



The QUEST

Issue of April 2014

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Editorial

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to announce that this year Indus University has marked its second year of university status that has been awarded by the Provincial Assembly of Sindh on 2nd April 2012. Since then, several notable developments have been taken place that include; signing of Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with the well-renowned Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), establishment of the Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology (FEST), initiation of the Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Branch, visit paid by National Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (NACTE) and last but certainly not least; representation by the Director QEC on national and international forums. This issue basically covers the events and happenings that took place at Indus University from July 2013 to April 2014.

Additionally, the higher management is working day in and day out to bring paradigm shift and also possesses a burning desire to nurture and enlighten the budding talent of Pakistan. Hence, the legacy behind Indus University's logo is also based on such lines and the motive is to light an educational fire among the students so they can benefit all and sundry.

The research activities are also getting momentum with the ardent support of the Vice Chancellor and in connection to this; a purpose-built research lab has been established thereby; encouraging faculty members to produce quality research papers in high impact factor journals.

As a matter of fact, all endeavours have been subsequently made for a prosperous Pakistan and we consider it our Social Responsibility to pay back to our homeland. Hence, we would also like to dedicate this year's issue to the families affected due to malnutrition in Tharparkar. In this regard, some meaningful activities have also been conducted by the students to generate funds for the drought-hit families.

Enjoy Happy Reading!

QEC Team

Chief Patron : Muhammad Ahmed Amin (Vice Chancellor, Indus University)

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We await your feedback at
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Vision, Mission Statement & Objective of QEC



Vision

QEC aims to strengthen the higher education sector of Pakistan by setting up an exemplary Quality Assurance mechanism that shall be congruent with the national and international practices.

Mission Statement

QEC is committed to assure and enhance the quality of higher education at Indus University with respect to good teaching strategies, sound infrastructure, outcome based education, positive students' perception, valid programs assessment tools and a learning environment conducive to research activities.

Objectives



- To collate data through feedback forms and course outlines/ plans from the respective departments.
- To conduct trainings on regular basis for the Program & Assessment Team in order to generate awareness regarding self-assessment process.
- To assess the current status of educational provision at departmental level by holding meetings with the Program & Assessment Team.
- To critically examine the data and formulate recommendations in consultation with the concerned Head/Chairperson/ In-charge of the department.
- To follow the progress of the corrective actions highlighted in the Self-Assessment Report (SAR) by the respective departments.
- To affirm whether curriculum, subject and staff development, research and other scholarly activities are conducted as per the HEC criteria.
- To facilitate the respective departments in getting accreditation certificate from the councils/ bodies prescribed by Higher Education Commission.
- To acquire the membership of the international agencies working in the domain of quality assurance.
- To verify whether Institutional Performance Evaluation Standards (IPES) devised for the betterment of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) are in accordance with the HEC guidelines.
- To make sure that the university abides by the rules & regulations set by HEC in terms of faculty appointment, admission to MS/M.Phil and Ph.D programs and last but not the least, plagiarism detection service by utilizing Turnitin Software.

Workshop on Research Paper Writing Skills

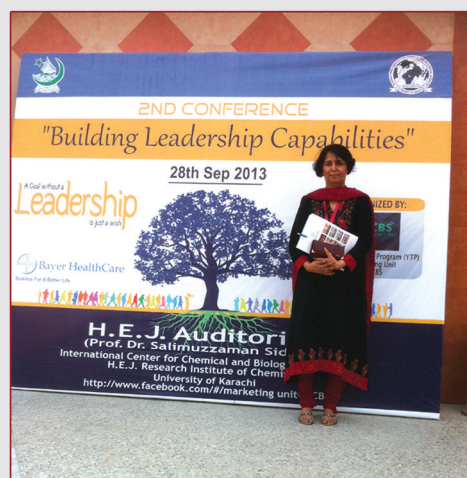
The workshop on 'Research Paper Writing Skills' was conducted on 29th August 2013 at Indus University. The resource person was Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, Director of International Centre for Chemical and Biological Sciences, H.E.J Research Institute of Chemistry. In the end, participants were also asked to complete the exercise based on multiple choice questions. It was well-received by the audience that was comprised of Vice Chancellor, Deans, Chairpersons, Faculty Members and Coordinators. The QEC Team made all the arrangements and gathered the people for an academic activity. The shields and certificates were also given to the resource person and participants, respectively.



Conference on Building Leadership Capabilities

The Conference on "Building Leadership Capabilities" was attended by Ms. Sheema Haider, Director QEC and Ms. Bushra Shahzad, Deputy Director QEC on 28th September 2013 at H.E.J Auditorium, University of Karachi.

The learning that took place through this conference includes; better understanding of leadership styles and how one can hone his/ her leadership skills by means of advanced technology. Moreover, the take away of the conference was sheer motivation that is self-driven and how one can create impact in his/ her personal capacity. The success stories from our homeland were highlighted that gave us the thought that despite serious challenges; if there is a will we can still do wonders.



Participation & Contribution at 2013 QA Islamic Seminar & Roundtable Meeting by **Director QEC - Indus University**



Quality Assurance is gaining momentum nowadays and the role played by international bodies including; International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE), Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN), Talloires Network and last but certainly not the least; Association of Quality Assurance Agencies of the Islamic World (AQAAIW) to improve the quality of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in almost every aspect is commendable.

Furthermore; the establishment of Quality Enhancement Cells (QECs) in public and private sector universities by Quality Assurance Agency of Higher Education Commission is a path towards a knowledge-based society. In this context, QECs in nearly every university are working hard to create an enabling environment so the teachers and students could rein themselves accordingly.

Moreover, keeping in view the guidelines laid down by QAA regarding participation and contribution in various events conducted at national or international level; Ms. Sheema Haider, Director QEC of Indus University shed light on "Cross Border Higher Education-Best Practice followed in SAARC Countries" at QA Islamic Seminar & Roundtable Meeting that was held on 28-29 October 2013 at Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain.

The presentation was well-received and the participants learned a great deal of knowledge from it. The instances from all the SAARC Member countries were taken with a primary focus on Pakistan. The major developments that took place in the entire event were:

- Dr. Jawaher Al Mudhahki has been elected as a new President of QA Islamic.
- Voting for the new logo of QA Islamic was done
- The 2014 QA Islamic Seminar & Roundtable Meeting (SRTM) will be held in Turkey.

Hence; representation at such forums are a mean to develop international linkages and liaison with the foreign counterparts, to identify gaps in the current practices and to formulate an Improvement Plan in accordance with the provisions set forth by the regulatory bodies.



Awareness Seminar on National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Practices



Being a citizen of Pakistan, we consider it our social responsibility to generate awareness regarding moral and ethical practices but as we know that corruption is the root cause of many problems and to eradicate this menace from the society; National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has been established by keeping in focus three-pronged strategy i.e. Awareness, Prevention & Enforcement. In connection to this; the platform of Indus University was provided to strengthen NAB's campaign on Awareness and Prevention against corruption on 31st October 2013 at Indus University. The notable dignitaries from NAB; Mr. Abdul Hafiz Siddiqui, Director General and Mr. Saeed Ahmed Sheikh, Deputy Director presented the Vision, Mission, Objectives and Salient Features of this particular anti-corruption body. The presentations were followed by the Question & Answer session. In the end, the theme song of NAB sensitized the audience with patriotism.



Director QEC Chairs the Session in ICMR 2013

International Conference on Growth in Emerging Markets (ICMR 2013) was held at Superior University, LHR on 21st & 22nd November 2013 and Ms. Sheema Haider, Director QEC not only represented Indus University but also rendered her services by chairing the session on Emerging Markets. Her expert opinions were well-conceived by the audience. Besides this; she also built international linkage with IESEG School of Management, France and exchange of information took place to a great extent.



Representation in 1st NBEAC Deans & Directors Conference (ECBS)



Nowadays, the burgeoning student population has subsequently caused the proliferation of higher education institutions. In this regard, degree awarding institutions are bound to ensure that they are delivering quality education that is at par with the national and international standards. It has been observed that several accrediting mills and bogus institutions have been operated worldwide that are unauthentic and harming the reputation of their respective countries. In addition, stance taken by Higher Education Commission (HEC) by means of respective accreditation councils is commendable. This will not only improve the quality of programs offered but also build good reputation of a country.

Nonetheless, Indus University welcomes such initiatives and participates in every such activity. The 1st Deans Directors Conference held under the umbrella of National Business Accreditation Council (NBEAC) on 27th & 28th January 2014 at Serena Hotel, Islamabad was attended by worthy Chancellor Khalid Amin, Vice Chancellor Muhammad Ahmed Amin, Director QEC Sheema Haider, Director Administration Ayaz Ahmed Panhwar, Dy. Director Bushra Shahzad and Research Associate Rohail AKS.

The take away of the conference was that attendees generated a pool of knowledge and exchanged their views on emerging issues such as; a) trends in management

education: global and regional, b) internationalization: linkages, alliances and accreditation, c) development strategies and resource mobilization, etc. Secondly, special consideration was given to corrective measures that should be taken immediately without further ado. Thirdly, networking with the deans and directors of other business schools was made possible.

On behalf of Vice Chancellor Indus University, we heartily congratulate the entire NBEAC Team for organizing this conference successfully and we assure the respective team with our full-fledged support in the forthcoming events.

Awareness Session on SAR



We are pleased to inform you that Indus University is on the verge of promoting quality education to the masses and in this regard, the QEC Team under the supervision of Ms. Sheema Haider, Director QEC is leaving no stone unturned to achieve the desired objectives.

Additionally, QEC is working in various dimensions and Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for faculty is one of those vital areas. Recently, an awareness session was conducted for the Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology & Faculty of Social Sciences on 15th March 2014. The session's theme was "Major Components of Self-Assessment Report (SAR) with a prime focus on Criterion 1" and it was delivered by one of the noted luminaries; Ms. Ambreen Asif Qureshi. The respective person is currently serving as the HEC Moderator for Yahoo Network and also positioned as the Vice President of IntellAct Consultants. She was accompanied by Mr. Saad Masud, President of IntellAct Consultants and during the session, he shed light on the challenges faced by Pakistani employees in the Middle East and suggested a cost-leadership strategy to combat the socio-economic crises in the current times. He further persuaded the audience towards revolutionary change which he reiterated could be possible only through education. Nonetheless, the session was interactive and many ambiguities were resolved via this forum.

Thus, the session was well-attended and the target audience comprised of Deans, faculty members and supporting staff learned a great deal of knowledge from it. In the end, Muhammad Ahmed Amin, Vice Chancellor of Indus University honoured the resource persons with the shield.

QAA Monitoring Visit

In order to verify the data provided to Quality Assurance Agency w.r.t Self-Assessment Reports (SARs) of 12 programs and to assess the progress of QEC, officials from Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) visited the office of QEC – Indus University on Friday, December 20, 2013.

1. Mr. Tauqeer Riaz, Office Manager, QAA, HEC.
2. Mr. Shoaib Irshad, Assistant Director QAA, HEC.

The agenda of the meeting / visit is as under.

1. Brief Presentation by the Head of QEC / Focal person QEC on the progress of the established QEC till to date.
2. Visit of the Team to the offices of the established QEC.
3. Physical Verification of assets purchased for the establishment of QEC / Data provided to HEC.



Internship Opportunity

Indus University pays due consideration towards curriculum revision and follows the guidelines prescribed by Pakistan Qualification Framework. As far as teaching methodology is concerned, students are inculcated with theoretical knowledge via classroom lectures and in order to develop the pragmatic approach, students are required to do internship of 6 – 8 weeks in the entire degree program. Such activities support the students to gain real world experience in their chosen field of study and this is how, they can offer real benefits to the host organization by working on tangible projects. The interns are also awarded with the stipend and certificates.

QEC took a lead and offered internship to the meritorious student of Indus University. Being the first intern at QEC; Ana Ahmed, the outstanding student of Dept. of Business Administration completed her internship in the month of November. She assisted in preparing the database of QEC records.



NACTE Visits Indus University, Karachi



The Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) are currently on the crest of a new wave w.r.t accreditation and different programs have gone under inspection by the respective accreditation councils. Though the accredited programs do not guarantee a suitable job but obliged the Degree Awarding Institutions (DAIs) to ensure quality education at par with the international standards. It helps in gaining public confidence and goodwill among major stakeholders. Furthermore, myriad objectives could be achieved through accreditation including; continuous improvement of program, faculty development, safe & healthy learning environment, sound infrastructure and last but certainly not the least; a knowledgeable student equipped with moral and civic sense.

In addition, Indus University, Karachi works day in and day out for the betterment of education sector and adheres to the guidelines proposed by Higher Education Commission. In this context, a visit was paid by National Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (NACTE) from 1st to 4th January 2014 under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Irshad Ahmad Farrukh, Member & Secretary of the council and was accompanied by Dr. Muhammad Aslam Kamboh and Dr. Mumtaz Akhter to accredit the B.Ed & M.Ed Programs.

The Vice Chancellor of Indus University, Muhammad Ahmed Amin welcomed the team wholeheartedly and he reiterated "the

management would remain steadfast in its support."

Nonetheless, the team conducted different activities at the Department of Education ranging from interviews of chairperson, faculty members, students, supporting staff, alumni to observation of infrastructure and document verification. Hence, it has been a learning experience and the team effort has

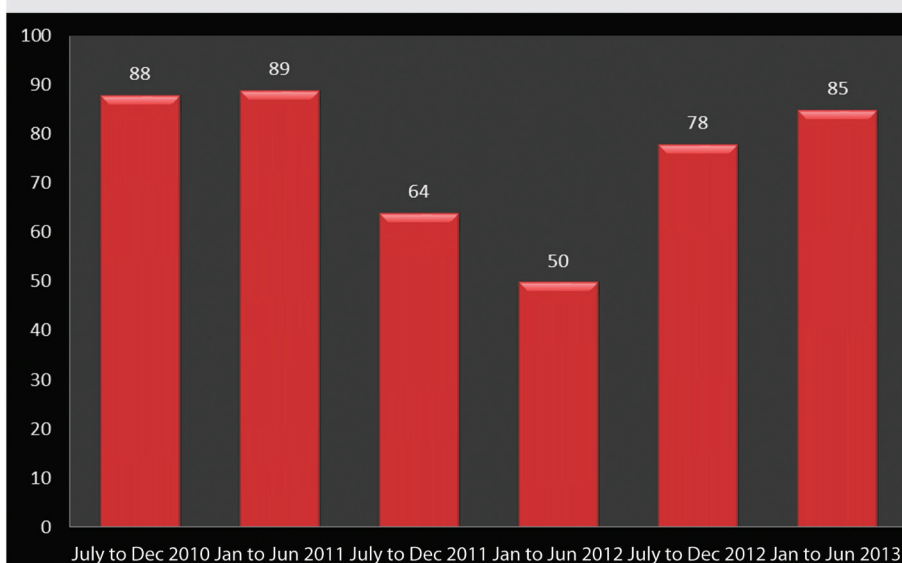
reaped fruitful results apparently. The suggestions given by the NACTE team have been paid heed and the management is highly motivated to bring necessary changes in the forthcoming years.



News Flash (QEC earns "W" Category)

QEC scored 85 for the period January to June 2013 and this leads the department in the "W" category. We firmly believe that this would not have been possible without the support of management, faculty and students who cooperated with us at every crucial stage. Moreover, we hope to deliver much better results in the future and assure our stakeholders for continuous improvement of quality education at Indus University.

Growth Pattern of QEC







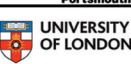






Indus University inks Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with various well-renowned varsities

We certainly believe that the collaborative arrangements would help the resident and non-resident entities in number of ways including;

- Opportunity to establish strategic alliance
- Feasibility of Student / Faculty Exchange Programmes
- Promotion of academic activities thereby, producing highly skilled workforce
- Dissemination of world class knowledge
- Possibility of offering cutting edge courses
- Last but certainly not least, relationships between the two countries will be strengthened and the delegates could exchange a great deal of knowledge with each other.

The MoUs have been signed with the following universities:

S.No.	Name of Institutions
1.	University of Central Lancashire (UK) 
2.	Leicester College of technology (UK) 
3.	University of Bradford (UK) 
4.	University of Sunderland (UK) 
5.	Teesside University (UK) 
6.	University of Portsmouth (UK) 
7.	University of London (INT program/Affiliate Centre) UK 
8.	Istanbul Technical University (Turkey) 

S.No.	Name of Institutions
9.	IÉSEG School of Management (France) 
10.	Alzahra University (Iran) 
11.	Ishik University (Iraq) 
12.	Bolton University (Ras Al- Khaimah, Campus) UK/UAE 
13.	Katsina University (Nigeria) 
14.	Fatih University (Turkey) 
15.	Bacha Khan University, Charsadda 

Social Responsibility by QEC

Indus University considers one of its prime responsibilities to serve the society in the best possible manner. Some concrete steps have been taken w.r.t social responsibility in this regard include; provision of need based scholarships for the offspring of victims killed in target killings, helping hand being provided to thalassaemia patients, visit paid to Edhi Orphanage in Korangi coupled with the donation and celebrations of the independence day, awareness session conducted on Safe Blood Donation Service Project, etc.



Safe Blood & Voluntary Blood Donation Health Awareness Session	31 st March 2014
Donation for drought-hit families in Tharparkar	Mar-Apr 2014
QEC Team attended the 3rd Climate Change Conference 2014 organized by Habib University Foundation, Karachi	25 th January 2014
Fund raising week to generate funds for needy and meritorious Students	2 nd - 8 th March 2013

Inauguration of IEEE Branch



IEEE is world's largest professional association dedicated to the promotion and advancement of technology related to electricity and electronics. IEEE is the trusted "platform" for engineering, computing and technology information worldwide. It has the largest pool of members w.r.t technical professional organization in the world, with more than 365,000 members in around 150 countries.

The IEEE Student Branch at Indus University, Karachi is established in 2014 with an aim to regularly arrange technical activities and workshop to help student in their professional growth. The branch members learn valuable technical, management, communication and leadership skill by arranging a variety of events and workshops.

The student branch is committed to provide excellent opportunities of professional development for the students of Indus University to help grow their technical and professional skills. That is to say, that apart from gaining the usual technological knowledge, special consideration is given to the professional nourishment of the members, by making them arrange events and manage projects, both technical and non-technical. The branch consists of 14 student members along with 6 faculty members of Indus University.

IMAGE GALLERY!



Newly Hired Faculty at **INDUS UNIVERSITY**

We firmly believe that faculty is one of the major stakeholders of Higher Education Institution (HEIs) and to provide best educational services to our students, highly qualified faculty has been hired who is working day in and day out to change the perspectives of our young blood. The task seems daunting however; they are putting all their efforts to achieve the ultimate vision & mission of Indus University. They are instilling core values among the students ranging from foresight, excellence, creativity & innovation, teaching by example, persistence, sharing to making difference and reaching out.

Moreover, we have hired following notable luminaries in the year 2014.

Prof. Dr. Engr. Syed Hyder Abbas Musavi
Professor & Dean of FEST

Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology



Prof. Dr. Engr. Syed Hyder Abbas Musavi acquires more than twenty one years of teaching experience. He completed his PhD from Hamdard University in 2011 in Telecommunication Engineering. To his credit, more than 24 papers have been published in HEC recognized national and international journals. He has served the education sector in different capacities such as; Coordinator of Pakistan Engineers Board PEB / CPD (Pakistan Engineering Council), Convener for Karachi Local Council IEEE, Branch Counsellor of IEEE USA. Currently, he has been working as the Dean of Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology (FEST) at Indus University, KHI. He has been making some meaningful developments and Indus University is on the verge of new heights of success.

Prof. Dr. Safeeullah Soomro
Professor & Associate Dean of FEST

Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology



Dr. Safeeullah Soomro has over sixteen years of experience in teaching and research and holds B.Sc (Hons) as well as M.Sc in Computer Science from University of Sindh, Jamshoro Pakistan. He earned his PhD in Computer Science from Graz University of Technology, Austria. He has joined Indus University as Professor and Associate Dean, Faculty of Engineering Science and Technology FEST. He accomplished extensive research work at Graz University of Technology, Austria during 2003 - 2007. He is an author of more than fifty national and international publications in conference proceedings, books and journals. He is also a reviewer and committee member of different international and national conferences. He is an approved supervisor of Computer Science and Software Engineering under Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan and supervises PhD Students. He is a member of IEEE, IEEE Computer Society and ISOC. He is an editor of three books in the field of Computer Science, E-learning and Information Technology.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Hanif Memon
Professor & Chairperson - MS Textile Science Program

Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology



Dr. Hanif has a vast experience of teaching and consultancy in the domain of Textile Science. Several renowned organizations are benefiting from his experience including; Institute of Textile Technology & Management, GS Dyeing Industries, US Dream Inc., Lucky Textile. He has also served University of Sindh, Jamshoro as a Technical Advisor. As far as his academic qualifications are concerned, he did Ph.D. from University of Hull, UK in Analytical Chemistry in 1988. He has been the member of Royal Society of Chemistry, European Network on Lateritic Weathering & Global Environment (EUROLAT).

Newly Hired Faculty at **INDUS UNIVERSITY**

Dr. Noman Islam
Assistant Professor & Chairperson of
Computing & Technology Department

Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology



Dr. Noman holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science from National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (NUCES) and has approximately eleven years of teaching and research experience. He received his Bachelors in Computer Science from University of Karachi and Masters in Computer Science from National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences, Karachi. He has also been decorated with silver medal for his outstanding performance. He has published more than 20 research publications in various international conferences, journals, and books. Currently, he is serving as the Chairperson of Computer Science Department at Indus University. He is also the member of AI Soft, USA and Centre for Research in Ubiquitous Computing (CRUC), Karachi, Pakistan. His research interests are mobile adhoc network, semantic web, multi-agent systems, and cloud computing. He is also a Reviewer for various international impact factor journals and conferences.

Dr. Engr. Ahmed Muddassir Khan
Associate Professor & Chairperson of
Electrical Engineering

Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology



Prof. Dr. Engr. Ahmed Muddassir Khan completed his early education from prestigious institutes of Pakistan with distinctions. He completed B.E. (Electronics) from Mehran University, Jamshoro in 2003, M.Engg. from NED University Karachi in 2008 and MBA from Federal Urdu University, Karachi in 2010. He started his professional career as a Telecom Engineer in Pakistan's leading Telecom organization and rendered his services in optical networking. Then he made a transition towards education and completed Ph.D. from Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunication (BUPT), Beijing, China. His research is based on implementation of robust advanced modulation format for cost-effective and high capacity next generation passive optical networks (PON). During his doctorate studies, he published 9 research papers in esteemed international research journals. Currently, he is working at Indus University, Karachi, as an Associate Professor and Chairperson of Department of Electronic Engineering in Faculty of Engineering, Science and Technology (FEST).

Rizwan Ullah
Lecturer
Department of Fashion Design

Faculty of Art & Design



Rizwan Ullah has studied at Pakistan School of Fashion Design (PSFD) Lahore. He is a renowned Model, TV Host, Artist and Professional Designer. He is currently serving Indus University as a Lecturer in Faculty of Arts & Design.



QUALITY ENHANCEMENT CELL
INDUS UNIVERSITY