



YEARLY **CONNECT** 2025

Highlights

University of Central Punjab and University of Leicester Launch Official 2+2 Academic Pathway Partnership

University of Central Punjab (UCP) has officially launched a landmark international academic partnership with the University of Leicester (United Kingdom), reinforcing UCP's strategic commitment to globalization, international academic integration, and student mobility.

The partnership introduces a 2+2 undergraduate academic pathway, enabling students to complete the first two years of their degree at the University of Central Punjab and the remaining two years at the University of Leicester. Under this agreement, students will be eligible to pursue Bachelor of Science degrees in Economics and Data Analytics, and Accounting and Finance, with the final qualification awarded and accredited by the University of Leicester.

The agreement was formally signed in Lahore during an official visit by a delegation from the University of Leicester. The engagement focused on academic collaboration, institutional alignment, and the development of globally competitive study pathways for Pakistani students.

Speaking on the occasion, Mian Amer Mehmood, Chairman, Punjab Group of Colleges and Rector, University of Central Punjab, emphasized the broader responsibility of higher education institutions in a globalized world. He stated:

"Globalization is no longer a choice; it is our responsibility. Universities must prepare youth not only for local success but for meaningful participation on the global stage. Through international partnerships like this, we are empowering our youth with global exposure, adaptability, and the confidence to lead in an interconnected world."

Highlighting UCP's academic vision, Prof. Dr. Hammad Naveed, Pro-Rector, University of Central Punjab, said:

"This partnership reflects UCP's strong focus on international academic collaboration and quality assurance. It offers our students a structured, transparent progression across two higher education systems while equipping them with the academic rigor and global perspective required in today's competitive landscape."

Providing an overview from the University of Leicester, Professor Dr. Daniel Ladley, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Head of College and Executive Dean, University of Leicester School of Business, remarked:

"This collaboration establishes a robust framework for joint academic delivery between our institutions. It creates a clear and credible study pathway for students while strengthening cooperation in teaching, curriculum development, and academic exchange."

Underscoring the importance of UK-Pakistan educational ties, Mr. James Hampson, Country Director, British Council Pakistan, said:

"Transnational education partnerships such as this play a critical role in developing global competence and employability among young people. The British Council is

pleased to see leading institutions from the UK and Pakistan working together to create high-quality international opportunities for students.”

Commending the collaboration, H.E. Ben Warrington, British Deputy High Commissioner, noted:

“Education is a cornerstone of the UK–Pakistan relationship. Partnerships between universities like UCP and the University of Leicester demonstrate a shared commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and investing in the potential of young people who will shape our shared future.”

Concluding the ceremony, Mian Amer Mehmood reaffirmed UCP’s long-term vision for international engagement, stating:

“Our mission is to ensure that Pakistani students are not limited by geography. By connecting them with leading global institutions, we are investing in their futures and contributing to the development of a globally competent generation.”

This agreement represents the first formal collaboration between the University of Leicester School of Business and the University of Central Punjab. Both institutions will work closely to implement the programme in accordance with academic, regulatory, and quality assurance standards.



UCP x Leicester Delegation's Visit to Chief Minister Office

Under Mian Amer Mahmood's leadership, Chairman Punjab Group and Rector, University of Central Punjab, a delegation comprising Prof. Dr. Daniel Ladley, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Head of College and Executive Dean, University of Leicester School of Business, Prof. Dr. Hammad Naveed, Pro-Rector, Univesitry of Central Punjab and Prof. Dr. Abdul Jabbar, Dean Internationalization, University of Leicester met with Chief Minister Punjab, Maryam Nawaz and had discussions focused on the importance of STEM and STEAM education as well as the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in learning and research. Dr. Hammad and Dr. Daniel Ladley appreciated the Chief Minister's efforts on the Hoonhar Scholarship Initiative, highlighting its impact on promoting higher education opportunities for talented students. CM commended UCP's 2+2 initiative and shared positive remarks on the new collaborative program being launched between the University of Central Punjab and the University of Leicester, appreciating its potential to improve academic exchange, research, and skill development.



27th Convocation

Class of 2024 came to the end of a long academic road after years of showing up, doing the work and refusing to give up. University of Central Punjab conferred degrees on 2,223 graduates, with 249 students earning top positions. Numbers aside, the convocation reminded us of something larger: education is a long road, and getting to the end still means something.

UCP's 27th Convocation, held on January 25–26, 2025 brought together voices that reflected the world these graduates were stepping into. Chief Guest, Mian Amer Mehmood, Chairman, Punjab Group spoke about staying steady in uncertain times. Guests of Honor Umer Ghumman, Shahzad Nawaz, and Obaid Iqbal highlighted how technology is reshaping work, why students must take ownership of their ideas, and how real learning often starts after university.

What stayed with me was not the formality of the event but the quiet truth beneath it: a degree doesn't close a chapter—it hands over responsibility. The graduates walked out with their qualifications, but also with a reminder that what they do next will matter more than the ceremony that marked their departure.



Taakra 2025



Alumni Associations Elections

2025-27

UCP Alumni Association Elections 2025–2027 brought a new set of representatives into leadership. Their roles are clear: to guide students, strengthen connections and shape the community’s future. These elections marked a moment where engagement and responsibility became the focus for the next chapter of the UCP community.



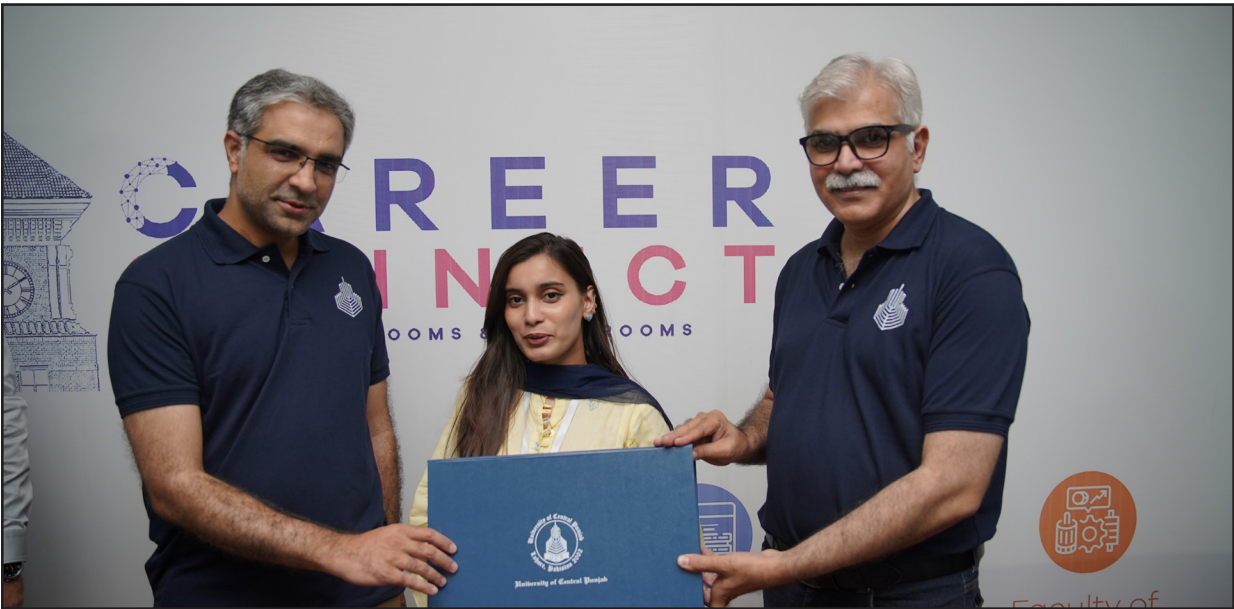
16th Board of Governors Meeting

University of Central Punjab hosted its 16th Board of Governors (BOG) meeting where senior leadership and board members discussed university's achievements, future goals and key developments in academics, research, and student support. The meeting focused on building stronger strategies to ensure UCP continues to grow as a leading institution in higher education.



Career Connect 2025

Career Connect 2025 brought together 69 companies and over 1,500 students and alumni under one roof. The day focused on real conversations, real opportunities and what comes next. Interviews took place, offers were made and connections were built. It was more than event for everyone involved; it was a step toward the future, shaped by the efforts of all who participated.



Rang-e-Rukhsat

University of Central Punjab bade a heartfelt farewell to the Class of 2025 with Rang-e-Rukhsat, a night to celebrate the graduating batch as they reached the final stage of their journey at UCP. Live performance by the duo Zain Zohaib added emotion and energy to the celebration. The night ended with bittersweet goodbyes and tearful speeches, moments that will be engraved in the hearts of the Class of 2025 as memories filled with pride and nostalgia.



Surbuland Stories: Stories of Entrepreneurial Pursuit in Frame

University of Central Punjab premiered student-led documentaries to bring entrepreneurial journeys to life on the big screen. It was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Faculty of Media and Mass Communication and the Faculty of Management Sciences to bridge storytelling with entrepreneurial insight.



78th Independence Day

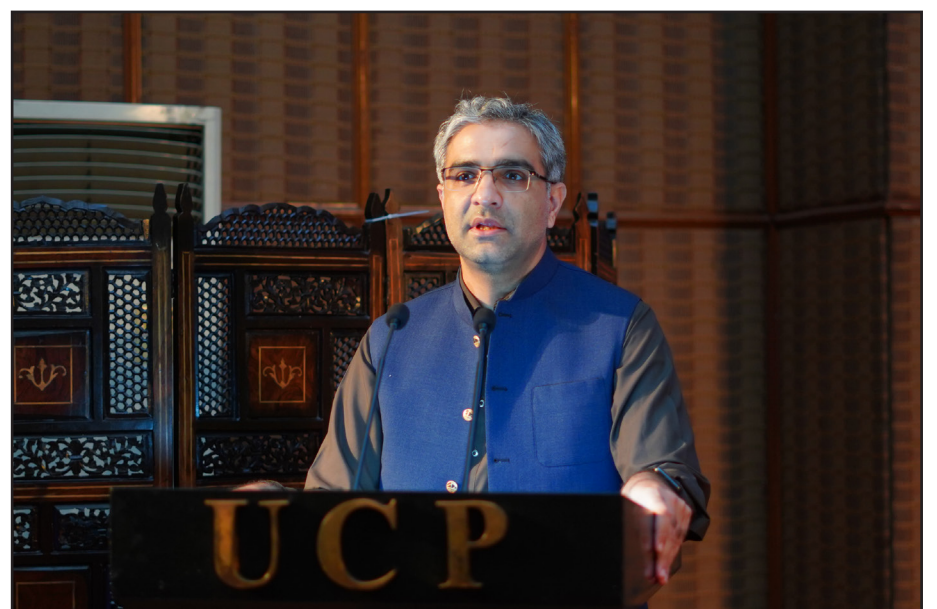
University of Central Punjab commemorated Pakistan's 78th Independence Day with a ceremony that brought together students, faculty, staff and notable guests, including Mr. Munib Iqbal, Allama Muhammad Iqbal's grandson and Ms. Raza Riaz, Abul Asar Hafeez Jalandhari's daughter and Mr. Semih Duran, Representative of Yunus Emre Institute. The event began with the flag-hoisting, a reminder of unity and sovereignty, followed by speeches that reflected on the nation's history and enduring values. Students contributed with performances that celebrated Pakistan's culture and heritage. The ceremony ended with a cake-cutting and a military parade, leaving a sense of respect and shared purpose among all attendees.



Orientation Spring 2025 and Fall 2025

University of Central Punjab hosted Orientation Weeks for Spring 2025 and Fall 2025 intakes to welcome the newest members of the UCP family. The weeks were filled with activities to help students adapt to university life, connect with peers and explore the endless opportunities UCP has to offer. University leadership, administration and faculty interacted with students to give insights into academic resources, administrative support and the diverse culture that defines UCP. Campus Tour, music performances and students-led societies' stalls provided them the opportunity to pursue their passions beyond the classroom. With a strong message of academic excellence, community and growth.

At UCP, we provide a supportive, inclusive, and dynamic environment to grow not only academically but also socially and personally.



Sangat e Dostan: Alumni Qawali Night 2025

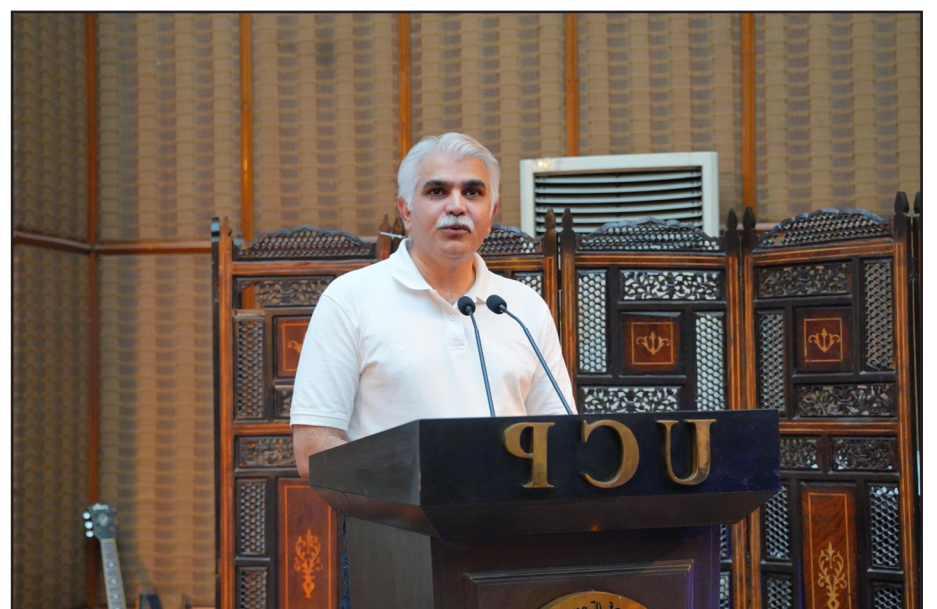
Sangat e Dostan: Alumni Qawali Night 2025



Faculty Champion Award 2025

University of Central Punjab honoured the exceptional contributions of its faculty members across nine faculties to celebrate the dedication, excellence and collaborative spirit of its academic community.

- Dr. Muhammad Zaman - Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Mr. Tahoor Ali - Faculty of Languages & Literature
- Mr. Asif Farooq - Faculty of Information Technology & Computer Science
- Dr. Nabeel Khalid - Faculty of Engineering
- Mr. Rehman Nasir - Faculty of Media & Mass Communication
- Ms. Pakeeza Haider Qasmi - Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences
- Ms. Maryam Khalid - Faculty of Science & Technology
- Mr. Syed Nabeel Haider - Faculty of Management Sciences
- Ms. Shaista Anwar - Faculty of Law



76th Anniversary of the Founding of People's Republic China

University of Central Punjab celebrated the 76th Anniversary of the People's Republic of China and hosted Consul General of the People's Republic of China, H.E. Zhao Shiren as the Chief Guest. The event featured the Chinese Consul General Scholarships Ceremony, a visit to China Town at the UCP amphitheatre. H.E. Zhao Shiren commended UCP's efforts in promoting cultural understanding and educational collaboration, reaffirming the enduring friendship between China and Pakistan.



Revisiting the Federation: The Case for Smaller Provinces in Pakistan

Revisiting the Federation: The Case for Smaller Provinces in Pakistan



Iqbal Day

UCP Literary Society commemorated Youm-e-Iqbal to celebrate the legacy of Allama Muhammad Iqbal and his timeless message of dignity, selfhood and purpose. The event featured Consul General of Iran, H.E. Mehran Movahed Far and Dr. Moeen Nizami. It featured soulful Kalam-e-Iqbal performances by the Music Society, engaging student debates and a ceremonial cake-cutting.



Employee Engagement Initiatives

Under the Employee Engagement Initiative, University of Central Punjab organized the following events in 2025:

Staff Sports Festival brought together non-academic administrative staff for games, team activities and competitions to highlight teamwork, participation and the role they play in keeping our campus running smoothly. It paid tribute to the people who keep UCP moving forward.

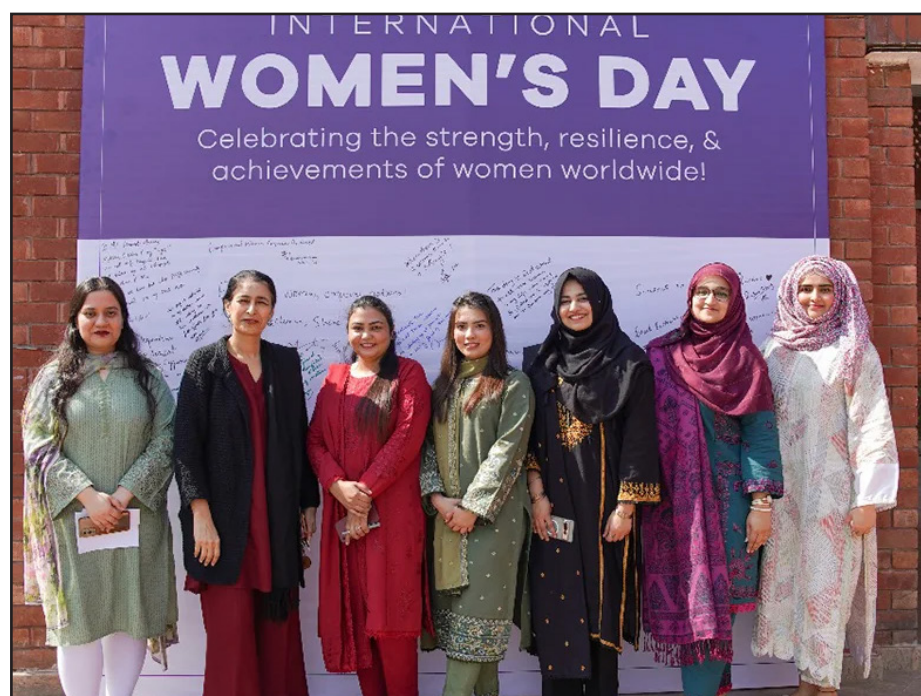
Christmas 2024 cake cutting ceremony celebrated unity, joy and togetherness with the Christian community highlighting UCP's spirit to celebrate festivities with open arms, embracing diversity and inclusion.

Learning Innovation Centre in collaboration with Administration Department conducted a two-day training on physical and mental Fitness for faculty and staff to emphasized holistic well-being by covering topics such as mental health, nutrition and exercise activities, including yoga, stretching, and strength training.

Learning Innovation Centre in collaboration with Human Resource Department organized several faculty and staff townhalls facilitated by Pro-Rector, Dr. Hammad Naveed to promote open dialogue, engagement, training and discuss policy matters with faculty and staff members. Their well-being, professional development and growth remain a top priority.

At Women's Day, UCP took a step towards empowering mobility and accelerating action by inviting the Ride with Pride team to conduct scotty riding lessons for women, fostering confidence and independence. To honour the women who inspire us, a media wall was setup, where participants shared names of the remarkable women who have shaped their lives.

Department of Microbiology, in collaboration with the Human Resource Department, Al Nasar Lab, and Pink Ribbon Pakistan, organized a Breast Cancer Awareness Seminar to highlight the importance of early detection, prevention and community awareness.



Mushaira: Bayad-e-Taimoor

Hassan Taimoor

University of Central Punjab's annual Mushaira, Bayad-e-Taimoor Hassan Taimoor welcomed Batch '25. Mushaira is not only a place where people learn language, but also a space where people absorb the art of expression, cultural dignity and social elegance. It is not just a literary gathering; it is an occasion that connects knowledge with emotion and links humanity with thoughtful reflection. UCP family's attendance kept this tradition alive and developed it with a new rhythm and a contemporary tone.



Faculty Achievements

FOMS' Faculty Member Receives 2024-2 X-Culture Global Educator Award

Dr. Muhammad Shehzad Hanif from Faculty of Management Sciences received 2024 X-Culture Global Educator Award was one of the 50 professors who received this award out of 160 instructors from 150 universities across 48 countries. This award recognized his commitment to providing his students with international learning experiences. The X-Culture project is a global program that enables students to work together in virtual teams across different countries.



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

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Naveed, from the Department of Biotechnology was awarded the Dr. A.R. Shakoori Gold Medal 2025 for the Best Researcher of the Year in Biological Sciences at the 43rd Pakistan Congress of Zoology, held at the University of Okara. This national recognition reflects on the quality and impact of the research carried out at UCP. The award acknowledges sustained contributions to the field of biological sciences and highlights UCP's commitment to excellence in research and innovation.



Dr. Sumera Zaib Receives 7th Prof. Dr. Asghar Bajwa Gold Medal in Biochemistry

Dr. Sumera Zaib from Faculty of Science and Technology was honoured with the 7th Prof. Dr. Asghar Bajwa Gold Medal in Biochemistry by The Applied Zoological Society of Pakistan. This prestigious award recognizes her outstanding contributions, exemplary achievements and impactful innovations in the field of Biochemistry, highlighting her dedication to advancing scientific research and excellence.



Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh Appointed Judge for QS Reimagine Education Awards 2025

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, Director ORIC and Head of Applied Chemistry Department, Faculty of Science and Technology was recognized as a judge for the QS Reimagine Education Awards & Conference 2025, to be held in London, United Kingdom. Known globally as the “Oscars of Education,” the QS Reimagine Education Awards celebrate innovative contributions that transform teaching, learning, & EdTech. Now in its 12th year, the awards highlight pioneering initiatives from educators & institutions worldwide. In his role, Prof. Dr. Farrukh will evaluate transformative projects, recognize ground breaking contributions, & support initiatives that prepare learners for the challenges of future.



Ms. Sadia Zia's Appointment to Board of Directors at Global Health Security Network, Australia

Ms. Sadia Zia, Principal Lecturer from Faculty of Science & Technology was elected to the Board of Directors at the Global Health Security Network (GHSN) Limited, Australia. GHSN works to strengthen health systems worldwide and improve preparedness for global health threats through collaboration, research and policy. In this role, Ms. Sadia will help drive efforts in global health security, research and international cooperation.



Dr. Muhammad Awais Shafique's Appointment as Expert Member of Punjab Spatial Planning Authority

Dr. Muhammad Awais Shafique, Associate Professor from Department of Civil Engineering was appointed as an expert member of the Punjab Spatial Planning Authority (PSPA). This key body under the Punjab government oversees spatial development, regional planning, and sustainable urban growth. His appointment highlights his expertise in Transportation Engineering and his dedication to evidence-based policy and sustainable development.



Faculty of Law Triumphs at Henry Dunant Moot Court Competition

Faculty of Law won the 17th Henry Dunant Moot Court Competition Pakistan National Rounds, organized by ICRC Pakistan. The winning team, comprising Sheharyar Rabbani, Hussain Naeem and Aiman Fareed, was mentored by Mian Bazaf Shahbaz. They will now represent both Pakistan and UCP in the Regional Rounds in Hong Kong.



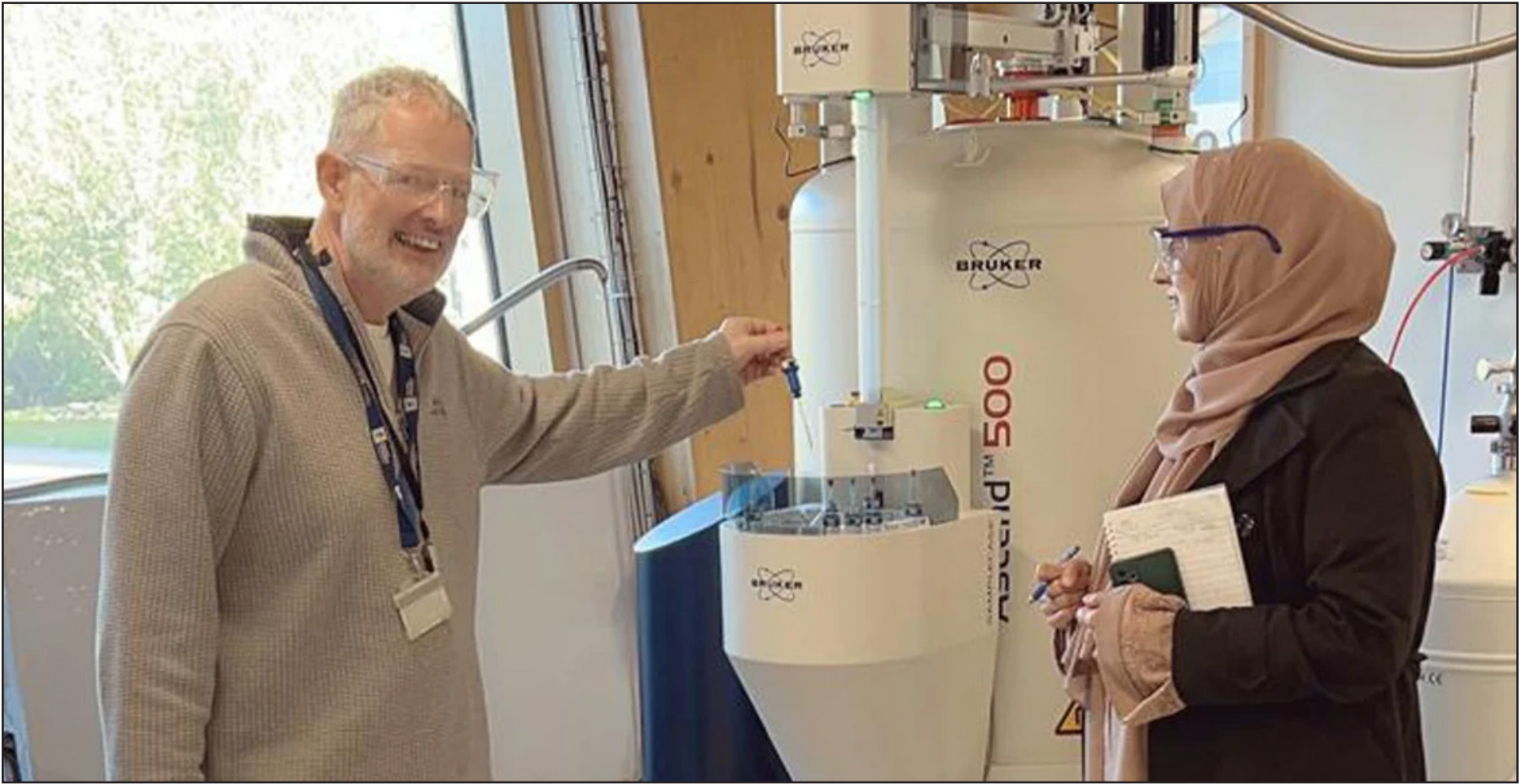
Dr Muhammad Naveed and Dr. Jawad Abbas' Recognition as Top 2% Global Scientist by ELSEVIER and Stanford University

Dr. Muhammad Naveed and Dr. Jawad Abbas have been recognized among the Top 2% Scientists worldwide by Elsevier and Stanford University. Dr. Naveed achieved this distinction for the second consecutive year (2024–2025), while Dr. Abbas has been recognized for the third consecutive year (2023–2025). This recognition highlights their continued excellence in research, scholarly impact and contributions to advancing scientific innovation.



Prof. Dr. Sumera Zaib's Visit to Universities in the UK

Prof. Dr. Sumera Zaib visited the University of Strathclyde, University of Oxford and University of Nottingham, UK, to explore potential research collaborations and student exchange opportunities.



Prof. Dr. Tahir Saleem's Nomination as a Member of National Curriculum Development Committee by Higher Education Commission, Pakistan

Prof. Dr. Tahir Saleem, Head of English Department was nominated as a member of the National Curriculum Development Committee for the BS-level course in Arts & Humanities by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan. He was among twelve experts from across the country who collaboratively developed a comprehensive course outline covering key disciplines including Philosophy, Fine Arts, Linguistics, Literature and Media & Communication



Dr. Jawad Abbas Recipient of HEC Best Researcher Award

HEC hosted the 10th Best Research Awards ceremony to recognize the outstanding achievements of Pakistani researchers and faculty across various fields. Dr. Jawad Abbas from the Faculty of Management Sciences was honoured with the HEC Best Researcher Award for his significant contributions to research and scholarship.



Sports Achievements

University of Central Punjab won All-Pakistan Inter-University Gymnastics Championship 2024-25

University of Central Punjab won All-Pakistan Inter-University Gymnastics Championship 2024-25 with 3 Gold, 4 Silver and 2 Bronze medals organized by Government College University Lahore under the supervision of Higher Education Commission Pakistan.



University of Central Punjab won All-Pakistan Inter-University Baseball Championship 2024-25

University of Central Punjab won All-Pakistan Inter-University Baseball Championship 2024-25 organized by Forman Christian College University, Lahore under the supervision of the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan.



University of Central Punjab won 39th All-Pakistan HEC Intervarsity Bodybuilding Championship

University of Central Punjab won 39th All-Pakistan HEC Intervarsity Bodybuilding Championship by securing 114 points and our student Hafiz Muhammad Shazim won the title of "Mr. Pakistan Universities 2024-25".



University of Central Punjab won All-Pakistan Inter-University Judo Men Championship 2024-25

University of Central Punjab won All-Pakistan Inter-University Judo Championship 2024- 25 organized by Islamia University of Bahawalpur under the supervision of Higher Education Commission, Pakistan.



University of Central Punjab won All-Pakistan Inter-University Taekwondo Men Championship 2025-26

University of Central Punjab won 9 gold, 4 silver and 1 bronze medal All-Pakistan Inter-University Taekwondo Men Championship 2025-26, organized by FAST University, Islamabad, under the supervision of the Higher Education Commission, Pakistan.



University of Central Punjab won All-Pakistan Inter-University Weightlifting Championship 2025

University of Central Punjab won All-Pakistan Inter-University Weightlifting Championship 2025 setting four new HEC records and secured top positions across multiple categories held at COMSATS Islamabad organized by Higher Education Commission, Pakistan.



Conferences and Symposiums

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

Faculty of Management Sciences' 10th two-day International Conference on Contemporary Issues in Business Management (ICIBM) focused on research, innovation, and academic-industry collaboration.

Day 1 featured Dr. Athar Siddiqui's welcome address, followed by Prof. Dr. Şerife Zihni Eyüpoğlu's, Near East University, Turkey online address. Keynote speeches included Dr. Muhammad Shehryar Shahid, LUMS and Mr. Zeshan Qureshi, CEO, Sparx Smartphones, offering insightful perspectives on innovation and leadership in today's business world. Pro-Rector, Dr. Hammad Naveed's special note emphasized the importance of research-led impact in academia.

The conference showcased research presentations across various tracks and best papers. Day 2 focused on applied learning, a Sparx Smartphones-sponsored Case Study Competition judged by Dr. Mansoor Junejo and Mr. Zeshan Qureshi, alongside workshops on Simulation Training by Dr. Nuno Arroiteia (Bradford School of Management, UK) and 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' two-day International Conference on Contemporary Challenges for Democracy (IC3D) brought together leading academics, diplomats, researchers and policy experts from Pakistan and across the globe to discuss pressing democratic issues in the modern world.

Chief Guest, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Former Federal Minister reflected on global democratic trends and Pakistan's political landscape. Dr. Hasan Askari Rizvi, Former Caretaker Chief Minister of Punjab and H.E. Per Albert Ilsaas, Ambassador of Norway to Pakistan gave keynote speeches.

Over two days parallel academic sessions addressed 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.

Policy Dialogue Session on day 2 brought together senior scholars and practitioners to exchange ideas on real-world democratic solutions, moderated by Dr. Mohammad Irfan Ali Fani.

Day two's chief guest Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan, Speaker, Punjab Assembly emphasized the importance of inclusive governance and democratic resilience in Pakistan.

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’s two-day 4th International Conference on Cybersecurity and Forensic Evidence brought together experts from law, technology, healthcare and academia to explore cybercrime, digital evidence and the impact of AI and digital ethics. Keynote speakers included Prof. Ahmad Ali Ghouri (University of Sussex, UK), Prof. Dr. Hadia Awan (UCP), Zaid Hamza (National University of Singapore), Prof. Mohiuddin bin Daud (IIUM, Malaysia), Dr. Humera Shafi (Chughtai Healthcare, Pakistan), Dr. Allah Rakha (University of Health Sciences, Pakistan), and Matilda Adedoyin Chukwuemeka (Lead City University, Nigeria). Presenters from Pakistan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Indonesia, and the UK also participated.

The conference featured seven thematic sessions covering bio-forensics, gender and digital inclusion, cybercrime laws, privacy, digital forensics, cross-border cooperation, and ethics in AI and media. Over 30 research papers were presented, with Q&A sessions encouraging dialogue between researchers, legal professionals, and students. The audience represented over six countries.



International Conference on Mental Health, Human Dignity, and Climate Change: Mitigating Global Psychological Risks 2025

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences' two-day International Conference on Mental Health, Human Dignity, and Climate Change: Mitigating Global Psychological Risks 2025 featured Dr. Evelin Lindner and Dr. Beate Seibt from University of Oslo, Norway, alongside Dr. Gulnaz Anjum's, University of Limerick, Ireland keynote addresses. Day 1 featured six scientific sessions showcasing significant academic contributions, followed by an insightful panel discussion chaired by Dr. Asir Ajmal (Dean, NCBA&E), with panellists: Dr. Rafia Rafique (Director Institute of Applied Psychology, University of the Punjab), Dr. Uzma Ali (Institute of Clinical Psychology, University of Karachi), Dr. Syeda Shahida Batool (Professor, Government University Lahore), Dr. Saqib Bajwa (Assistant Prof. & Head of Psychiatry, Gujranwala Medical College) and Dr. Abul Kalam Azad from Bangladesh. Day 2 featured Dr. Muhammad Younus Zahid (Former Director, Environment Protection Department), Dr. Muhammad Abul Kalam Azad (Manarat International University, Bangladesh), and Dr. Anca Murescu's (University of Limerick, Ireland). Twelve scientific sessions encompassing diverse global perspectives on mental health and environmental challenges followed by panel discussion, moderated by Momina Nayyer, featured Dr. Noor ul Zaman (Director, Mental Health Household Survey, PILL), Dr. Junaid Rasool (Head of Psychiatry, FMH College of Medicine), Dr. Ume Kalsoom (Assistant Professor, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar) and Dr. Zaqia Bano (Professor/Associate Dean Clinical Psychology, NUR International University). The conference linked academic scholarship with actionable global ethics, reaffirming UCP's commitment to advancing mental health awareness, human dignity and environmental stewardship.



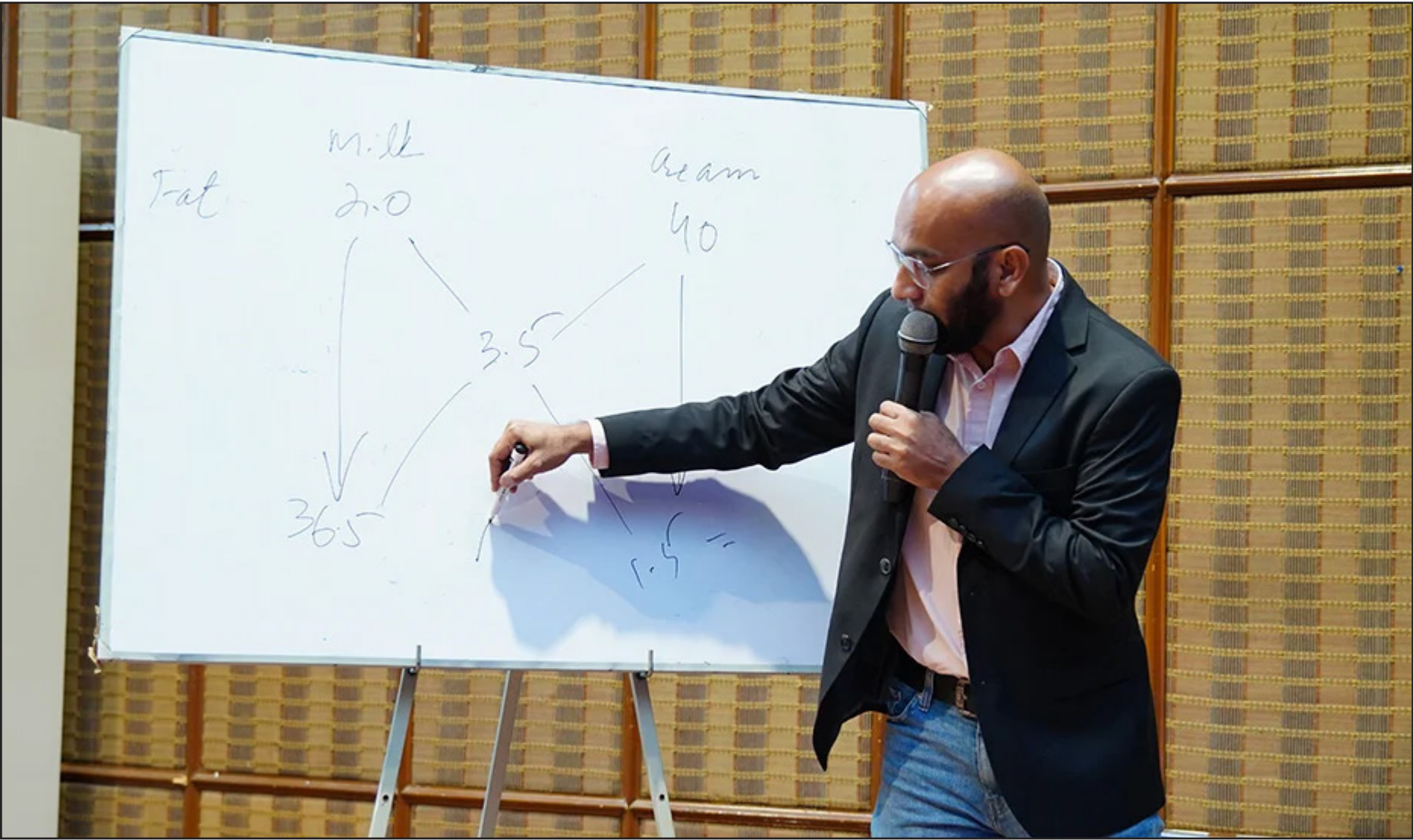
Conference of Youth 2025

Native Youth Club for Climate Change (NYCCC) in collaboration with University of Central Punjab hosted the Conference of Youth 2025 which brought youth leaders, experts and organizations to discuss sustainable solutions, green skills, climate economy, agriculture, governance and the role of youth in addressing environmental crises such as floods and smog. Chief Guest, Rana Mashood Ahmad Khan, Chairman, Prime Minister Youth Program emphasized the importance of collective action and the vital role of young people in shaping climate policies and promoting a sustainable future. The event featured keynote speeches, panel discussions and policy dialogues fostering meaningful exchanges between participants and thought leaders.



International Colloquium on World Food Safety Day 2025

Department of Food & Nutritional Sciences in collaboration with UNICEF & Punjab Food Authority celebrated World Food Day 2025 under the theme “Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future.” The event brought together government officials, policymakers, industry leaders and academics to discuss food safety, nutrition and regulatory innovation. Highlights included addresses by Prof. Dr. Kausar Abdullah Malik, DG PFA, Mr. Muhammad Asim Javed and Dr. Ijaz Ahmad (DG PCSIR), the launch of ELMS Food Safety Level 1 Training, a policy dialogue on academia industry collaboration, a World Food Day Walk, a Nutrition Assessment Camp, and student exhibitions featuring posters and food models.



HVACR Student Innovation Conference and Project Expo 2025

Department of Mechanical Engineering in collaboration with the Pakistan HVACR Society hosted HVACR Students Innovation Conference and Project Expo 2025. It brought together industry experts and academicians including Mr. Farhan Zafar, Mr. Waqas Ahmed Farooqi, Dr. Haider Latif, Dr. Akhyar Farrukh, Dr. Ali Hussain Kazim, Dr. Muhammad Farhan, Dr. Muhammad Usman, Dr. Tipu Sultan, Dr. Adeel Ikram, Dr. Kamran Asim, and Syed Rehan Asharaf to evaluate innovative student projects.



5th Entrepreneurship Educators Symposium 2025

Faculty of Management Sciences' 5th Entrepreneurship Educators Symposium 2025 focused on the evolving landscape of entrepreneurship education in the digital era. The event featured various sessions, including Prof. Dr. Shahid Qureshi's talk on "The Amazing World of Entrepreneurs", an engaging Industry Hour with leading entrepreneurs and Kazim Ali's AI Workshop. The symposium concluded with a thought-provoking panel discussion titled "From Classroom to Startups: Redefining Entrepreneurship Learning for a Digital Future." The event provided educators, industry experts and students a platform to exchange ideas, foster innovation and reimagine entrepreneurship education for the modern world.



Tech for Tomorrow (TFT 3.0)

Faculty of Information Technology & Computer Science, organized the third edition of Tech for Tomorrow, focusing on inclusive technology education. The event offered participants hands-on experience in emerging domains such as web programming, robotics, Arduino-based systems, AR/VR, and modern computing technologies. Initiatives like TFT 3.0 continue to promote innovation, digital empowerment, and equal learning opportunities, particularly for students and underrepresented communities pursuing careers in technology.



1st International Symposium on Recent Advances in Chemistry

Department of Basic & Applied Chemistry's 1st International Symposium on Recent Advances in Chemistry featured 11 global renowned scientists including Dr. Muhammad Farooq Wahab (USA), Dr. Thomas J. Webster (China; Nobel Prize Nominee), Dr. Sarah Haris (UK) and several distinguished researchers from Europe, Asia and the Middle East. The inaugural session was led by Dr. Ghayoor Abbass Chotana (LUMS) while the concluding session featured Dr. Shazma Azeem (FCCU).



Horizons of Information Technology and Engineering 2.0

Faculty of Information Technology and Computer Science in collaboration with Faculty of Engineering organized 2nd IEEE International Conference on Horizons of Information Technology and Engineering (HITE 2.0) bring together leading researchers, academicians, industry experts, and students. The event showcased cutting-edge research, fostered collaboration, and explored emerging technologies across AI, Software Engineering, Robotics, Blockchain, Cybersecurity, and more



New Trends in Civil Engineering

Faculty of Engineering organized 3rd Annual Conference of NTCE – New Trends in Civil Engineering. This year’s theme was Engineering a Stronger, Greener, Safer Pakistan. At a time when Pakistan faces unprecedented climate challenges, this conference served as a platform where engineers, academics, policymakers, manufacturers, suppliers, contractors, and industry leaders came together to shape solutions for a sustainable future. The conference offered thought leadership on sustainability, resilience, and future-ready infrastructure. A platform for manufacturers, suppliers, and contractors to present innovations. Insights from industry pioneers and innovators. Cutting-edge academic contributions with real-world impact. Industry-academia collaboration to bridge knowledge and practice for national progress. Opportunities for partnerships, investments, and ventures. Connecting engineers, policymakers, entrepreneurs, and students.



1st Biotechnology Symposium & Stakeholders' Dialogue on Maize Biotechnology & Molecular Breeding

1st Biotechnology Symposium & Stakeholders' Dialogue on Maize Biotechnology & Molecular Breeding brought together researchers, industrial experts and academic leaders. The event focused on cutting edge advancements, innovative research and future prospects in maize biotechnology and molecular breeding. Participants engaged in in-depth discussions on emerging technologies, collaborative research opportunities and strategies to enhance crop productivity and sustainability.



ORIC Initiatives

Final Year Project: Student-Led Research & Innovation Program

Under the Office of Research, Innovation & Commercialization’s Final Year Project Student-Led Research & Innovation Program, 5 students-led projects received funding of up to PKR 50,000. This initiative recognizes and supports exceptional research contributions by undergraduate students. From a total of 22 interdisciplinary project submissions, 5 outstanding projects were selected for funding in the first stage. The program promotes cross-disciplinary collaboration, encourages student-led initiatives and strengthens the university’s research and innovation ecosystem.

Award of FYP: Student-Led Research & Innovation Fund

Sr.	Project Name	Supervisor 1	Supervisor 2	Team Lead	Group Members
1	Development of Solar Powered and IoT Enabled Hydroponic System for Growing Coriander Using Biogas Waste as a Biofertilizer”	Dr. Ali Ahmad	Dr. Muhammad Riaz	Muhammad Zohaib Wasim L1F22BSEE0001	Waleed Mujtaba Awan L1F22BSEE0002 Syed Ali Asad Ullah Bukhari L1F22BSEE0004 Joan Raza L1F22BSCH0022
2	Nutra Glow: Innovative Anti-Aging Mask Fox Nuts (Euryale ferox)	Miss Tooba Mehboob Dr Muhammad Zaman	Rehan Mehboob	Aleem Ashiq L1F21PHMD0180	Amber Sarwar L1F21PHMD0140 Ziyan Ahmad L1F21PHMD0183 Muhammad Ahmad L1F21PHMD0182 Hamza Hameed L1F22BSFT0057
3	Development of a Smart Speed Breaker Using Non-Newtonian Fluid (Oobleck-Based System with Additives)	Dr. M. Awais Shafique	Dr. Salma Batool	Danyal Ahmad L1F22BSCE0010	Buraq Ahmad (L1F22BSCE0003) Hassan Bhatti (L1F21BSCE0116) M. Taimoor Aziz (L1F22BSBC0008) M. Haseeb Mushtaq (L1F22BSBC0016)
4	Formulation of Herbal Emulgel Containing Boswellia serrata, Withania somnifera, and Zingiber officinale for the Management of Rheumatoid Arthritis	Miss Tooba Mehboob Dr Muhammad Zaman	Ms. Manam Walait	Rabab Ashraf L1F21PHMD0097	Maryam Akbar L1F21PHMD0221 Tehzeeb Fatima L1F21PHMD0089 Ujala Fatima L1F21PHMD0216
5	Formulation and Evaluation of a Herbal Hydrogel Patch Containing Caffeine, Peppermint Oil, and Ginseng Extract for Hair Growth Promotion	Ms. Tooba Mehboob	Dr. Ammara Masood	Saimeen Mehmood L1F21PHMD0153	Sadia Naz L1F21PHMD0143 Attia Ameer Ali L1F21PHMD0133 Muhammad Fakhar L1F21PHMD0147

Internal Research Grant Program

Office of Research, Innovation & Commercialization’s newly launched Internal Research Grant Program (IRGP) supports faculty members in pursuing impactful, application-driven research. This initiative helps researchers strengthen their proposals and prepare for competitive national and international funding opportunities. In the first round, 43 proposals were submitted, 13 were shortlisted, and 7 projects received up to PKR 1 million funding each.

Dr. Salma Batool

Development and Application of a Liquid PGPR-Enriched Biofertilizer from Anaerobic Digestate for Sustainable Soil Fertility



Dr. Madiha Khan

Bioactive Herbal Formulations for Enhanced Wound Healing



Dr. Kashif Nasr

Energy Efficient IoT-Enabled Smart Irrigation System for Sustainable Agriculture



Dr. Sadaf Hameed

AI-Assisted Formulation and Development of Chitosan Nanoparticle Sheet Masks for Skincare Application



Dr. Muhammad Zaman

A natural, contactless thermoresponsive formulation of curcumin and collagen for diabetic wound and foot ulcer management



Dr. Anam Mustaqeem

Personalized Mental Health Support through AI-Powered Recommender Systems: Enhancing Well-Being and Early Detection of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Children



Dr. Kanza Aziz Awan

BioFizz-The Future of Functional Carbonated Beverages



Fast-UCP Sustainability Award 2025

University of Central Punjab in collaboration with Fast Cables Limited launched the FAST Sustainability Award 2025. This award worth PKR 200,000 recognizes and inspires students working on sustainability-focused projects in STEAM fields. Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization organized a online session where out of six shortlisted projects from UCP where Yasir Hussain, Muhammad Shafi Ul Hassan and Muhammad Haris Ijaz’s project: Development of Eco- 3D Printing Filament Using Recycled PET Plastic Waste won the FAST Sustainability Award 2025. This award enabled our students to showcase their talent, innovation and commitment to sustainable development.



Yasir Hussain



Muhammad Haris Ijaz



Muhammad Shafi Ul Hassan

Research Stats 2025



Global Engagement Initiatives

University of Central Punjab's Outreach Campaign at Beaconhouse Sports Fest

University of Central Punjab's Admissions Office and International Office teams conducted an engaging outreach campaign in Beaconhouse Sports Fest showcasing the university's diverse range of academic programs and highlighting the newly launched 2+2 International Program in collaboration with the University of Leicester. The initiative aimed to inform prospective students about UCP's global learning opportunities and pathways to international education.



UCP x University of Limerick Partnership Meeting

Naveed Ejaz, Director, Global Engagement met with representatives from the University of Limerick, Ireland to discuss expanding articulation agreements, fostering joint research initiatives and exploring faculty development and enhancement opportunities.



UCP x University of Surrey: Expanding Global Partnerships

Naveed Ejaz, Director, Global Engagement visited the University of Surrey to discuss partnership opportunities and internationalization initiatives. The visit focused on enhancing academic collaborations and establishing pathways for future joint programs, research projects, and student exchanges.



UCP x University of Sussex: Expanding Collaboration Worldwide

Naveed Ejaz, Director, Global Engagement visited the University of Sussex to hold discussions on collaboration and internationalization. The meeting focused on developing joint programs and creating global opportunities for students.



UCP x University of Leicester Collaborative Meeting

University of Central Punjab and the University of Leicester held a collaborative meeting to advance their 2+2 international degree program. The meeting focused on curriculum alignment, academic standards and operational planning, reflecting both institutions' commitment to strengthening international academic cooperation and providing students with high-quality, globally recognized education.



UCP x Royal Holloway University of London Collaborative Meeting

Naveed Ejaz, Director, Global Engagement joined Lucy Thomas, Director, Global Engagement, and Brenden Christopher De Souza, Regional Manager South Asia, for a meeting with the Heads of Programs for English Literature, Law and Media. The discussion focused on strengthening institutional collaboration and creating expanded opportunities for students at UCP, the Punjab Group, and across Pakistan, including potential academic partnerships, student exchange programs, and to improve practical learning experiences.



UCP x Keck Graduate Institute Academic Exchange

Naveed Ejaz, Director, Global Engagement had a meeting with Keck Graduate Institute (Claremont System) to further collaboration in the articulation agreements for UCP students and the institute, joint research and faculty enhancement programs.



Newsroom Simulation on Global Health Crisis at CNN Academy

Faculty of Media and Mass Communications' faculty members participated in the Newsroom Simulation on Global Health Crisis at the CNN Academy, Abu Dhabi. Dr. Atif Ashraf (Head of Department), Dr. Saleem Akhtar (Assistant Professor & Faculty Industry Liaison Officer), and Mr. Gulfam Ahmad (Head of Analytics, UCP) represented the University of Central Punjab.

The simulation offered an intensive, immersive experience where participants practiced core journalistic skills within a specially designed environment resembling a war-torn region. Throughout the program, participants attended masterclasses on mobile journalism, video editing, and scriptwriting, and took part in mock press conferences. They engaged in group discussions, conducted live field reporting, covered protest scenarios, carried out interviews, and produced complete news reports.

UCP faculty members observed these activities closely and later held a detailed meeting with the CNN Academy senior team, including Director Ali Raza, to explore potential avenues for academic and professional collaboration.



2025: A Year of Purpose, Progress and Storytelling

As this year concludes, we take a moment to reflect on the work that shaped the University of Central Punjab's voice. It has been a year defined by intention; using communication not just to inform, but to build connection, strengthen identity and bring our community's work into the public eye.

At UCP, each milestone carries a message, each achievement offers a lesson and each student brings a perspective worth sharing. Over the past twelve months, the Communications Directorate has focused on bringing these voices forward and ensuring UCP is seen for what it is—a growing, active institution preparing its students for the future.

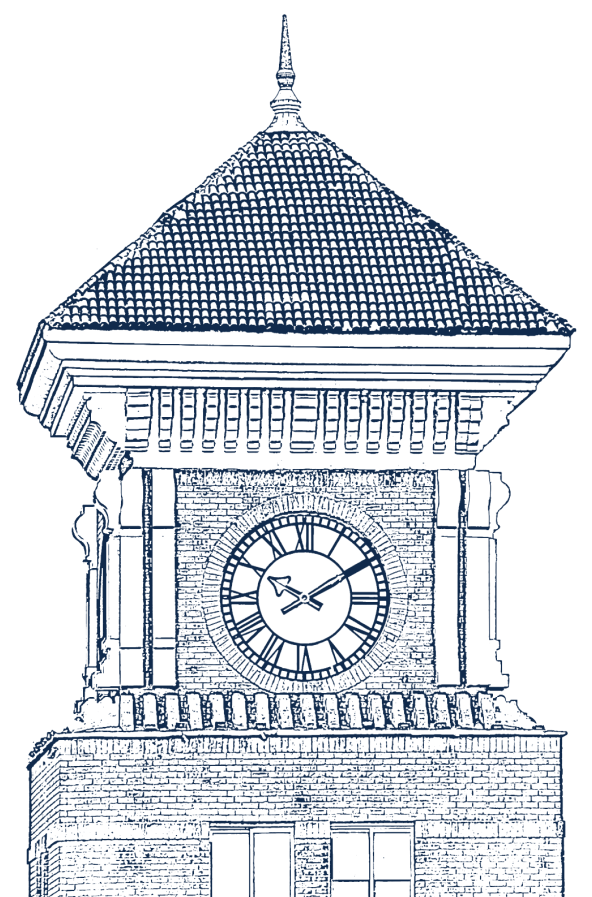
We broadened our communication platforms, refined our digital approach, and built a more structured content framework to highlight academic progress, campus developments, faculty contributions and student accomplishments. Through timely updates, coverage of institutional initiatives and steady digital outreach; we worked to present UCP's story clearly and consistently.

Our team worked with faculties, departments and student bodies to document moments that shaped the year—whether through research efforts, international collaborations or events that reflected UCP's character. These partnerships reinforced the importance of working together toward shared goals and helped strengthen our connection with the wider community.

As we look ahead, we will continue to adapt our communication strategies to meet changing needs, using data, creativity and emerging platforms to enhance how UCP engages with its audiences. Our purpose remains steady: to communicate responsibly, uphold the institution's values and represent UCP with clarity and confidence.

To our faculty, staff, students, alumni, and partners—thank you for your support throughout the year. Your stories guide our work and it is our privilege to share them. Here's to the year ahead and the progress it will bring.

- Team Marketing and Communication







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