The Art of Profeneurship: Turning Research into Companies



Learning Innovation Centre in partnership with Provost Office, hosted "The Art of Profeneurship: Turning Research into Companies." Mr. Rahmat Ullah Gill, renowned innovation expert, author of eight books, and mentor to over 100 tech-driven projects encouraged faculty members to look beyond academic publishing and explore the potential of transforming research into viable business ventures.

The workshop featured an interactive, case-based format with no slides or lectures, engaging participants through six powerful exercises focused on research commercialization. Attendees were equipped with practical toolkits for building startups and spin-offs, exposed to inspiring examples of entrepreneurial professors, and guided through the role of intellectual property as a vital bridge between science and industry.

Introduction to Parametric Modelling in Auto desk Revit Workshop



Mechanical Engineering Department in collaboration with the Pakistan HVACR Society, organized a one-day workshop titled "Introduction to Parametric Modeling in Autodesk Revit" led by Engr. Waleed Razzaq, HOD (HVAC), Labti Trading & Contracting Co., Kuwait.

Students gained hands-on insights into creating and managing parametric families in Revit, with a focus on fan coil unit design. The workshop covered a range of topics including 3D parametric modeling, family parameters, and Revit integration, also encouraging students to explore ideas for their final year projects.

How Industries Can Go Carbon Negative and Promote Sustainable Practices



Directorate of Research in collaboration with Fast Cables Limited, hosted a panel discussion on “How Industries Can Go Carbon Negative and Promote Sustainable Practices” as part of the Fast Forward Sustainable Development Forum 2025. Industry leaders, sustainability experts and academicians discussed practical solutions for reducing industrial carbon footprints and advancing sustainable development.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, Director Research, facilitated a conversation on carbon capture technologies, renewable energy solutions, sustainable supply chains, and policy frameworks to drive carbon-negative industrial practices.

The panelists included Ms. Nazifa Butt, Director Climate Action and Sustainability; Ms. Noreen Arif, Manager Environment and Safeguards, Punjab Energy Department; Dr. Muhammad Yaqoob Javed, Associate Professor at COMSATS University Islamabad; and Mr. Raffay Bin Rauf, Head of Sustainability at Sapphire Finishing Mills.

A Day with Peter Morey and Amina Yaqin

English Department, FLL hosted an invited talk by Professor Peter Morey (University of Birmingham, UK) and Professor Amina Yaqin (University of Exeter). Professor Morey delivered a talk exploring the intersection of myth, reality, and colonial legacy, with a focus on gender oppression in Kamila Shamsie’s novel. Professor Amina Yaqeen discussed women’s struggles in relation to their positioning within universal, transnational, and local feminist discourses. They also met with the faculty members of the English Department to engage in further discussions.



Communication Skills Training

Learning Innovation Centre organized a Communication Skills Training session for faculty and staff, facilitated by Ms. Iqra Fatima and Ms. Nayab Afzal. The session focused on enhancing confidence, managing difficult conversations, and writing clear, professional emails.



Pro-Rector’s Meeting with Batch Advisors

Learning Innovation Centre organized a meeting between the Pro-rector and the Batch Advisors of all faculties. The primary objective of the meeting was to discuss the student dropout rate and address other related concerns to enhance student retention and academic support strategies.



Social Work

IBTIDA’s Education for All

IBTIDA UCP is committed to the comprehensive growth of students, emphasizing the development of their skills through interactive activities like statistics, drawing, and alphabet learning. By nurturing creativity and talent, IBTIDA empowers students to excel in society, providing them with the essential tools for success and enabling them to make a meaningful impact.



IBTIDA UCP and RIZQ UCP Friday Food Drive

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VIS Partners in Cities Across Pakistan



Volunteers in Service (VIS) Department has expanded its reach beyond Lahore, building strong partnerships in 10 cities across Pakistan! With 190 partner organizations onboard including national / international organizations and networks, our mission is simple: To create diverse, accessible volunteering opportunities for students—wherever they are, whenever they can.

Work is already underway to establish collaborations in Balochistan, KPK, and Azad Jammu & Kashmir, further extending our impact. This growth reflects our strong commitment to SDG#17 – Partnerships for the Goals.

Career Services Office

CSO x FOMS LinkedIn Workshop for 3rd-Year Accounting & Finance Students



Career Services Office conducted an interactive LinkedIn workshop for 3rd-year students of Accounting & Finance. The session guided students on creating strong LinkedIn profiles, building professional networks, and utilizing the platform effectively to explore internship and job opportunities. This workshop is part of CSO’s commitment to enhancing students’ career readiness and equipping them with the tools needed to excel in today’s competitive job market.

CSO’s Mock Interviews Session



Career Services Office organized Mock Interviews for 3rd-year engineering students, providing them with valuable exposure to real-world interview scenarios. The initiative aimed to enhance students’ confidence, communication skills, and career readiness.

CSO x Metro Pakistan Sales Apprenticeship Program and Recruitment Drive



Career Services Office organized an information session on the Sales Apprenticeship Program, followed by a virtual recruitment drive for graduates from the Faculty of Management Sciences.

During the session, alumni were informed about career paths and development opportunities at Metro Pakistan. The initiative aimed to link graduates with employers and support their entry into the workforce.

CSO's Career Paths Workshop



Career Services Office conducted a workshop for Faculty of Media and Mass Communication students on Career Paths. The session focused on helping students explore diverse career opportunities in media, assess their strengths, align personal goals, and prepare effectively for the job market. Students gained insights to shape their professional journey with confidence!

CSO's Mock Interviews for International Relations Students

Career Services Office organized exclusive mock interviews for International Relations students to help them gain real-time interview experience and professional feedback.

Ms. Iqra Mahmood, Lead Communications Strategist, Chief Minister's Special Monitoring Unit (Punjab) conducted the interviews. It equipped students with practical tips and personalized feedback as they prepare for the professional world.



CSO's Resume Writing Workshop

Career Services Office conducted an interactive resume writing workshop for the students of the Faculty of Media & Mass Communication. During the session, students learned how to craft an effective resume, avoid common mistakes, and highlight key elements. The workshop equipped students with valuable skills to create standout resumes that enhance their job prospects. It ended with an engaging activity that encouraged students to put their newfound knowledge into practice. It prepared students to present themselves effectively to potential employers and navigate the competitive job market with confidence.



CSO x FOL Industry Mock Interviews & Professional Networking Visit



Career Services Office organized Industry Mock Interviews and Professional Networking Visit for 4th year law students. The activity provided the students with a unique opportunity to experience real-world scenarios and connect with industry professionals to get valuable insights on career prospects.

Interview Preparation Workshop for 3rd Year Engineering Students



Career Services Office organized an Interview Preparation Workshop for 3rd year engineering students. This session equipped students with essential skills and strategies to navigate their upcoming placement interviews. Participants gained insights into interview etiquette, effective communication techniques, and how to present their strengths to potential employers.

The Career Services Office remains committed to empowering students as they take navigate their professional journey.

Sports Achievement

All Pakistan Inter-University Weightlifting Championship 2024-25

University of Management & Technology under the supervision of the Higher Education Commission, Pakistan hosted All Pakistan Inter-University Weightlifting Championship 2024-25. Sixteen universities from across the country participated.

University of Central Punjab won the championship with 8 gold and 2 silver medals. Prof. Dr. Asghar Zaidi, Provost UMT, and Mr. Javed Memon, Director General Sports, HEC, presented trophies and cash prizes to the winners.



The All-Pakistan Inter-University Karate (Women) Championship 2024-25

Superior University under the supervision of the Higher Education Commission organized All-Pakistan Inter-University Karate (Women) Championship 2024-25. University of Central Punjab won the championship after a series of competitive matches with 16 universities.



At the All Pakistan Karate (Men) Championship

UCP continues to make its mark in national sports. At the All Pakistan Karate (Men) Championship organized by Government College University Faisalabad, UCP emerged as the overall champion by winning 9 gold and 1 silver medal across all 10 weight-categories.



At the All Pakistan Inter-University Fencing Championship 2024-25

UCP secured second position at the All Pakistan Inter-University Fencing Championship 2024-25, held at Sawabi University under the supervision of the Higher Education Commission.



At the All Pakistan Inter-University Tennis Championship

UCP secured second position at the All Pakistan Inter-University Tennis Championship organized by LUMS.



Industry Visits

CSO's Industrial Visit to Discover Pakistan



Career Services Office team visited Discover Pakistan office to explore collaborations for internships and job placements for Media and Mass Communication students and graduates.

Mr. Kaiser Rafiq, CEO, Discover Pakistan and HD TV, hosted the team and shared valuable insights on strengthening industry-academia linkages. He expressed keen interest in partnering with UCP to support and empower emerging media talent.

FOMS Industry Visit



UCP Business School organized a industry visit for BBA students to Bata Pakistan, offering them first-hand exposure to the company's production and warehousing operations. It helped bridge the gap between academic theory and real-world business practices. Students learned how different departments work together to ensure smooth operations.

FMCC's Industry Visit



Faculty of Media & Mass Communication arranged an industry visit to Aik News for first-semester BS students. Students were first introduced to Aik News and then taken on a tour of essential departments, including the Production Control Room, Programming Department, and the studio sets. Mr. Naveed Qaiser, Director of News, gave an insightful overview of these departments.

Students also had the chance to engage in an interactive Q&A session with the program hosts and production staff, offering them valuable perspectives on the news industry. As a token of appreciation, Ms. Mariyam Idrees presented Mr. Naveed Qaiser with a souvenir from UCP.

DG PEMRA Operations-Punjab's Visit



Faculty of Media and Mass Communication in collaboration with Career Services Office organized Mr. Muhammad Ikram Barkat's, DG PEMRA Operations Punjab visit to UCP. Mr. Barkat elaborated on PEMRA's rules and regulations, censorship mechanisms in electronic media, the scope and ambit of PEMRA's authority, and the ways misinformation and disinformation spread. The session concluded with an engaging Q&A segment where students posed pertinent questions regarding freedom of expression, misinformation, and other related issues.

The City School's Delegation Visit



UCP leadership welcomed a delegation from The City School. They were introduced to UCP's forward-thinking vision and taken on a guided tour of the vibrant campus.

Student Achievements

Anam's PhD Defense



Graduate Studies Office hosted the Ph.D. open defense of Ms. Anam from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Ms. Anam's dissertation, titled "Development and Validation of At-Risk of Substance Use Scale (ARSUS) for Adolescents," was shared with the examiners for their review.



Tehreem Ali's PhD Defense



Graduate Studies Office organized the PhD Open Defense Session of Ms. Tehreem Ali, PhD Scholar in Microbiology. She defended her dissertation titled: "Molecular Characterization of Multi Drug Resistant Clostridium Perfringens Toxin Type A and its Sensitivity to Plant Based Essential Oils."

Muhammad Tasnim Khan's PhD Defense



The Graduate Studies Office at UCP organized the PhD Open Defense Session of Mr. Muhammad Tasnim Khan, a PhD Scholar in Business Administration. Mr. Tasnim Khan defended his dissertation titled: "Does Paradoxical Leadership Affect Employee Innovative Work Behavior and Employee Retention in the ICT Industry of Pakistan" under the supervision of Dr. Sami Ullah.

Tabinda Khurshid's PhD Defense



Ms. Tabinda Khurshid defended her doctoral dissertation, titled "Consequences of Technostress on Job Performance, Job Satisfaction, and Job Turnover Intention of Media Personnel in Pakistan". Her research was conducted under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Fawad Baig.

UCP's Participation at the PINTECH EXPO 2025



University of Central Punjab's students, faculty, and staff took part in PINTECH EXPO 2025, organized by the Punjab Higher Education Commission. The event brought together 618 innovative projects from 47 universities and 16 colleges. UCP students presented their technology-focused Final Year Projects.

NutriFusion Competition 2025



Department of Food Science and Technology, Faculty of Science and Technology, and the Center of Food Innovation and Commercialization participated in the NutriFusion Competition 2025 held at UBAS, Lahore. 4th Semester (HND) students secured 2nd place in the Functional Food in Everyday Life category with their project "Therapeutic Tea".

They presented their made in UCP food products along with research ideas, demonstrating creativity, scientific knowledge, and practical problem-solving.

Faculty Achievements

Prof. Muhammad Naveed Recipient of Prof. A.R. Shakoori Gold Medal 2025



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Naveed (HoD, Biotechnology) has been honored with the prestigious Prof. Dr. A. R. Shakoori Gold Medal 2025 in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of Biological Sciences.

The award, including a Gold Medal, Cash Prize, and Certificate, was presented during the 43rd Pakistan Congress of Zoology (International) held at the University of Okara.

UCP Faculty Featured on "Innovative Pakistan" – Radio Pakistan FM 87.6



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, Director Research was recently featured on Innovative Pakistan on Radio Pakistan FM 87.6.

Dr. Farrukh shared insights on the role of academic research, commercialization, and university-industry collaboration in driving innovation and national progress. He also highlighted UCP's efforts to turn scientific research into real-world solutions, particularly in nanotechnology, energy, and healthcare.

Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh's Keynote Speech at ICONN 2025



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, Professor of Chemistry and Director Research, delivered a keynote lecture at the International Conference on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (ICONN 2025) held at the School of Chemical and Materials Engineering (SCME), NUST, Islamabad.

His talk, titled "Machine Learning Algorithms for Predicting Band Gaps and Photocatalysis Applications of Semiconductor Nanomaterials," highlighted the use of AI-driven models in accelerating the design and optimization of photocatalytic materials.

Dr. Akhyar Farrukh Leads Nanotechnology Vision at STED 2025



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, Director Research was invited as an expert to the STED 2025 Policy Dialogue, organized by the Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives in Islamabad. He contributed to discussions on Nanotechnology and Climate Change, presenting policy recommendations focused on nanotechnology's role in addressing Pakistan's challenges in clean energy, water, climate resilience, and agriculture.

He emphasized the need for a national nanotechnology policy, regional R&D clusters, university-industry collaboration, and civil-military synergies for technology transfer, underscoring UCP's leadership in research and sustainable innovation.

Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh Delivers Keynote at FIBC-PSM-2025



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, Director Research, delivered keynote lecture at the 15th International Biennial Conference of the Pakistan Society for Microbiology (FIBC-PSM-2025) held at Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.

His talk, titled "Innovating Sustainable Nanodrug Delivery Systems for Targeted Therapeutics in Infectious and Chronic Diseases," focused on the latest advancements in nanotechnology for targeted drug delivery, emphasizing its potential in treating infectious and chronic diseases. He provided an in-depth overview of the synthesis and applications of nanodrug formulations.

Dr. Sumera Zaib's Guest Lecture on Synergizing AI, CADD, and Nanoinformatics: Accelerating Drug Development for Complex Diseases



Dr. Sumera Zaib, Head of Basic and Applied Chemistry, delivered a lecture at The University of Haripur on "Synergizing AI, CADD, and Nanoinformatics: Accelerating Drug Development for Complex Diseases."

She highlighted how integrating these technologies enhances precision, optimizes drug-target interactions, and accelerates drug discovery. Dr. Sumera's lecture emphasized the transformative potential of combining AI, CADD, and Nanoinformatics, encouraging a new wave of innovation in drug development. This interdisciplinary approach not only accelerates the discovery process but also opens avenues for developing more effective treatments for complex diseases, ultimately benefiting public health.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh's Speech at the 3rd CCUMT-2025



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, Professor of Chemistry and Director of Research, delivered a notable talk at the 3rd International Chemistry Conference on Emerging Trends in Chemistry (3rd CCUMT-2025), held at UMT. His presentation, titled "AI-Driven Molecular Spectroscopy for Characterizing Graphene-Metal Oxide Nanocomposites," explored the integration of nanotechnology and artificial intelligence for advanced material characterization.

University Events

UCP Business School's 3rd Marketing Gala 2025



UCP Business School organized the 3rd Marketing Gala 2025 under the leadership of Ms. Izza Rehman, with support from faculty and student management teams. The week-long event featured eight competitions and an Alumni Guest Speaker Session, engaging over 2,000 students.

Ten IPS organizations showcased their products and services on campus during the event. Students from Entrepreneurial Marketing and Sales Management (FOMS), as well as Fundamentals of Marketing (FOIT), actively participated, and several new student-led startups were launched.

Mental Health Week 2025



UCP Psychology Society, in collaboration with the Department of Psychology, hosted Mental Health Week. Centered around the theme "Holistic Healing: Community and Mental Well-being," the three-day event aimed to raise awareness, encourage open dialogue, and promote emotional wellness through educational and creative initiatives.

Laddu Peethi Party



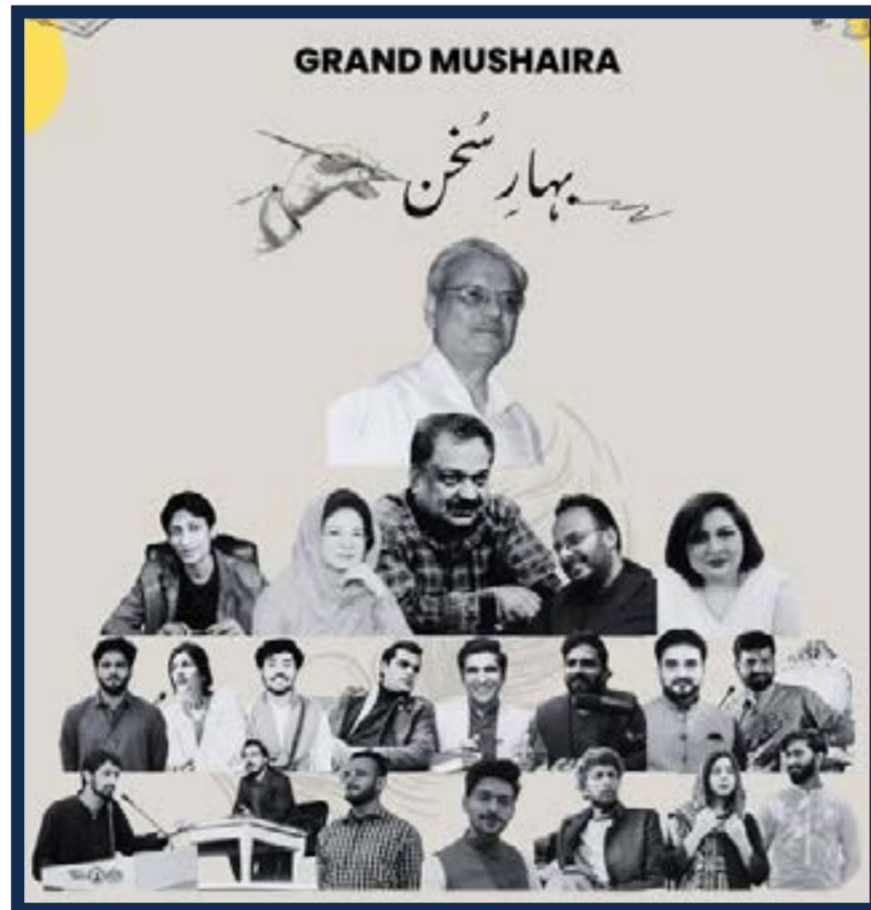
Takhleeq Problem Solving Institute brought together faculty members from diverse UCP departments for an evening that celebrated the spirit of cross-pollination—where conversation flowed as freely as the laughter, and collaboration was served alongside freshly made Laddu Peethi, crisp on the outside and soft on the inside. This informal gathering created space for educators to connect beyond their disciplines, reflect on their roles as changemakers, and explore how interdisciplinary dialogue can help nurture the next generation's problem-solving mindset.

Saraiki Culture Day



UCP celebrated Saraiki Culture Day with active participation from students, faculty, and staff. The event showcased the rich heritage of the Saraiki region through traditional attire, music, and cultural performances. Attendees came together to honor the language, customs, and artistic expressions that define Saraiki identity. The celebration created an inclusive space for cultural appreciation and learning. It served as a reminder of the diversity within the UCP community and the importance of preserving regional traditions.

Bahar-e-Sukhan



UCP Adabi Majlis' grand Mushaira – Bahar-e-Sukhan hosted renowned and talented poets their poems and verses won audience's hearts. Each verse echoed with applause, turning the evening into a heartfelt tribute to poetic expression.

UCP's Participation at the NAMAL Tech Expo



UCP's Space Research Center (SRC-UCP) participated in the NAMAL Tech Expo at NAMAL University, Mianwali, alongside representatives from over 21 universities. The team, led by Dr. M. Kamran Saleem, showcased student-built satellite models, including CanSAT, CubeSAT, and FloatSAT.

These models, part of ongoing research at SRC-UCP, simulate real-world space missions and offer hands-on experience in satellite technology. UCP's participation was recognized as a benchmark of excellence for student-led space research.

Reaccreditation of FOE's Programs



University of Central Punjab has received two-year reaccreditation for its B.Sc. Electrical and Mechanical Engineering programs by the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) at Level-II under the Washington Accord.

This covers Intake Batches 2021 & 2022 and follows the PEC visit held on January 27-28, 2025. The reaccreditation reflects UCP's strong compliance with Outcome-Based Education (OBE), Quality Management Systems (QMS), and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI). This global recognition makes UCP graduates' degrees equivalent to those in WA signatory countries (USA, UK, Canada, Australia, etc.).

TEDx UCP



University of Central Punjab hosted TEDx 2025 to honor Late Allama Muhammad Iqbal's death anniversary. The theme, "The Work of Iqbal for Pakistan," focused on how his ideas still shape our country, especially through the minds and actions of today's youth.

It featured following speakers:

1. Raza Naqvi – Future of Entrepreneurs in Pakistan
2. Yasir Niaz – Technology as a Change Agent
3. Ismaeel Qasim – Marginalized Community
4. Senator Walid Iqbal – Rise of Women in Leadership
5. Ramesh Singh – Marginalized Community
6. Dr. Hina Sikandar – Rise of Women in Leadership

7. Waqar Naeem – Technology as a Change Agent
8. Haider Aziz – Iqbaliat and the Future of Entrepreneurs in Pakistan

Communication Gala 2025



Faculty of Media and Mass Communications' Communication Gala featured four dynamic competitions: Poster Designing, TV Anchoring, Social Media Reels, and TV Commercials/PSMs. The event was graced by judges from the media industry: Mr. Shehzad Ahmed (COO, SEEME Productions), Mr. Usman Butt (Founder/CEO, Adventus Communications), Mr. Asim Siddique (GM, SAMAA Digital), Mr. Usama Ghazi (Renowned Analyst & Broadcast Journalist). Short clips from the four competitions were screened, showcasing the talent and passion of our participants. Winners and runner-ups were awarded with cash prizes in recognition of their outstanding work.



Pro-Rector Office

Pro-Rector called upon by HEC Leadership



Pro-Rector, Dr. Hammad Naveed, met with Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman Higher Education Commission and Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum, Executive Director, HEC, for insightful discussions on the future of higher education, research, and academic innovation. Such engagements reflect UCP's commitment to driving positive change and shaping a stronger academic landscape.

This paves the way for increased opportunities in research, innovation, and academic excellence for students and faculty.

MOUs

FOHSS x SPROUT Resource Center MoU



Department of Psychology Department, FOHSS has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with SPROUT Resource Center. This collaboration aims to facilitate internship opportunities for students and promote academic cooperation between the two organizations. Through this partnership, students will gain hands-on experience in the field, enhancing their practical skills and boosting their employability.

UCP x Fast Cables Ltd. MOU



University of Central Punjab and Fast Cables Limited have signed a Memorandum of Understanding, to expand sustainability-focused research, innovation, and industry-academia collaboration. The agreement was formally signed by Mr. Muhammad Usman Sheikh, Chief Commercial Officer (CCO) of Fast Cables Limited, and Dr. Hammad Naveed, Pro-Rector, during a ceremony attended by academic and industry representatives. As part of this collaboration, Fast Cables Limited has launched two merit-based awards to promote academic excellence and sustainability.

FLL x Shanghai International Studies University MOU



Faculty of Languages and Literature has signed a MOU with Shanghai International Studies University (SISU), China, to establish a Lab of languages, digital humanities and AI, and develop collaboration in research, students/teachers exchange, and integration of AI.

FOST x Aesthetics Lab MOU



Department of Microbiology, FOST and Aesthetics Lab have signed a Memorandum of Understanding, marking a significant collaboration aimed at enhancing academic and clinical training for Medical Laboratory Technologists. This collaboration will provide students with hands-on experience in aesthetic medicine, an emerging and dynamic field, allowing them to bridge academic knowledge with practical, real-world clinical skills.



Recruitment Drives

CSO x Barq Dev Recruitment Drive



Barq Dev, organized an on-campus recruitment drive aimed at connecting students with opportunities in the tech industry. As part of the selection process, a technical assessment was conducted to evaluate candidates' problem-solving and programming skills. A total of 46 students appeared for the test, showcasing strong interest and enthusiasm. This initiative served as a valuable step in supporting students' career advancement and industry readiness.

Strategic Meetings

19th ORIC Steering Committee Meeting

The 19th ORIC Steering Committee meeting was chaired by Dr. Hammad Naveed, Pro-Rector, with the agenda presented by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, Director Research/ORIC. Representatives from industry and academia, including Shafi Reso Chemical Pvt. Ltd., Siliconic Pro International, Malik Traders Group, and UCP faculty, reviewed ORIC's progress, discussed KPIs, and explored strategies to enhance research and industry linkages.



British Council x UCP

British Council's delegate visited University of Central Punjab to discuss scholarship opportunities for students, faculty fellowships, and teacher training courses aimed at enhancing professional development. It also covered Transnational Education (TNE) initiative, promoting global academic partnerships.



CXO Focus Council Group

UCP hosted the CXO Council Focus Group — a brainstorming session with alumni CEOs and industry leaders. The discussion focused on shaping the CXO Council into a strategic body to support policy formulation, consulting projects, and related initiatives.



National Space Agency's Delegation Visit



A delegation from the National Space Agency (SUPARCO) visited the University of Central Punjab, where faculty members from various disciplines came together for a session focused on Pakistan's First Manned Space Mission.

Discussion on potential collaborative research opportunities across several fields, including microgravity experiments, life sciences, material sciences, robotics, space technology, and more.



UCP Talks Episode 5 features Mr. Iftikhar Hussain, President of the UCP Alumni Association, as he shares the vision of the newly elected alumni body and explores ways to strengthen the bond within the UCP community. He emphasizes the importance of giving back and building lifelong connections. The episode highlights initiatives aimed at empowering students and alumni through networking and mentorship opportunities. He reflects on how UCP laid the foundation for his professional journey.

EDITORIAL

Three international conferences in one month — the 10th International Conference on Contemporary Issues in Business Management (ICIBM), the International Conference on Contemporary Challenges for Democracy (IC3D), and the 4th International Conference on Navigating the Legal Challenges of Cyber Security and Forensic Evidence in the Digital Era convened scholars, practitioners, and policymakers from multiple disciplines. April was not just busy; it was significant — a shift from routine academia to deliberate thought leadership, positioning the university at the intersection of research, relevance, and real-world impact.

UCP faculty members participated in national and international forums, presenting research, sharing recommendations, and discussing science, technology, education and sustainability. Director Research, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, presented research on machine learning algorithms for semiconductor materials at the Conference on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (ICONN 2025). He also addressed the 15th Biennial Conference of the Pakistan Society for Microbiology (FIBC-PSM), presenting applications of nano-drug delivery systems. Pro-Rector Dr. Hammad Naveed met with HEC leadership to discuss future planning, while faculty members contributed to policy dialogues and media programming on innovation.

Student development remained a central theme this month — a full calendar of training activities. The career services office led sessions on interviews, resume writing, and job preparation. The Learning Innovation Centre led workshops on turning research into companies and on gender sensitization and stress management for campus guards. Faculty of Law partnered with ADRI Foundation to conduct a one-day mediation training. Faculty and students learned about civil and commercial dispute resolution, with a pathway for future certification. The Faculty of Languages and Literature hosted a seminar on employment in IT and law for English students.

FMMC and FOMS students visited Aik News and Bata Pakistan to observe field operations outside the classroom. Meanwhile, Space Research Centre presented satellite prototypes at the NAMAL Tech Expo. IBTIDA continued its outreach work in education access, and the Volunteers in Service (VIS) Department expanded its partner network across 10 cities in Pakistan.

MoUs with Fast Cables Limited and Shanghai International Studies University cemented new academic collaborations, reinforcing our commitment to academic partnerships and experiential learning. UCP also received reaccreditation for two engineering programs and hosted multiple PhD defences in psychology, microbiology, business administration, and media.

This month's activities were filled with milestones. What stands out is not just the volume of activity but also the clarity of vision. UCP continues to evolve not as a passive participant in the higher education landscape but as an active, strategic contributor to knowledge, industry, and society.

Muhammad Talha
muhammad.talha01@ucp.edu.pk



Opinion

خواتین کے حقوق

تحریر -----محمد صادق
خواتین یا کسی بھی فرد کے حقوق وہ مناسب مقام اور درست اختیارات ہیں جو اس کو ملنا لازم ہیں۔
حقوق کو حاصل کرنے سے پہلے ان کے بارے میں آگاہی ہونا ضروری امر ہے۔
ہم میں سے اکثر کا خیال یہ ہے کہ آزادی ہی وہ چیز ہے جو ہمارا حق ہے کوئی شک نہیں کہ آزادی ہر فرد کا بنیادی حق ہے۔ لیکن آزادی اصل میں ہے کیا اس کو مجھے بھی بہت ضروری ہے۔
آزادی یہ نہیں ہے کہ کسی کیلئے کوئی حدود نہ ہوں کوئی ٹوکے والا نہ ہو کیونکہ غلط اور صحیح کی پہچان کیلئے کسی بھی فرد پر روک ٹوک کا ہونا لازم ہے چاہے پھر باہر سے ہو یا انسان کے اندر سے۔۔۔

”غلط اور صحیح کی پہچان کے بغیر بہترین شخصیت کبھی بھی پروان نہیں چڑھ سکتی“
کسی کی عزت نفس کا تحفظ اس کے لیے سب سے بڑی آزادی ہے۔ چھوٹی چھوٹی غلطیوں پر کسی کے ساتھ ہلکے آئیز رویہ اختیار کرنا اس کی بھلائی نہیں ہے اس کی آزادی نہیں ہے بلکہ اس کی ذہنی و نفسیاتی صحت کی تباہی کا سبب ہے۔

اور ذہنی و نفسیاتی صحت ہر فرد خواہ مرد ہو یا عورت کا بنیادی اور اہم ترین حق ہے یہ بھی عورت کا حق ہے کہ اسے بات بات پر عورت ہونے کا طعنہ دے کر اس چیز کیلئے جو نہ اس کے بس میں ہے اور نہ ہی وہ اس کیلئے قصور وار ہے پر شرمندہ کرنے کی کوشش کی جائے۔
اگر کوئی عورت اپنی محنت اور لگن کے باعث اچھے مقام پر موجود ہے تو یہ اس کا حق ہے اور ہم سب کو فراہمی سے تسلیم کر لینا چاہیے۔ اور اسے عملی اعتراف بھروسہ دیا جائے اسے اس کے ہونے پر فخر کے احساس سے روشناس کر دیا جائے۔

عورت کا حق یہ بھی ہے کہ مردوں کی لڑائی میں یا کچھ وقت کے لطف کیلئے عورت کیلئے غلیظ زبان استعمال نہ کی جاتے یہ نہ صرف اس کے حقوق کی بلکہ اخلاقیات کی بھی خلاف ورزی ہے کسی سے بھی اس کی زبردستی شادی کر دینا اس کے حقوق کے خلاف ہے اس پر ہاتھ اٹھانا اس کے حقوق کے خلاف ہے اسے کمزری کا احساس دلانا اس کے حقوق کے خلاف ہے نظریے کے اظہار پر اس کا مزاق اڑانا اور اس کو اس قدر پریشان کرتا کہ وہ خاموشی اختیار کر لے اس کے حقوق کے خلاف ہے۔ کوئی اعلیٰ اور کم تر تب ہوتا ہے جب کوئی مقابلہ ہو جبکہ مرد اور عورت دونوں کا اپنا ایک مقام اور اپنے حقوق ہیں تو مقابلے کی تو کوئی گنجائش ہی نہیں بنتی۔ تو اگر کوئی فرد اپنی ذمہ داری کو پورا نہ کرنا اپنا حق سمجھ رہا ہے تو وہ غلط مطالبے کر رہا ہے۔ غلط مطالبے کر کے پورا نہ ہونے کا ٹھوکہ کرنے سے پہلے اپنے مطالبے کے حقائق پر غور کر لینا چاہیے۔
حقوق کا تقاضا یہ ہے کہ قصور جس کا ہو چاہے مرد ہو یا عورت سزا بھی وہی سمجھئے۔“
نہ کہ عورت کو عورت ہونے کی پاداش میں دوسروں کی غلطیوں کی سزا بھی جھیلائی پڑے۔
حقوق کے مطالبے سے پہلے آگاہی لازم ہے آگاہی اور شعور بڑی بڑی ڈگریوں سے نہیں بلکہ سوچنے سمجھنے اور صحیح لفظ میں پہچان کی صلاحیت سے حاصل ہوتا ہے۔

~ Sadiq Wattoo



وہ پھولوں جیسی لڑکی
کانٹوں جیسے گھر میں رہتی ہے

سنا تھا کہ خوش مزاج ہے بہت
یوں ہی مسکرائی رہتی ہے

لیکن میں نے دیکھا ہے اسے
اکثر ہی خاموش رہتی ہے

ہو گی کبھی وہ ایسی ہی، جیسی تم بتاتے ہو
اب تو ایسی ہے جیسے چپکے سے کوئی دکھ سستی ہے

نہ کوئی دوست نہ کوئی بہن ہے اس کا
نا جانے دل کی باتیں کس سے کہتی ہے

~ Husnain





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Respect Tolerance Commitment Service Creativity



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