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Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, SI, takes charge as Vice Chancellor

On 27th of August 2015, Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, Sitara-i-Imtiaz, an eminent Physicist, and a scholar par excellence, took charge as Vice Chancellor Government College University, Lahore. He started off as the revivalist and upholder of those traditions of GCU Lahore which were once a hallmark of its distinction. Prof. Shah served this institution for 13 years as Professor and Head of Department of Physics. He graduated from Moscow and did his PhD from Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad and post-doctoral fellowships at several reputed foreign institutions including the University of Sussex London, International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy and the Space Physics Institute, Rome. He still has research collaborations with top institutions of the world. Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah with his charismatic personality received an overwhelming welcome from the faculty and staff members of GC University Lahore.

The GCU 30th Head vows to keep the Torch of Ravian Traditions Lit

After his appointment as the 30th head of GCU Lahore Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah SI said in his maiden address to the academic and administrative staff of GCU and media that out of the box measures need to be taken for the uplift of public sector universities which have limited resources. He said that the key behind achieving the uphill task of revamping the academic landscape of Pakistan was the academia. “The universities can only consolidate their intellectual capital if they are provided with capacity to attract the most fertile minds to their faculty. The best research scholars, men of letters and seasoned professionals pertaining to different fields of human activity should be converged in university campuses to enrich the students learning experience,” he added.

Talking about improving quality of university graduates, the Vice Chancellor said that mediocrity was infecting every segment of society. Universities need to fuel the imagination of their students so that widespread mediocrity is wiped off. Argumentative skills, intellectual curiosity and the power of imagination of students must be honed.

Old Ravians Union hosts a ceremony in Honour of Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, SI newly appointed Vice Chancellor GCU Lahore

A ceremony in honour of newly appointed Vice Chancellor was organized at GCU Lahore by the Old Ravians Union. Addressing the ceremony, the Vice Chancellor said that “alumni, corporate organizations and philanthropists all over the world fund professorial chairs in universities, and I hope Old Ravians would lead and set such a precedence in Pakistan.” He further
added that faculty development was their top and utmost priority for which the University needed the support of its alumni. He lauded the role of Old Ravians in the development of University’s Endowment Fund Trust. He also said that the goal to bring GCU in the ranking of world’s top universities could not be achieved without the support of the alumni.

ORU President Kamran Lashari, Honorary Secretary Dr Khalid Manzoor Butt, Qazi Afaq, Naeem Tahir, Col. (R) Ikram Ullah Khan, Asghar Nadeem Syed, Tayyab Rizvi, Dr Abdul Basit, Dr Sheeba Alam, Asjad Ghani, Mehrmood Saeed, Mansoor Feroz Khan and other members of the executive committee were also present.

**Solidarity Walk to Pay Tribute to the Brave Soldiers of Pakistan at GCU**

An on-campus Solidarity Walk led by the Vice Chancellor to pay tribute to brave soldiers of Pakistan Army was organized. The Vice Chancellor said, “It is a matter of great pride for us that GCU is also the alma mater of several brave soldiers, which include Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Raheel Sharif and Major Shabbir Sharif Shafee, Nishan-e-Haider”. He further said that Pakistan is a peace loving nation and it never preferred war but it believed in dignity and honour and kept its defence strong to ensure their liberty and sovereignty. He said that civilians should support their armed forces for defence of the country by performing their duties honestly and justly. He also shared his memories of the 1965 war, and the enthusiasm which the nation had at that time.

**National School of Public Policy Delegation visits GCU**

A delegation comprising of the participants of the 103rd National Management Course (NMC) met and discussed policy formation, financial resources and future plans of the 151 years old educational institution with the Vice Chancellor in detail. The NSPP delegation comprised of BS-20 officials including Ms. Atiyya Naheed, Mr. Abdul Razzaque Cheema, Lt (R) Ejaz Ahmad Khan, Dr. Faiz Illahi Memon, Mr. Sheikh Abdul Hafeez, Mr. Naz Muhammad Khan, Dr. Raiz Ahmed Memon, Dr. Sohail Shahzad and Mr. Zafar Iqbal Husain. Talking to the delegation, the Vice Chancellor said that the most important aspect of GCU was character-building and personality development of its students through their extensive participation in literary and co-curricular activities. He further said that GCU teachers encouraged questioning, difference of opinion and argument, besides teaching tolerance to students.

**GCU Receives Donations, Initiation of New Scholarships by its Alumni**

A meeting of trustees and executive members of GCU Endowment Fund Trust took place with the Vice Chancellor. Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry (LCCI) President Ijaz A Mumtaz was Guest of Honour at the ceremony and also donated Rs 2.5 million to GCU EFT for initiating scholarships.

Distinguished Professor Department of Persian Dr. Zaheer Ahmad Siddiqui, who donates his salary to the university’s endowment fund every month, also handed over a cheque of his salary to the Vice Chancellor as fee for a financially-challenged student. Overall, donations cheques of about Rs 4.5 million were presented to the Vice Chancellor at the ceremony for the trust. In his concluding remarks, the Vice Chancellor appreciated the efforts of EFT Executive Committee for building an endowment fund which is unprecedented in the public sector. However, he said that they might broaden the scope of the fund to support faculty development and to uplift other projects of the university.

- **Shaik Nazir Ahmad Silver Scholarship**

An eminent businessman, Mr. Iqitidar Ahmad, along with his wife Ms. Shazia Iqitidar donated a silver scholarship in the name of his grandfather, Shaik Nazir Ahmad, with a donation of Rs 500,000 to the Government College University, Lahore Endowment Fund Trust (GCU-EFT). Prof. Shah expressed gratitude to the couple for their donation to the trust, saying, “It is heartening to see that the culture of supporting financially-challenged students and educational institutions is developing in our society.” He hoped that this philanthropic act of Iqitidar Ahmad’s family would also
inspire other well-off people. Speaking on the occasion, Shazia Iqtidar said that she was an Old Ravian and placed great trust in the transparency and merit system of GCU EFT.

- **ABL Golden Scholarship**
The Allied Bank Limited has donated one million rupees to the Government College University Lahore.

**Art Exhibitions at Minhas Art Gallery**
The following Art Exhibitions were held at the Minhas Art Gallery of the Government College University Lahore:

- Art work based on exhibiting chronology of changing trends, techniques, philosophy and use of technology in the field of fine arts, especially paintings by Old Ravian artists were exhibited at Minhas Art Gallery GCU Lahore, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah and eminent Old Ravian artist Dr. Aijaz Anwar inaugurated the art show. The Vice Chancellor appreciated the motivating and inspiring art work of Old Ravians.

- To pay tribute to the martyrs of APS Peshawar the young artists from department of Fine Arts GCU Lahore relived the painful and heart rending memories of the terrorist attack on Army Public School (APS), Peshawar through their artwork at the poster exhibition opened at the university’s Minhas Art Gallery. About 50 artworks of young fine arts students were put on display at the exhibition dedicated to the sacrifices and bravery of 151 schoolchildren and teachers who lost their lives in the terrorist attack on APS Peshawar in December 2014.

“It’s education that will wipe out terrorism; you can fight it and stop it for a period of time but ultimately education will end it,” said the Vice Chancellor who was pleased to see that many students used the APS theme in their posters on the importance of education for fighting terrorism. He also paid glowing tributes to the soldiers of the country’s armed forces, who are sacrificing their lives in the war against terror, so that “our children can safely continue the mission of APS martyrs i.e. education.”

Addressing the ceremony, Mr. Erfan Ullah Babar, In charge Department of Fine Arts said December 16 was a Black Day in the history of humanity which could never be forgotten. The Chinese delegates participating in an international conference at GCU visited the exhibition paid tribute to the sacrifices of APS martyrs. “Chinese and Pakistanis are brothers and they were our children too,” they said.
Celebrations of National Day of China at GCU

A ceremony to celebrate the National Day of China was held at GCU. Chinese Counsel General Lahore Yun Boren attended the ceremony. The Chinese community residing in Lahore also attended the ceremony. While addressing the ceremony Mr. Yun Boren said that Pakistan-China friendship is beyond cultures and languages and the Chinese community in Lahore is deeply moved to see Pakistanis celebrating their national day as of Pakistan.

Addressing the ceremony, the Vice Chancellor said every Pakistani was impressed by the economic development of China in the last 66 years, and further added “we should not only admire China, but must also learn from its experiences and initiatives which have made it an economic powerhouse.” He expressed gratitude to the Chinese Counsel General for his support to GCU CECS in shape of equipment and books.

Earlier, the GCU Nazir Ahmed Music society presented folk music for the Chinese and other guests who were attending this ceremony which was followed by a quiz competition among the academic departments of the university on Pakistan-China friendship. Yun Boren presented souvenirs to the winners of the quiz competition and highly appreciated their knowledge about China. Later, Mr. and Mrs. Boren, Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah SI, Captain (r) Muhammad Usman and Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt cut a cake to celebrate the Chinese National Day.

GCU Condoles Sad Demise of Justice (r) Javed Iqbal

The Old Ravians Union executive committee, faculty and staff members of Government College University Lahore expressed deep condolences on the sad demise of eminent Old Ravian Justice (r) Javed Iqbal, the son of Allama Muhammad Iqbal. Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor said that Justice (r) Javed Iqbal was a source of inspiration for the university students and the void created by his death could not be filled.
Workshop on Remote Sensing organised by Department of Geography

A two-day workshop, held at the GCU Lahore under the auspices of the Department of Geography and Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO), was aimed at edifying the skills of the participants in modern modelling, data acquisition and management techniques through remote sensing. Eminent scientists and geologists attended the workshop.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Ali Iqtedar Mirza, Chairperson Department of Geography, said space technology is being used for continuous monitoring of main crops, their yield and production. Hence, it ensures food security and also assists in the prediction of drought and floods.

The Vice Chancellor in his address stressed upon strong collaboration among universities and research and technology development organisations like SUPARCO, which helped researchers and students in acquiring latest and accurate data for research. He also said that these workshops were equally important for professionals and students as they gave them an opportunity to learn about the latest research techniques in their subject area.

SUPARCO General Manager Lahore Dr. Arifa Lodhi highlighted SUPARCO collaborations with leading universities of the country including GCU for development of space science and technology in the country.

The senior faculty and staff members from Pakistan Metrology Department Lahore Flood Forecasting Division, Punjab University, Lahore College for Women University, Kinnaird College, GCU Faisalabad, FC Lahore, University of Sargodha and COMSATS took part in the workshop that was spread over nine technical sessions.

Seminar on World's Translation Day

A seminar was conducted on World’s Translation Day by Sondhi Translation Society at GCU Lahore. A number of renowned scholars attended the seminar and shared their views regarding the importance of translation. Renowned writer Mr. Intizaar Hussain chaired the event and former ambassador Mr. Tauheed Ahmed was the chief guest. Dr. Tahir Kamran, and Dr. Saadat Saeed from GCU Lahore, Dr. Ghulam Ali from University of Gujrat, Dr. Sarmad Hussain from UET Lahore, Dr. Najam us Sahar, Mr. Musharaf Ali Farooqi (Karachi) and Mr. Siddique Awan addressed the seminar and highlighted the importance and need of translation for sharing knowledge globally.

The Vice Chancellor appreciated the efforts of the advisor and office bearers of Sondhi Translation Society for holding such a remarkable event in a short span of time.

GCU Delegation visits Iqbal’s Mausoleum

Under the leadership of Vice Chancellor GCU, a delegation of students and teachers visited the mausoleum of Allama Iqbal to pay tribute to the great Ravian philosopher and poet on his birth anniversary. The delegation offered Fateha and laid a floral wreath. The Vice Chancellor also recorded his views in the visitors’ book.

Later, Iqbal’s Day Poetry Competition was held at the GCU Allama Iqbal Hostel. The Vice Chancellor said that it was a matter of great pride and inspiration for all Ravians having Allama Muhammad Iqbal as the alumnus of Government College Lahore.
Foreign Faculty Re-Joins GCU ASSMS

The academic and research activities at Abdus Salam School of Mathematical Sciences, GCU Lahore (GCU-ASSMS) has been successfully revived as the foreign faculty, which had left in 2014, has rejoined the doctoral school. European Mathematical Society (EMS) Committee for Developing Countries President Professor Michel Waldschmidt also arrived at the doctoral school to review and assist in the revival of its academic and research activities as ASSMS previously enjoyed the status of Emerging Regional Centre of Excellence (ERCE) by EMS. Professor Michel Waldschmidt, who is an eminent French mathematician also met the Vice Chancellor and ASSMS Director General and discussed with them the future prospects of the doctoral school which had produced more than 125 PhDs in Mathematics for Pakistan in a short span of just eight years.

Seminar on “Philosophy Outside of the Academic Enclosure, Using New Places and Formats”

A seminar on “Philosophy Outside of the Academic Enclosure, Using New Places and Formats” was organized by the Department of Philosophy and Interdisciplinary Studies at the Government College University, Lahore in connection with World Philosophy Day. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin was the Guest of Honour at the seminar. He said that philosophy could not be restricted to a single department; rather every scientific subject had philosophy.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah SI, the Vice Chancellor said that academic institutions must promote inquiring skills instead of just teaching specific knowledge and methods at its roots.

Eminent philosopher and writer Prof. Mirza Athar Baig said a conducive, liberal and open environment was needed in universities for the development of literature and philosophy.

GCU Brett Philosophical Society Advisor Dr. Alvin Vincent Murad, Dr. Sobia Tahir, In charge Department of Philosophy and Interdisciplinary Studies Head Prof. Dr. Tahir Kamran Chairperson, Department of History, Mr. Abdul Mannan, Mr. Jawad Nazir and Mr. Shahram Sarwar also spoke at the seminar attended by the faculty, academic and administrative heads besides a large number of students.

GCU signs MOU on Students Exchange with the China University of Geosciences, Wuhan (CUG)

A ceremony to sign MOU between the GCU and the China University of Geosciences (CUG), Wuhan. The MOU was signed by the Vice Chancellor GCU and CUG Institute of Environment and Conservation Law (IECL) Director Huang Delin.

Under the MOU, 20 CUG students will participate in the annual summer school at the GCU’s Centre for Excellence in Chinese Studies (CECS) to study courses on Pakistan Studies, English Language, and Pakistan-China Relations among other subjects. Six GCU students will visit the CUG where they will remain in residence for a month and study courses on Chinese language, culture and economic system. The MOU states that the CUG would assist two GCU students in getting admission to its MS/ MPhil degree program every year under the China Scholarship Council.
GCU Job Fair 2015

A job fair was conducted by the university's Career Guidance and Placement Centre under the umbrella of Quality Enhancement Cell. Fifty three noted organizations including banks, IT firms, NGOs, manufacture’s and e-commerce websites set up their stalls at the GCU Job Fair 2015 and offered more than 400 internship and permanent placement opportunities to the university’s students and graduates.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman Prof. Dr. Muhammad Nizam ud din said that there was a wide gap between the universities curriculum and modern market demands, adding that such job fairs played a vital role in bridging this gap. He revealed that he had got his first job in the United States from a job fair. He said that universities should also more often hold training on resume writing and interview skills for their students.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor said the academic environment and co-curricular activities at GCU also concentrated on overall grooming, confidence-building and personality development of students which was the reason that the reputed companies preferred their students.

Ms. Iram Sohail, Director Quality Enhancement Cell said students are a reflection of their teachers and the institutions they attend. She said that job fairs were a strategy to fast track the placement of students in reputed organisations. She said GCU didn’t charge any registration fee from any company and allocated a huge fund from its budget for the professional career of their students. GCU Placement Officer Mubasher Hassan said “the activity stands fruitful if even only one student gets a good job opportunity from it.”

However, he was hopeful that more than one hundred students would get permanent job placements from this year’s job fair.

Later, Prof. Dr. Nizam ud din gave away certificates to the representatives of the companies that participated in the job fair.

GCU hosts the Inaugural Ceremony of an International Conference on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)

An inaugural ceremony of a Two-Day international conference on China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was organized by the GCU Centre for Excellence in China Studies (CECS) in collaboration with the Higher Education Commission to explore economic, political, strategic, cultural and social dimensions of the CPEC. Experts from United States, Belgium, United Kingdom and as many as 20 Chinese academicians participated in the conference.

The conference included eight technical sessions based on the following topics:

- CPEC: Challenges and Prospects
- Sino-Pakistan ties
- Economic, Political and strategic dimensions of CPEC
- Strategic Significance of Indian Ocean
- Socio-cultural and Media perspectives on CPEC

On the first day of the conference Chief Minister Punjab Shahbaz Sharif graced the event as Chief Guest. Punjab Education Minister Rana Mashood Ahmed Khan, Old Ravians Union President Kamran Lashari, Secretary Higher Education Irfan Ali and Commissioner Lahore Abdullah Khan Sumbal also attended the inauguration.

Addressing the conference, the Chief Minister said that the Chinese attached no conditions to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) which reflects the depth of relations between the two countries. He further said that out of $46 billion investment by China, $36 billion is in energy sector and if everything goes well, 5000 to 6000MW would be added to the national grid by 2017-18. The Chief Minister also announced sending 300 top merited students to China for studies and learning Chinese language, saying that the Punjab government would invest about Rs 600 million on these students. Shahbaz Sharif also shared his golden memories of student life at the Government College Lahore and also said that “today I am standing in my alma mater, so I will talk beyond politics and beyond my likes and dislikes as a proud Pakistani and proud Ravan.”

In his key note address, Dr Akram Sheikh, the co-chair of NUST Global Think-Tank Network and former Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, said that the government needed to adopt a holistic, integrated, consultative, concentrated and coordinated approach to gain maximum benefits from CPEC. He asked the government to add a
railway network to CPEC for long-term benefits from the project, saying “road network alone is not sustainable.” He also shared the complete history and objectives of CPEC and its strategic importance for both China and Pakistan. He identified foreign interference and intervention in ‘Pakistan’s soft belly’ by encouraging terrorism, separatism, extremism hybrid wars and colour revolution, our capacity limitations and poor infrastructure as major challenges to CPEC.

The Vice Chancellor Prof Hassan Amir Shah said they had a vision to transform GCU CECS a “real think-tank” for Sino-Pak relations and this conference was a first step towards this goal. He called upon the Punjab Chief Minister, HEC and Chinese Consulate for their support for permanent Chinese faculty at the university's Centre for Excellence, China Studies.

In his inaugural speech, GCU CECS Director Dr Khalid Manzoor Butt said CPEC was a ‘game-changer’, and would enhance Pakistan’s position in global politics. “It would be more beneficial for Pakistan than Suez Canal was for Egypt”.

Two-day training Workshop on “First Aid”

A two-day training workshop on “First Aid” was organized by the GCU Sustainable Development Study Centre (SDSC) in collaboration with Red Crescent Society Punjab. University of Education Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Rauf-i-Azam chaired the opening ceremony, he said addressing the ceremony “It is highly unfortunate we lack culture of trainings and rather prefer traditional knowledge that is forwarded to us from friends and ancestors and which often results in tragedies”. The speakers stressed that first aid training should be made mandatory for all students as it did not only develop their abilities to immediately respond to the critical conditions accidently posed to human life but also made them better human beings by sensitizing them about importance of helping others.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah said he strongly believed in personality development of the students by actively engaging them in welfare activities, trainings and other co-curricular activities i.e. debates, drama, quiz etc. Red Crescent Society Punjab Secretary Mahboob Qadir Shah briefed the students about the history, objectives and activities of the society. Earlier, in her opening remarks, Director SDSC said electric shocks, burns, bleedings, angina, eye injuries and fractures are among such conditions that demand urgent and proper responses on spot so there must be at least one person in every home who has a complete knowledge and training in first aid.
GCU Organizes a Rally to Pay Homage to the Martyrs of Army Public School Peshawar

Students and staff members of GCU Lahore organized a rally led by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah in the memory of all those who lost their lives at the Army Public School, Peshawar on 16 December, 2014. They payed homage to the martyrs of Army Public School Peshawar and expressed solidarity with the families of the martyred children and teachers.

Russian Ambassador Visits GCU

Russian Ambassador to Pakistan His Excellency Alexey Yurivich Dedov visited the GC University Lahore and met the Vice Chancellor and other academic and administrative heads. His Excellency highlighted technical cooperation of Russia in several projects with Pakistan. He expressed his all-out support to GCU and other educational institutions for establishing exchange programs and academic linkages with Russian universities. The Vice Chancellor said it was the first visit of a Russian diplomat of GCU in the last many years, and hoped that His Excellency would also spare time in the near future to address the University students on geopolitics and new trends in Pak-Russia relations. His Excellency Alexey Yurivich Dedov visited Iqbal hostel and also admired the antediluvian architecture and grandeur of GCU.

GCU hosts 35th All Pakistan Allama Iqbal Bilingual Declamation

The 35th All Pakistan Allama Muhammad Iqbal Bilingual Declamation Contest, was organized at the Government College University Lahore. The best orators of more than 40 educational institutions from all over the country contested for the coveted trophy at the two-day event spread over three sessions. The GCUDS President Muhammad Afzal Munir said that the All Pakistan Allama Iqbal Bilingual Declamation Competition had been a regular annual feature of Government College Lahore since 1980. Human Rights Commission of Pakistan Secretary General Mr. I.A. Rehman was the Chief Guest at the final round of the prestigious debates while GCU Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Hassan Amir Shah was also present at the event.

The University College Lahore (UCL) won the 35th All Pakistan Allama Muhammad Iqbal Declamation Contest. University of Engineering and Technology Lahore student Abrar Ahmed Butt was declared the Best English Speaker of the event and was awarded the Benazir Bhutto Shaheed Medal, which was initiated by the Government College Lahore’s former Principal the late M.A Khan with a donation of Rs 500,000 in 2007. Haris Bilal of the King Edward Medical University Lahore was declared the Best Urdu Speaker and awarded with the Dr Majid Nizami Medal.

The Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah congratulated the winners of the competition, saying that debates taught students how to disagree with others while paying respect to their faiths and ideas.
Indigenous on Campus Training by QEC at GCU Lahore

The five-day training programme ‘Modern University Governance’, organised by the university’s Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) in collaboration with the Learning Innovation Division, Higher Education Commission (LID-HEC), was comprised of 15 technical sessions including intra-departmental communication, quality assurance, administrative skills, financial management, audit, information technology, file management system, hostel management and soft skills.

Awareness Seminar at GCU

A Cancer Awareness Seminar at GCU was organized by QEC in collaboration with the Shaukat Khanum Cancer Memorial Hospital and Research Centre.

International Seminar on “Prevention and Treatment of Liver Cancer”

An international seminar on “Prevention and Treatment of Liver Cancer” was conducted at GCU Lahore. The seminar was jointly organised by the GCU Biological Society and Cancer Care Hospital and Research Centre Lahore (CCHRC).

Pink Ribbon International Drive at GCU

The Quality Enhancement Cell at GCU Lahore held an on-campus awareness drive in collaboration with the Pink Ribbon Pakistan and Higher Education Commission Pakistan to raise awareness among the female students and staff members about the breast cancer. The main purpose of the walk was to eliminate social stigmas attached to the breast carcinoma.

GCU Ravians’ Quiz Society Wins ICAP Quiz Contest

The Ravian’s Quiz Society at GCU Lahore won the All Pakistan Inter-collegiate Quiz Competition at the ‘CA Pakistan Olympiad 2015’ organised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP). The Vice Chancellor congratulated the students on their achievement.

GCU WINS BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIP

The Government College University Lahore won the Inter-collegiate Badminton Championship 2015 organised by the Lahore Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education. About 14 teams of different educational institutions took part in the championship. Team GCU beat the Punjab College in the finals by 3-0.

Christmas Celebrations at GCU Lahore

GCU showed its solidarity and brotherhood to the Christian community by celebrating Christmas at Logia Garden GCU Lahore in a very traditional style. The Vice Chancellor cut the Christmas cake with the university’s Christian staff, students and faculty members.

The Vice Chancellor announced one day additional salary for the Christian staff and a ‘cash gift’ to all the Christian non-gazetted staff of the university from his pocket. Later, Dr. Alvin Vincent Murad, representing the GCU minority staff members, expressed gratitude to the Vice Chancellor and other guests for celebrating Christmas with them. Large number of academic and administrative heads and staff members attended the celebrations.
GCU Debating Society Brings Laurels Home Yet Once Again

GCU Orators Achievements:
- Saad Khan, a student of English literature and resident of Charsadda District, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, was adjudicated the Best Pashto Speaker.
- Amna Sohail was declared the best English Speaker of GCU Internal Debates 2015.
- Ibrar Hussain and Fahad bin Fraz secured first positions in Punjabi and Urdu debates.
- Monhiba Ahmed was adjudicated first in humorous English debates.
- Ali Zar won the humorous debates in Urdu.
- The Debating Society of GC University Lahore (GCUUDS) won the Pashto Declaration Contest hosted by the University of Management Technology Lahore. Saad Khan was adjudicated the Best Pashto Speaker of the contest.
- Mashriq Khan stood second in the contest.
- Syed Daniyal Haider Gillani got the first position at the All Pakistan English Speech Contest hosted by LGS, Faisalabad. He was also awarded a cash prize Rs 10,000.
- The Debating Society of Government College University Lahore lifted the prestigious team trophies at the two national declamations hosted by the Cadet College Jhang and FAST-NU Islamabad.
- Qasim Raza, Ali Zar, Rana Qamar Iqbal and Abdullah Zafar gave excellent performances and got individual positions at the declamation contests.
- GCU orator Rana Muhammad Kafeel was declared the Best Urdu Speaker.
- Ali Zar got the first prize in the English humorous category for his hilarious speech on the topic “English is a funny language”.
- Team GCU was adjudicated the overall best team of the competition and lifted the prestigious team trophy.
The Vice Chancellor congratulated the winners on their achievement and also wished them success in the future.

Awareness Seminar on Naegleria Fowleri at GCU

On the special directions of Punjab Government the Quality Enhancement Cell GCU Lahore organized an awareness seminar on Naegleria Fowleri: Prevention and Control, to raise awareness about the fatal brain-eating amoeba that had reportedly claimed about 12 lives in Sindh in the last year.
Addressing the ceremony Prof. Dr. Rashid Mahmood Head of Paediatrics Fatima Jinnah Medical University Lahore briefed the audience about the disease, precautionary measures, symptoms and diagnostic procedure.
Chairperson Department of Zoology GCU Lahore Prof. Dr. Nusrat Jahan said that Naegleria Fowleri was a heat-loving, free-living amoeba (single-celled microbe), commonly found around the world in warm freshwater, most patients in Karachi acquired this disease while performing the religious ablution ‘wuzu’ with tap water, contaminated with the amoeba.
Quality Enhancement Cell Director Ms. Iram Sohail said that the danger of outbreak of this menace should be taken care of before it blew out of proportion. Students and faculty members from all departments of the university attended the seminar.
Speaking on the occasion, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah said that the Punjab government has launched the awareness campaign prior to the outbreak of this deadly disease which must be highly appreciated. He asked the students to take back the message home and spread awareness about Naegleria Fowleri among their family members and friends.