

# NEWSLETTER

Volume No. 51



## BUITEMS

Quality & Excellence in Education



- o Video Conferencing Facility at BUITEMS Inaugurated
- o BUITEMS Wins PTV Quiz Competition
- o French Ambassador Visits BUITEMS

**Chief Patron**  
Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai

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### OUR VISION

To be among the leading universities of the world - accessible to all, imparting quality education and promoting cutting edge research.

### MISSION STATEMENT

At **BUIITEMS**, we are committed to provide quality education with focus on research and to equip students with the art of living as productive members of society, contributing to the socio-economic uplift of Pakistan in general, and Balochistan in particular.

### OUR GOALS

1. To provide outstanding academic programs that further strengthen our performance, pre-eminence and efficiency.
2. To provide an excellent teaching and learning environment for students to reach a level that matches the best universities in the world.
3. To raise revenues from partnerships, research grants and technology transfer while strengthening our ability to more effectively invest and allocate resources for education.

### CORE VALUES

- Accountability:** We are committed stewards of the loyalty and goodwill of our alumni and friends of the human, fiscal and physical resources entrusted to us.
- Diversity:** We recognize that diversity leads to excellence, enhancing our teaching, scholarship and service as well as our ability to respect and interact with people.
- Integrity:** We practice honesty, truth and integrity in all that we do.
- Respect:** We treat each other with civility, dignity and respect.
- Social responsibility:** We contribute to the intellectual cultural, spiritual and economic well-being of the society.

# Editorial

Attempts to achieve the goals at a time when decadence in the society is rampant, have to be plausible steps for an institution like BUITEMS whose vision is "*To be among the leading universities of the world-accessible to all, imparting quality education and promoting cutting edge research.*"

It is the collective genius of students, teachers, administrators and all those who matter to decide and follow the guiding principles of the BUITEMS vision; which makes the difference. It is their free will and love to learn, educate and to experience as a team, that leads us to our rewards in pursuit of our stated goals. To evaluate the efforts and role played by the individuals of this institution or to assess the results of work carried out presently is not our task right now; rather it has to be left for the people of this country and this province to gauge in times to come.

The most commendable contribution of BUITEMS in promoting other institutions is to provide capable human resources. Our graduates are creditably engaged in contributing to the organizational growth in the fields of Business, Industry, Electronics, Biotechnology and computers science etc. It has not been difficult for our graduates to catch the eye of employers in these spheres of professional life.

We are aware of the fact that our progress has to be lasting and solid and we have to proceed on a gradient of heights continuously. That is where our University would like to seek support from the society and political leadership.

It is a matter of great honor and satisfaction that the leading statutory body, BUITEMS Senate under the chairmanship of Honorable Chancellor Nawab Zulfiqar Ali Magsi has been extending support to BUITEMS' philosophy. For consistent and sustainable progress in academic development, the University needs financial support. The university has established a Directorate of Financial Assistance & University Advancement with the object of finding ways and means to achieve financial self sufficiency for carrying out academic activities on sound footings.

Keeping modern principles of education in mind, we must encourage the students to acquire the best knowledge available. Such wealth of knowledge is never static. It needs to grow on lines commensurate to the changing times. The students must acquire a mindset which is eager to grasp fresh research outcomes and new deductions. The university has to be alive to such need. It would be useless to impart knowledge that is already outdated before it reaches the students.

We at BUITEMS preach humanism in true spirit of global fraternity. We aim at enabling the students to build a cultured social order and society on international ideals of coherence and one-ness. That is why we are determined to promote genuine hard work and insist on the adoption of the rational attitude in resolving differences.

## "Video Conferencing Facility Inaugurated"

*Reported by: Engr. Mohammad Nadeem*



Inauguration of BUIITEMS Video Conferencing Facility

The newly constructed, sophisticatedly furnished and fully equipped Video- Conferencing Hall of the Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering And Management Sciences was formally inaugurated by Nawab Zulfiqar Ali Magsi, Governor Balochistan and Chancellor, BUIITEMS on June 17, 2009 at the Takatu Campus. Qari Arshad Yameen, Asstt. Professor, Islamiyat held a befitting dua on the occasion. Prof. Dr. Sohail H. Naqvi, Executive Director Higher Education, participated from Islamabad in the ceremony via video-conferencing facility and communicated with the members of the senate through video conferencing and appreciated the tireless efforts of the concerned people. He mentioned that BUIITEMS was amongst the leading public sector universities of Pakistan provided with the video-conferencing facility by the HEC with compatible equipment and tools. He thanked the Honorable Chancellor for his strenuous efforts for the development of higher education in the province.

Nawab Zulfiqar Ali Magsi extended thanks to the Executive Director of the HEC for the patronizing support

extended by him to the university. He optimistically stated that with the provision of the video-conferencing facility, the students of Balochistan would be able to benefit from the lectures of eminent professors from all over the

world. Vice Chancellor Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai told the Governor that with the help of Campus Management Solutions, BUIITEMS' modern Technology is being introduced on a large scale. Six universities of Pakistan are already taking advantage of this technology and BUIITEMS is the first one in Balochistan to use it. The Honorable Vice Chancellor added that very soon, with BUIITEMS acting as the hub, other universities would be provided with a fiber optic connection. He said that all the universities of HEC would be able to come in closer association with each other and also benefit from teachers outside Pakistan.

## 5th Meeting of the BUIITEMS Senate.

*Reported by: Mr. Manzoor Hussain*

The fifth Session of Senate, chaired by the Chancellor Nawab Zulfiqar Magsi was held on June 12, 09 in the Video Conferencing Hall of the Takatu Campus. Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai, Vice Chancellor, acknowledged the contribution



BUIITEMS 5th Senate meeting in progress

and efforts of the outgoing members. The services of the outgoing members:

- **Mr. Salahuddin Mengal**, Advocate General, Balochistan.
- **Begum Surayya Allahdin** Social worker and Chairperson TIBM, Quetta.
- **Mrs. Roshan Khursheed Bharocha**, Ex. Senator.
- **Dr. Shakeel Baber**, Director CASVAB University of Balochistan
- **Mr. Suleman Kasi**, Director Finance, Islamic Hands (Balochistan Chapter)

in the policy formulation process of the university were specially acknowledged with gratitude.

The Vice Chancellor, also cordially welcomed the incoming members:

- **Mr. Justice Mahta Kelash Nath Kohli**
- **Mrs. Shama Parveen Magsi**
- **Mr. Anwar Tareen**
- **Prof. Dr. Badal Khan**
- **Miss. Farwa Amjad**

to the August body with the hope that they would provide expertise and learned guidance to this institution.

He also presented a report on the progress and development of BUITEMS. The Senate, deliberated on the suggestions of the Syndicate and Finance and Planning Committee and approved the budget recommendations for fiscal years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010. The Senate also approved the introduction of new disciplines like Architecture, Micro Biology, and Plant Sciences at BUITEMS, w.e.f Fall 2009.

The Senate applauded the efforts of BUITEMS in introducing advanced and modern technology. It has expanded the scope of programs to encompass many fresh disciplines and technologies needed for keeping pace with the modern day requirements. The duties that IT professionals perform also include data management, networking, engineering computer hardware, database and software design, as well as the management and administration of all systems. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair.

## NINVAST Workshop on "Vacuum Science & Technology"

*Reported by: Dr. Shoaibullah Khan*

Pakistani Scientists have made their mark in the field of nuclear science and technology through their amazing performance. A workshop on Vacuum Science and Technology was held in Islamabad from 6th to 10th April, 2009 under the aegis of Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission & Kahoota Research Laboratories where latest findings were shared by scientists from 30 institutions.



Dr. Shoaibullah Khan

Dr. Shoaibullah Khan, Chairman, Department of Physics participated in the workshop on behalf of the Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences.

Topics discussed at the meeting were related to research developments in designing vacuum systems, creation of vacuum in the medium range, high range and ultra high range using of rotary pumps, diffusion pumps and turbo molecular pumps.

Detection of leaks in the vacuum system, leak identification and removal were discussed at length. Scientists from various institutions including BUITEMS were invited to share their impressions and give comments on the presentations. Dr. Shoaibullah Khan made valuable contribution to the workshop through his



NINVAST workshop participants

comments based on his specialized studies and professional expertise. The participants of the workshop also had the opportunity of being briefed about studies on plasma, fusion, metallurgy, and nanotechnology inside vacuum.

## Youth Delegation Visits China

*Reported by: Ms. Zaibunnissa Gharshin*

With the object of nurturing fraternal and friendly relations between the Youth of China and Pakistan, a 10 day good-will visit was arranged by the Federal Ministry for Youth Affairs, Pakistan. The delegation comprised 100 young men and women belonging to different walks of life and was headed by Mr. Shahid Bhutto, the Federal Minister for Youth Affairs. Ms. Zaibunnissa Gharshin, Public Relations Officer, BITEMS had the distinction of being selected to represent the youth of Balochistan province. The delegation focused on learning about the cultural set up of the Chinese society, cultural traditions and civilization in order to cultivate closer understanding and goodwill among the Chinese and Pakistani Youth. The delegation visited Urumqi, Lanzhou and Beijing under the hospitality of the China Youth Federation. In

Urumqi, the delegation was taken on a tour to Marker International Furniture Co, International Product Corporation Lines of BAOSTEEL Group, Xinjiang Bi Iron and Steel Corporation Ltd, Xinjiang Medical University, Xinjiang Seniors High School and Urumqi International grand bazaar.

The next visit of Pakistan Youth Delegation was to Lanzhou in the Gansu Province. In Lanzhou, the members of the delegation visited Khwanghka (yellow) River, the Paxta Street, Yi Wu Trade Market as well as the North West Normal University, where a special function was held in honor of the visiting delegation. The members exchanged ideas with the students community and had the privilege of meeting the Vice Chancellor, Ms. Suzi. The delegation were taken on a guided tour to Linxia, also in the Gansu province, and had the opportunity of seeing Linxia Eastern Residences. On the last leg of the tour, the delegation went to Beijing, where they saw the Be Hang University, the Forbidden City, the Great China Wall, the Pakistani Embassy in China and the Great Hall of the People. The delegation was presented to the Vice President of the standing committee of the Peoples' Congress of China and Member Central Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China, Mr. Wang Zhaoguo.

The visit by the delegation was of immense value because the members had the first hand experience of being acquainted with the Chinese culture and introducing our own culture there.

## Daycare Centre at BITEMS

*Reported by: Ms. Nadia Ali Shah*

The number of women in the job market is increasing and a lot of careers are opening up for them but child care is a constant source of worry for



Youth Delegation visits China



Infants & Toddlers in Day Care Centre

working mothers. BUITEMS has established a proper Daycare Centre for looking after the young children of faculty and staff during University timings. Ms. Musarrat Karamat took the initiative for the establishment of the Daycare Centre and was later completed by Ms. Nadia Ali Shah and Ms. Sadaf Amjad Lecturers Faculty of Management Sciences and made every effort to provide a comfortable, safe and secure environment for the kids, much to relief of their parents. Daycare Centre became operational in April '09. The Vice Chancellor Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai visited the centre and appreciated the efforts of the teachers who worked hard for its establishment.

## Final Round of InterUniversity Football Championship

*Reported by: Masood Ahmed Kasi*

A 17 member team Football team from BUITEMS, after qualifying in the Inter-University Zonal championship, proceeded to

Lahore to take part in the final round. Twelve teams had qualified to play in this round as a result of their performance in zonal championship. For the final round, they were divided into four groups. BUITEMS was placed in group B alongwith Malakand University and COMSAT. The final round of the championship was played at Lahore University of Management Sciences from April 12 to April 20, 2009. The tournament was played on league system. The pre

quarter final match between BUITEMS and Malakand University was a closely contested game. Both teams exerted hard to dominate, but the match ended in a 1-1 draw. The match between BUITEMS and COMSAT was again a tussle for dominance between two equal teams, but BUITEMS managed to carry the day on penalty kicks and qualified to play in the quarter finals. In quarter finals, BUITEMS football team was pitched against the University of Sports Sciences, Islamabad. Both teams strived hard to get the upper hand. BUITEMS captain Nassarullah Khan impressed the onlookers with his speed and body-dodges. The team from the



BUITEMS Football Team

University of Sports Sciences finally managed to win the match by one goal. Mr. Masood Ahmed Kasi (Team Manager) and Mr. Naseebullah Kakar (Coach) accompanied the team on the visit to Lahore. In the overall rankings, BUIITEMS Football team was placed 4th out of all the University teams in the country. This is a creditable achievement and the manager, the coach and the players deserve warm appreciation for the same.

## Decorative Art Contest

*Reported by: Ms. Ayesha Yaqoob*

A three day workshop of Decorative Art Contest was held in Iqra University Quetta from 23rd of April to 25th of April, 2009. It was a youth development program conducted by Center for Civic Education, Pakistan. The theme of the contest was "Young people for peaceful and tolerant society". The contest was divided into two parts i.e painting and calligraphy. Renowned artist of Pakistan Mrs. Fauzia Minallah was there at the contest to guide the students. Renowned artist from Quetta Mr. Kaleem guided the contestants in painting and NCA teacher for calligraphy was there to give tips to the students in the art of calligraphy.

Four universities of Quetta namely University of Balochistan, SBK Women University, Iqra University and BUIITEMS participated in the workshop. Thirteen students from BUIITEMS attended the workshop. BUIITEMS won two

second positions in painting, one third position and one consolation price in calligraphy. Their names are:

### Painting:

- **Sidra Hasnain BS (BA)** 2nd position, won Rs. 10,000
- **Muhammad Abdullah BS (BA)** 2nd position, won Rs. 10,000

### Calligraphy:

- **Ayesha Yaqoob BS (BA)** 3rd position, won Rs. 7,500
- **Muhammad Rizwan** Consolation prize Rs. 5000

## Final Round of Allama Iqbal Shield Debate

*Reported by: Ms. Sania Sabir*

The 12th All Pakistan Allama Iqbal shield debate was held at the Higher Education Commission (HEC) Secretariat in Islamabad on May 7, 2009. The Federal Minister of Education, Mir Hazar Khan Bijarani was the chief guest of the event.

The BUIITEMS team comprising Sania Sabir Qureshi of BS Economics, Quadratullah Khan of MBA, Nasrullah Khan of B.S Economics and Sami-ur-Rehman of MBA were accompanied by the Director of Student affairs BUIITEMS Mr. Ahmad Shah Durrani. The BUIITEMS team was the first to be called on to express their views, which they did commendably with great zeal and enthusiasm. The University of Punjab won shields both for Urdu and English in the competition. Begum Shahnaz Wazir Ali, Special assistant to Prime Minister on Social sector and Incharge HEC graced the occasion with her presence along with Dr Sohail Naqvi: Executive Director HEC, Mr. Rahim Bux Channa: DG academics HEC, Dr Mukhtar Ahmed: Member Operations and Planning HEC, students and the media. Cash Prizes of Rs. 25,000, Rs.20,000 and Rs. 15,000 were awarded to individual speakers who won first, second and third positions respectively. Speaking on the occasion, the Honorable Minister for Education



Students with their Painting and Calligraphy



Participants of Allama Iqbal Shield Debate with Chief Guest

remarked: "Debates all over the world are recognized as a major edifying activity. Today, when the people are inclined to pick up the sword instead of using words, the debating societies in the institutions and competitions provide a platform to express oneself and bring a positive change in the society through dialogue, discourse and respect for variance in views".

developmental process. He advised the students to hold frequent meetings for discussing and discovering fresh avenues of intellectual refinement. Ms. Sabiha Shaheen, CEO BARGAD talked about the growing number of education-seeking youth at our universities. She was encouraged to see that female students were coming forward to partake of the intellectual boom presently taking place at institutions of higher learning. Director, QUILLIAM Foundation, London, Mr. Majid Nawaz, highlighted the activities of his foundation and narrated his own experience of blind subjugation to a revolutionary movement.

## Seminar on "Role of Youth in Peace Making"

*Reported by: Marjan Arbab Kasi*

A one day Seminar was arranged at the Expo Centre of Takatu Campus of BUTEMS on May 9, 2009 under the auspices of BARGAD-an NGO. The main objective of the Seminar was to make the students realize their own potential as peace makers. In his opening address the Honorable Vice Chancellor, Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai, emphasized the need of social reforms through the efforts of the youth as they are 30% of the total population of the country. He asserted that peace is essential for the continuity of the



Seminar on "Role of Youth in Peace Making"



Speakers and audience of the Seminar on "Role of Youth in Peace Making"

He exhorted his fellow young men and women to adopt the habit of pondering over the issues and weighing the pros and cons logically before deriving any conclusions. Shields were presented to the speakers by the Honorable Vice Chancellor, after the question and answer session.

## French Ambassador Visits BITEMS

*Reported by: Prof. Sultan Mehmood Niazi*

BITEMS is rapidly growing in stature as a notable seat of higher education and is able to catch the eyes of distinguished visitors to the provincial metropolis. It was on April 27, 2009



H.E. Daniel Jaunneanou

that H.E. Daniel Jaunneanou, the Ambassador of France to Pakistan arrived in Quetta on an official visit. He made it a point to visit the Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences on priority basis. He was accompanied by the Honorary Consul General of France in Balochistan, Brig.(R) Abdul Raziq. The guests were given a warm welcome on their arrival at the City Campus and were escorted directly to the auditorium for exchange of ideas with students and faculty members. The meeting formally commenced with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran. Mrs. Batool Ishaq Lecturer in English briefed the honorable guests about the growth of the university & supplemented her presentation with slides. Mr. Ahmed Shah who

conducted the proceedings, presented a professional life sketch of His Excellency the Ambassador who took over his diplomatic responsibilities in Pakistan on October 31, 2008.

In his key address to the audience, His Excellency the Ambassador made it clear that his visit to Balochistan was for listening and learning. He was keen to foster closer relations with Balochistan and asserted that he had given priority to BITEMS, faith in which is shown by great universities like Vancouver by establishing linkage. Stating his government's policy, he made it clear that France has deep respect for Islam. A large muslim community there, is well-integrated in the French cultural set up. He proudly referred to the presence of a Muslim minister on the French Cabinet. "*French people have great regard for moral and aesthetic values and are firm practitioners of Human Rights*" he said. The Honorable Ambassador mentioned that the 21st Century is an age of big mutual interest groups and future is for big regional groupings and alliances. He stated that the geographical location of Pakistan made this country a place of pivotal importance in international affairs. "*Strategically Balochistan can benefit immensely from the prospective groupings. The French institutions of higher learning offer brilliant prospects of intellectual growth. French language is a valuable asset which can be profitably marketed in the new emerging scenario*". He concluded his address with the remark that "*France is a fantastic mosaic of culture and activity.*" A lengthy question and answer session followed the Ambassador's address during which important cultural, ideological, educational and cooperation issues were taken up. Dr. M.A.K.Malghani, Pro Vice Chancellor, BITEMS, in his concluding speech eulogized the

Honorable Ambassador for his broad-minded approach to the issue of cultural diversity and thanked him for making the visit to this institution a part of his itinerary. He presented the University Shields to the guests.

## Seminar on "Scope and Utility of Psychology in Present Age"

*Reported by: Mr. Misri Khan*

A seminar on "Scope and Utility of Psychology in Present Age" was organized by the students of BS (Psychology) under the supervision of Mr. Aziz-u-din Agha at BUITEMS city campus Jinnah Town Quetta on May 7, 2009. The seminar focused on the utility of Psychology in present age as well the scope of application of Psychology in real life. Students from every faculty of BUITEM and the students of Psychology from University of Balochistan participated in the seminar. The seminar started with the recitation of Holy Quran and the proceedings were conducted by Miss Batool. Mr. Aziz-u-din Agha started the seminar by introducing the guest speaker Dr. Rahim Barakzai (mental health specialist). Dr. Rahim Barakzai delivered a comprehensive lecture on the topic and shed light on the increasing demand of the subject. He answered the questions raised by the participants of seminar. A pool of information was provided to the students through this informative seminar. Eight students from different departments related to psychology presented their views on psychology. They included Nisar Ahmed and Awais Najeeb BS (BA), Faiza Munawar and Ulasyar Khan BS (BA), Ejaz Ali and Marjan Arbab BS (ECO), Khanzaib Khan BS (SS), and Irfan Ali BS (ECO). Miss Ayesha thanked the guest for giving valuable time out of his busy schedule. The seminar ended with the distribution of certificates among the organizers of seminar; Asmatullah, Misri Khan, Khajista Khan from BS (psychology) and the speaker participants of different departments of the university.

## Qiraat and Naat Competitions

*Reported by: Mr. Sameen Khan*

A Husn-i-Qiraat and Naat Khwani competition was organized by the Islamic Society of Students Affairs, BUITEMS on April 29, 2009 in the City Campus Auditorium. A large number of male and female students, members of the faculty and administrative staff attended the event. The Stage Secretary of the event was Sameen Khan, student of BS (International Relations). All the participants presented Qiraat and Naat in an impressive style, unremitting rhythm and with engaging voices. According to the decision of the jury, in Qirat, Riaz-ul-Haq, student of BS (Petroleum & Gas Engineering) got first position, Mushtaq Hussain, student of BS (Business Administration) got second position, and Muhammad Hammad Jaffer, student of BS (Petroleum & Gas Engineering) got third position. In the category of Naat, Muhammad Hammad Jaffer, student of BS (Petroleum & Gas Engineering) got first position, Syed Owais Athar, student of BS (Electronic Engineering) got second position while Sabiqqa Batool, student of MBA (Banking & Finance) got third position. At the end of the competition, Mr. Ahmad Shah Durrani, Director Student Affairs thanked the worthy Vice Chancellor for his supervision & great interest in co-curricular & extra-curricular activities.

## Bilingual Essay Writing Competition

*Reported by Mr. M. Naeem Shad*

The Literary Society of Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering & Management Sciences, arranged an essay writing competition on April 27, 2009 at Takatu Campus. Students from all departments assembled to prove their capabilities as essayists. A single topic was given to students both in English and Urdu i.e. "Why Muslims are portrayed as terrorists? How can they change their image into a peaceful community?" Within 60 minutes, the students were able to come up



Student participants busy in writing essays

with beautiful ideas and concepts. About eighty students from various departments of the university participated in the essay competition. The panel of judges for the essay competition consisted of Mr. Tariq Mehmood, Department of Social Sciences, Mr. Muhammad Shah Khan, Department of Management Sciences, Ms. Batool Ishaq, Department of Social Sciences and Ms. Zaib-un-Nisa Gharshin, Public Relations Officer, BUIITEMS. According to the decision of judges, top three position holders in English were:

- o 1st Position: **Owais Najeeb**  
BS (Business Administration)
- o 2nd Position: **Fakhr-e-Alam Hamid**  
BS (Chemical Engineering)
- o 3rd Position: **Sania Sabir**  
BS (Economics)

The top three position holders in Urdu category were:

- o 1st Position: **Maryam Raza**

MBA (Banking & Finance)

- o 2nd Position: **M. Shoib Ali**  
BS(Telecommunication Engineering)
- o 3rd Position: **Zafarullah**  
BS (Electronic Engineering)

## Seminar on "Role of BUIITEMS in Peace Making Process"

*Reported by Ms. Batool Ishaq*

A seminar was organized by BUIITEMS on April 15, 2009. The issues discussed were. "How BUIITEMS can smoothly run its academic activities in the current scenario and what role it can play in maintaining peace and security." Prof. M.A.K. Malghani conducted the sessions while Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai; Vice Chancellor BUIITEMS presided over the sessions.



Speakers and audience at the Seminar on "Role of BUIITEMS in Peace Making Process"

The seminar began with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Qari Arshad Yameen. There were two sessions. In the first session, Prof. Dr. M.A.K. Malghani invited the participants to express their views for 5 minutes each. Ms. Narjis, Ms. Imrana Ilyas, Qari Arshad Yameen, Engr. Mohammad Nadeem, Prof. Dr. Syed Abid Hussain, Prof. Dr. Ansaruddin Syed, Dr. Mohammad Saeed, Mr. Abdul Raziq, Prof. Dr. H.S. Bukhari, Mr. Arbab Naseebullah, Mr. Aziz Ahmed, Mr. Mohammad Afzal Kasi, Mr. Liaquat Channa, Ms. Tayyaba Akram, Prof. Sultan Mehmood Niazi, Prof. Barkat Ali, Mr. Faisal Ahmed Khan, Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nawaz, and Dr. Dost Mohammad expressed their views. They emphasized the importance of education, technology, religion, student-teacher relationship, inculcation of patriotism, honesty, curiosity, discipline and many other noble values in teachers and students. Concluding the first session, Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai, Vice Chancellor BUIITEMS said, "In the prevalent law and order situation we have to be self-reliant and vigilant to avoid any untoward incidents." He remarked that universities are not merely for teaching curricula but they are to impart education with the message of universal peace and brotherhood. He added that teachers are to play the pivotal role of transforming ordinary people into true human beings by polishing their physical, mental and spiritual faculties. In the second session, video recordings of stage presentations by Sir Ken Robinson and Dr. Tony Robins were shown.

## National Conference on Public-Private Partnerships for Higher Education in Pakistan

*Reported by: Dr. Mohammad Nawaz*

Higher Education Commission-Financial Aid Development (HEC-FAD) program, a three year program funded by USAID, organized a two day National Conference on public-private partnerships for Higher Education on May 25-26, 2009 followed by a workshop on "Writing Effective Proposals for Fund Raising" on May 27, 2009. Representatives from 125 public and private universities, HEC, the business and corporate sector and NGO's and civil society organizations attended the conference on May 25-26 while Vice chancellors and senior representatives of 11 public and private sector universities attended the workshop on May 27. The agenda focused on improving quality and increasing access to higher education: Development and Financial Aid.

Dr. John W. Shumaker welcomed the participants. There were two workshops and a special session on May 25, 2009. Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai Vice Chancellor BUIITEMS was the moderator for the workshop titled "Options for Financial Aid Development: Challenges for Implementation" while Mr. Arthur Hauptman, International Policy Expert in Higher Education Finance and Financial Aid Arlington Virginia delivered the keynote address. Mr. Hauptman noted that it was imperative for growth of public sector universities to improve the quality of their academic programs and charge higher fees. He proposed to develop a financial aid program in which students hailing from higher income group of society pay full fee while students from lower income group receive fee waivers. The second workshop was moderated by Dr. Javaid Laghari President SZABIST. Theme of the workshop was



HEC-FAD and USAID representatives at the conference

"University Development and Fund Raising" Dr. Randy Powell Professor Emeritus Indiana University and Dr. Katherine Boswell Senior Program Officer A.E.D. were the speakers. Mrs. Shahnaz Wazir Ali (Acting Chairperson HEC) chaired this session.

Dr. Powell stressed on relations with corporate sector which could generate money and create opportunities for students and professors in educational and professional domains. Dr. Katherine Boswell emphasized that the higher education leaders need political support from the government and legislators as well as enough financial resources to maintain their campuses. Ms. Chato Calderon, one of the panelists of this session, discussed the role of alumni associations. In her concluding remarks Mrs. Shahnaz Wazir Ali stressed the need of equity-based approach for higher education. She proposed strong working relationship between public and private sector institutions for promotion of higher education.

Dr. Sohail Naqvi Executive Director Higher Education Commission moderated a special session on "Public Private Partnerships and Innovation: New Strategies for Resource Generation". Dr. Ishrat Husain Director IBA Karachi, Dr. Warren Weinstein from J.E. Austin Associates Lahore and Mr. Abid Ibrahim from Shell Pakistan were the speakers. The HEC-FAD Program was formally launched on May 26, 2009. Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar (Minister of State for Finance and Economic Affairs Division), Pir Mazhar-ul-Haq (Senior Education Minister - Sindh), Mr. Joseph Williams Deputy Director of USAID, Dr. Sohail H. Naqvi, Dr. John Shumaker, Mr. Sartaj Aziz and Mr. Abid Hussain from Packages Ltd. expressed their views. Concept papers written by 11 HEC-FAD partner universities were reviewed to select the most suitable for development into full proposals. Vice Chancellors of HEC-FAD partner universities participated in this workshop with their teams. BITEMS team was led by the Vice Chancellor Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai. Other members of the team were Dr. Mohammad Nawaz and Engr. Ali Asghar. Dr. John Shumaker conducted the workshop with the assistance of Dr. Uzma Anzar. Dr. Sohail H. Naqvi also addressed the opening session of the workshop. BITEMS was

selected as a partner for five proposals to be developed on following concepts:

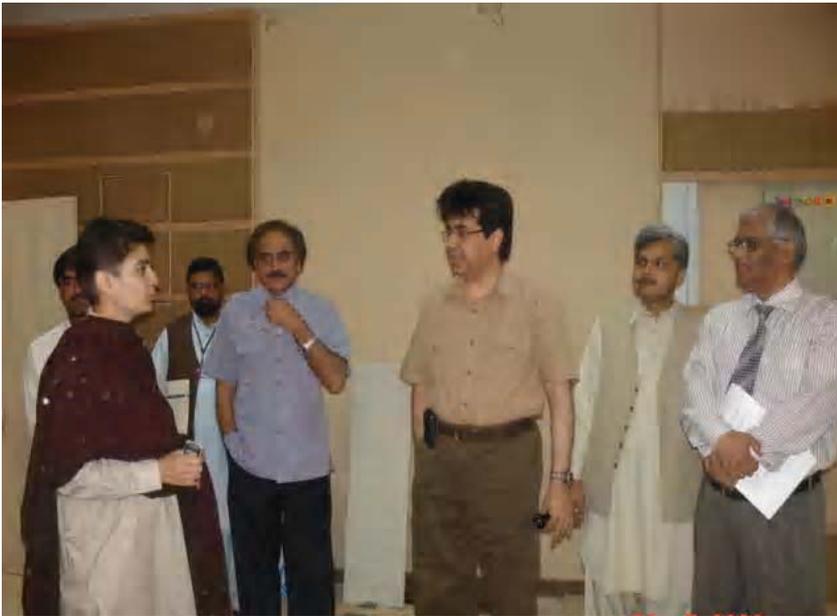
- **Concept:** Engineering Systems  
**Partner Universities:** LUMS, Quid-e-Azam University, SZABIST, BITEMS  
**Collaboration:** MIT, Purdue University.
- **Concept:** Establishment of Business Incubators / Entrepreneurship Centers  
**Partner Universities:** SZABIST, LUMS, BA Sukkur, IMS Peshawar, BITEMS  
**Collaboration:** Babson College, Purdue University  
**Local Partner:** SMEDA
- **Concept:** Higher Education Access  
**Partner Universities:** All 11 HEC-FAD partner universities including BITEMS
- **Concept:** Disaster Management Resource Centers  
**Partner Universities:** SZABIST, Peshawar University, BITEMS  
Collaboration University of Florida, University of Washington
- **Concept:** Center of Excellence for Nano-Technology  
**Partner Universities:** Agriculture Universities, BITEMS

## Provincial Minister Ms. Rahila Durrani Visits BITEMS

*Reported by: Ms. Zaibunnisa Gharshin*

The Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences has the distinction of being singled out by eminent state functionaries for their interest and visits. One such visit took place on May 20, 2009 when the provincial minister for Prosecution, Ms. Rahila Hameed Khan Durrani, visited the Takatu Campus of the university. She

was received and welcomed by the Honorable



Provincial Minister Ms. Rahila Durrani talking to the Vice Chancellor

## One Day Workshop on Mind Sciences

*Reported by: Ms. Kinza Khan*

The Directorate of Students' Affairs, BUITEMS organized a one day workshop on June 3, 2009 in the auditorium of the City Campus with the purpose of promoting positive attitude amongst the students. Mr. Ahmad Shah Durrani, Director Students Affairs, in his welcome address, paid rich tributes to the Honorable Vice Chancellor, Engr. Ahmed

Vice Chancellor, the Pro Vice Chancellor, the Deans, Directors and the Registrar. She was taken on a round of the campus, where immense development activities are going on. On her visit to the scientific and digital laboratories, she was highly impressed to see the latest equipment and facilities available for the students and the faculty members. She commented with appreciation that untiring efforts of all had borne fruit in the form of recognition of the university as one of the best institutions of higher education in the country. She congratulated the Vice Chancellor on the enlistment of BUITEMS by Pakistan Engineering Council among the registered engineering universities. She assured the university authorities of her cooperation in maintaining the tempo of development and exhorted other fellow ministers to extend support to BUITEMS for sustainable growth. On her own behalf, she announced the provision of funds for the establishment of a fully equipped auditorium at the campus. Engineer Ahmed Farooq Bazai expressed his gratitude to the Honorable Minister for her interest and sincere intentions to promote higher education in the province.

Farooq Bazai for arranging sessions with the students. In his keynote speech, the Hon. Vice Chancellor revealed that the Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences, is one of the six universities in the country where highly sophisticated technology like Campus Management Solutions is being introduced. He remarked that the growth of the Faculty of Engineering was the most impressive aspect of development at the university. The students of this university had proved their talents by rising to the educational demands of the present era. They must continue to believe in their own capabilities and surge ahead in the race to win recognition for themselves and for their alma mater. Ethics and positive thinking, being the fundamental traits of superior human nature, need to be inculcated so deep, that they should become their second nature. *"Every individual*



Honorable Vice Chancellor talking on the topic

*is a complete entity, controlled by diverse intellectual approaches. Such a diversity of thoughts gives color and comprehensiveness to the society when it is blended with the accepted traditional norms".* The Vice Chancellor's address was followed by a display of two documentaries by eminent mind scientists and then the participants of the workshop were invited to offer their views and comments. It was altogether an inspiring activity which prompted the participants to apply their minds to their problems with a positive approach.

## 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of IEEE & Pakistan Student Congress 2009

*Reported by: Mr. Raza Ali*

IEEE Celebrated its 125th Anniversary on 13th May 2009. In Pakistan IEEE Islamabad section organized the Pakistan Student Congress (29-30 May) 2009 at NUST Islamabad. The aim of the congress was to bring the different IEEE

Student Branches together to share their life experiences with one another. The PSC 2009 was spread over 3 days. The office bearers and other 21 members of IEEE BITEMS SB participated.

The 3 day congress was formally opened by Mr. Osaid Khaliq (Chairman, PSC 2009). After that Dr. Abidi had an interactive session on "How to take Pakistan EE to the next level". Mr. Nadeem Chawhan held a session on "Changing Mindsets". An activity named as "Ice Breaking" followed to provide Networking Opportunity to the IEEE Student Members from all across Pakistan. Mr. Aamer Jelani (Counselor, IEEE-NUST SEECs) delivered a message from the Director of Region 10 for the PSC 2009 participants. The SSR of Lahore section Mr. Amir Zahoor conducted a session to motivate "Pakistani Youth". An opportunity was given to IEEE student branches of different universities of Pakistan to come on to the stage and introduce themselves. BITEMS, College of EME, GCUF, university of Faisalabad, GCUL, Riphah university, NFC, FAST-NUCES Lahore,



Participants of IEEE Pakistan Students Congress 2009

FAST-NUCES Karachi and NED Karachi gave 5 minutes presentation each. Mr. Shahab Siddiqui (IEEE Student Activities Chair, Karachi Section) delivered a talk "Why we are here at PSC 2009?" After that the officials from BrightSpyre stressed on the need for practical knowledge, in addition to book knowledge. They stressed the need of a well rounded personality and good communication skills for impressing the employers. On the third day of IEEE PSC 2009, Ravendar Lal, Om Paraksh and Rafeel talked about generating funds followed by WIE Congress. Mr. Amir Zahoor (SSR, IEEE Lahore Section) conducted an IEEE Leadership Training Workshop whereas Arsalan Bajwa discussed how to handle finances of events. Certificates were distributed amongst the IEEE Pakistan Student Congress delegates.

The closing ceremony was held at the SCEE Auditorium, NUST Islamabad. Dr. Muhammad Akbar (An IEEE Fellow) and Member of IEEE Islamabad Section ExCom. Mr. Aamir Jelani (Counselor, IEEE NSEECs and Chair Electronic Communication, Isb Section) presented a summary of three day proceedings. Prizes were distributed amongst the NUST Olympiad's Winners. Glowing tributes were paid to organizers and NSEECs Faculty.

## Seminar on "The Banking Sector of Pakistan - Challenges & Issues"

*Reported by: Mr Mohammad Siraj Aziz*

MBA (Finance) group organized a seminar under the tile of "The Banking Sector of Pakistan in Current Era (Challenges & Issues)" on 4th June, 2009 at auditorium City Campus BUIITEMS Jinnah Town Quetta. The main speaker was Mr.Sanaullah Khan, Branch Manager ALFALAH BANK LTD, Jinnah road, Quetta. The program started with the

recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Syed Mohammad Asim, a student of MBA (finance). Prof. M.A.K Malghani Pro-Vice Chancellor of BUIITEMS was the chief guest of the event. Mr. Abdul Raziq, Instructor of Seminar presented the address of welcome to the chief guest and the guest speaker from SAP an NGO (South Asia Partnership) which sponsored this event. He briefly mentioned the aims and objectives of the program and highlighted the efforts of the Group Members (Miss. Huma Saeed, Miss Armana Zakir, Mr. Syed Mohammad Asim, Mr. Khair Mohammad, Mr. Rashid Khan and Mr. Mohammad Siraj Aziz ) for making all the arrangements.

The main presentation was given by Mr. Sanaullah Khan, Branch Manager of ALFALAH BANK LTD Jinnah road Quetta.His topic was "The Banking Sector of Pakistan in Current Era (Challenges & Issues). Mr. Sanaullah Khan focussed on the main theme of Finance setup of the organization (Bank) and its major challenges. He responded to the questions asked by audience. Presenting a vote of thanks to the worthy speaker, the Pro Vice-Chancellor appreciated the efforts of the students and encouraged them to continue such activities. At the end, shields were distributed amongst the Guest Speaker, Seminar coordinator, and Chief Guest.



Mr. Sanaullah, Finance Manager Bank Alfalah receiving University Shield

## HEC Team of IT Directorate Visits BUIITEMS

*Reported by: Ms. Zaibunnisa Garshin*

Mr. Anwar Amjad DG IT Directorate, HEC and his team paid a visit to the Data Centre of BUIITEMS on June 12, '09. In his meeting with the Vice Chancellor, Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai, the team discussed the development of: Campus Management System, PERN 2 and Video Conferencing. The Vice Chancellor



HEC Team of IT Directorate visits BUIITEMS

praised the role of HEC in strengthening the Higher Educational Institutions in Balochistan. He added that with commendable support of HEC, the Data Center would definitely strengthen the institution with BUIITEMS as a hub. Director NIC, Higher Education Commission Mr. Pervaiz Khan, Web Designer Ms. Aneela Naseem, Pro Vice Chancellor MAK Malghani, and the prominent officers from BUIITEMS were also present at the meeting of the Vice Chancellor with the HEC team of experts.

## Balochistan Public Service Commission Members Visit BUIITEMS

*Reported by: Prof. Sultan Mahmood Niazi*

The chairman and members of the Balochistan Public Service Commission were highly impressed by the educational facilities provided to the students at BUIITEMS, when they visited the Takatu Campus of the university on June 4, 2009. The delegation comprised Maj. (R) Fazil Durrani, Chairman BPSC, Mr. Mohammad Ayub

Baloch, Syed Abbas Shah, Mr. M. Ashfaq Magsi, members BPSC and Mr. Khalid Anwer, Secretary Balochistan Public Service Commission. Tracing the history of the rapid development of BUIITEMS, the Honorable Vice Chancellor Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai intimated that the BUIITEMS had recently been included in the list of recognized Engineering Universities by the Pakistan Engineering Council. This is a development of vital importance. He pointed out that various other

components of the university are also contributing to the growth and development of the university.



Balochistan Public Service Commission Members being briefed

The Training and Development Sector has been catering to the needs of all the four basic pillars of the university i.e the students, the faculty, the curriculum, and the educational facilities. The Quality Enhancement and Accreditation Directorate ensures that international standards are applied for measuring the capabilities and performance of the faculty and updating the educational facilities according to the demands of the 21st Century. The delegation observed the developmental leaps taken by the university in technological applications. The Campus Management Solutions & Video Conferencing System installed at the University were viewed with keen interest by the visitors. The delegation also visited the Directorate of Information Technology, Owais Ahmed Ghani Hall, the library, the CAD/CAM laboratory, and other sections.

The Balochistan Public Service Commission Chairman Maj. (R) Fazil Durrani eulogized the services being provided to the students by the University and remarked that ever-demanding technical, social, political and economic challenges of the contemporary times make imperative for the students to equip themselves with latest knowledge in every field. He admired the enthusiasm and dedication of the university administration, the faculty and the students in revolutionizing the concept of education in the province.

## Cultural Show

*Reported by: Mr. Ulusyar Tareen*

On the 17th of June 2009, BS(BA) students of



A scene from the Cultural Show

BUIEMS organized a cultural show in the city campus. The students performed different acts and skits to show the diverse Pashtoon and Baloch cultures. All the students were in their traditional dresses, depicting the cultural side of Balochistan and its people. In this cultural show the topics included:

- Cuisines of Balochistan
- Pashto Folktales
- Balochi Folktales
- Pashto Music
- Balochi music
- Pashtoon Weddings
- Handicrafts of Balochistan
- Nomads in Balochistan

Each group had three participants; first a 5 minute presentation was given then a 10min stage show of the topic. The participants appeared in folk dresses of Balochistan. The students decorated the stage of the auditorium with different handicrafts. In the presentation of cuisines the group had brought different delicious foods, whereas in the wedding's presentation real 'Attan' was performed. The students of BSBA organized this event in just one day.

## 12th Meeting of the University Syndicate

*Reported by : Mr. Manzoor Hussain*

The 12th Meeting of the University Syndicate was held on June 10, 2009 at the Takatu Campus BUIEMS under the chairmanship of the Honorable Vice Chancellor. The meeting started with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran, after which the Honorable Vice Chancellor described the status of the University with respect to the progress made both academically and administratively. He also highlighted the objectives of the meeting. Various agenda items were presented by the Secretary of the Syndicate, Mr. Mohammad Afzal Kasi for deliberation of the house and decisions/recommendations were made accordingly.

## Food Festival

*Reported by: Mr. Arbab Naseebullah Kasi*

Fun and enjoyment are very important in maintaining a fresh and healthy environment in any organization. A food festival was arranged at BUIITEMS City Campus by the Management Sciences Department on June 19, 2009. "Such activities and events help in improving the academic environment", said the Vice Chancellor, Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai. He emphasized the importance of co-curricular activities because they not only perk up the environment but also bring people together in a friendly milieu. The Vice Chancellor appreciated the efforts of students in arranging the festival and looked forward to other similar events in



Vice Chancellor with Colleagues at the Food Festival

future. The food stalls at the festival offered a large variety of dishes and drinks. The visitors had the choice of going for continental or fast food according to their liking.



Students enjoying the Food Festival

## Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Quiz Competition

*Reported by: Ms. Sania Ashraf Achakzai*

BUIITEMS along with imparting quality education provides opportunities to its students to take part activities to motivate their social zeal and build up their confidence in every field of life. In the series of co-curricular activities a special quiz show was held at PTV Quetta center about the life of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, which was telecast on June 21, 2009 (the birthday of Mohtarma) on PTV Bolan. Students from many institutions took part in the quiz competition. BUIITEMS had two teams. Team A, and team C, whereas team B comprised the students of Govt. Girls College Quetta Cantonment. BUIITEMS teams were coordinated by Director Student Affairs, Mr. Ahmad Shah Durrani. The chief guest of the event was Ms. Rukhsana, General Secretary Women wing PPP Balochistan, Ms. Farzana Raisani, an active worker of PPP and Ms. Jahan-Aara Tabassum, a poetess and Secretary Information PPP Balochistan, also shared their views regarding Benazir Bhutto Shahid. Comperes, Hidayat Saleem (from PTV Bolan) and Faiza Marri, a student of BUIITEMS asked questions related to the life of Benazir Bhutto from each team and finally declared BUIITEMS team A as 1st, team B from Girls College Quetta as 2nd and BUIITEMS team C as 3rd in the competition. Prizes were distributed among the winners.



Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Quiz Competition Participants



The Vice Chancellor, the pro Vice Chancellor and Director Students Affairs talking to the Audience

## Declamation Contest on "Say No to Drugs"

*Reported by: Mrs. Saima Talha*

On the world Anti- Narcotics Day, AAGHOSH and the Directorate of Student Affairs, BUIITEMS organized a Declamation Contest on 'The Role of Youth in the Eradication of Drugs' on June 24, 2009. The Vice Chancellor and Chief Guest, Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai expressed his views on the part played by students in drug eradication which is urgently required. He added that as an organization, BUIITEMS is playing its role in drug eradication and as individuals, its students are fully aware of the responsibilities entrusted to them. Pro Vice Chancellor M A K Malghani asserted that active and aggressive participation of students is needed in drug eradication. Director AAGHOSH, Muhammad Naseem Daavi elucidated the aims and objectives of his organization and gave a briefing on its accomplishments. Ms. Saima Gul briefed the participants of seminar on the activities of AAGHOSH. A youth dialogue followed the briefing with Director AAGHOSH Muhammad

Naseem Daavi, Dr. Ghulam Rasool, Deputy Manager Provincial AIDS control Program Dr. Haleem Siddiqui and Assistant Director Anti-Narcotics Force Col. Muhammad Ali on the panel. In the English speech competition, Ms. Marjaan Arbab, won the first prize, Mr. Usman Shameem stood second while Ms. Saania Sabir secured the third position. For the Urdu speech competition, the first three positions were clinched by Mr. Faizan Hassan, Ms. Sehrish Munir and Mr. Jahangir Khan respectively. The jury comprised Prof. Sultan Mahmood Niazi, Mr. Tariq Mahmood and Ms. Batool Ishaq. Prizes and certificates were awarded to the position holders in the contest.

## 11th Faculty Professional Development Programme at HEC

*Reported by: Ms. Imrana Niaz Sultan*

A three month training program titled "11th Faculty Professional Development Programme (FPDP)" was held by Learning Innovation Division (LID) at HEC, Islamabad. 31 participants from different universities of



Representatives of Aaghosh, Health Deptt. and ANF



Dr. Mukhtar awarding certificate to Ms. Imrana

Pakistan participated. BUIITEMS was represented by Ms. Imrana Niaz Sultan (Lecturer Faculty of Biotechnology & Informatics) and Engr. Shanila Azhar (Lecturer Computer Engineering Department). The program commenced on April 21, 2009.

The participants were given training in; Teaching as a profession, Communication skills, Curriculum development, Microteaching, use of ICT, English Language Teaching, Personal and Professional grooming, Research Methodology, and Digital library. Renowned resource persons like, Prof. Muhammad Aslam Adeeb (Islamia University Bahawalpur), Dr Jan-e-Alam Khaki and Dr. Grame Kane (Agha Khan University, Institute for Educational Development), Dr. Iftikharuddin Khawaja ( Director Iqra University, Quetta), Mr. Zahid Majeed (AIU, Islamabad), Dr. Hamid Rafique Khan Khatak (Dean Business School), Dr. Sohaila Javed (Dean, NUML), and Dr. Noreen Mirza (educationist/ Corporate Trainer) provided valuable training to the participants. Besides them, guest speakers Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed (Chairman LID) , Dr. Riaz Qureshi (Advisor HEC), Dr. Ansar (Corporate trainer) ,etc., were also invited to share their knowledge and experiences. The participants availed two days counseling session as well by Dr. Fatima Jaffery, who gave clues for establishing counseling centre at their respective universities. The participants were given various assignments like research proposal writing, portfolio, module making, and a project on continuous professional development centre establishment at respective universities.



Training Workshop on "Effective Teaching"

## Training Workshop on "Effective Teaching"

*Reported by: Ms. Samina Sadiq*

One day training workshop on "Effective Teaching Methods" was organized for faculty members on June 25, 2009. Prof. Barkat Ali, Chairman Department Management Sciences was the resource person for this training workshop. Thirty two faculty members from all five faculties attended. Being an experienced teacher, Prof. Barkat Ali stressed upon the pragmatic aspect of teaching while talking about the various methods and techniques of teaching. He stressed that a teacher must not only have command over the subject but also develop and comprehend student's behaviour along with their potential for growth. The honorable Vice Chancellor, Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai and Prof. Dr. Maqsood Ahmad, Director Training & Development and Dean, Faculty of Management Sciences thanked the learned professor for his sincere and thought provoking approach in handling the topic and keeping the audience continuously involved in the process.

## "Red Crescent/Red Cross Society and the Mobilization of Youth"

*Reported by: Ms. Kinza Khan*

The Directorate of Students Affairs, BUIITEMS in collaboration with the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) organized an awareness session held on June 11, 2009 at the city campus auditorium, BUIITEMS. The seminar was conducted by the Director Student Affairs. Mr. Ahmad Shah Durrani enlightened the audience about various co-curricular activities being held at BUIITEMS under the auspices of Directorate of Student Affairs. Assistant Director PRCS Balochistan, Ms Rubina Saeeda Shahwani introduced the Red Crescent. Her lecture covered the vision, mission statement, hierarchy chart of the society, its field of work, different

programs that it has carried at the time of crisis and the history of the Red Cross movement. An animated movie of the seven principles of Red Cross Society namely humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality was shown. The seminar concluded with a question and answer session. The session was basically conducted to encourage the youth a volunteer their services at the time of crisis. At the end forms were distributed among the interested students to register themselves as members of RC/RC society. Six students were chosen for a three-day training at Pakistan Red Crescent Society Balochistan and first aid kits were given to them at the end of training.

## Abrar Hussain's Research Publication

Mr. Abrar Hussain Khan, Asst. Professor, Faculty of Biotechnology and Informatics, completed a study on "Folic Acid and Vitamin B6 Deficiencies Related Hyperhomocysteinemia in Apparently Healthy Pakisani Adults; Is Mass Micronutrient Supplementation Indicated in this Population?" at the Department of Biomedical Sciences/ Paediatrics and Child Health, Agha Khan University Karachi as a member of a team of researchers. The paper was published in the Journal of College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan, Vol. 19.

### ABSTRACT

**Objective:** To determine the plasma/serum levels of homocysteine, and vitamins folate, B6 and B12, in Pakistani healthy adults.

**Study Design:** Cross-sectional study.  
**Place and Duration of Study:** The Aga Khan University, from October 2006 to April 2008.

**Methodology:** Fasting levels of plasma/serum folic acid, pyridoxal phosphate (PLP), vitamin B12 and homocysteine were determined in 290 apparently healthy

hospital personnel from institutions in two cities of Pakistan. Spearman correlation test and linear regression analysis was conducted.

**Results:** There were 219 males and 71 females with mean age of  $46 \pm 10.5$  years and mean body mass index of  $23.5 \pm 3.8$ . Mean plasma homocysteine levels in Pakistani normal adults were found to be  $17.95 \pm 8.4$  mol/l. Mean concentrations of plasma/serum folate, vitamin B12 and PLP were found to be  $5 \pm 3.9$  ng/ml,  $522 \pm 296$  pg/ml and  $21.6 \pm 14$  nmol/l, respectively. Serum/plasma levels of folate, vitamin B12 and PLP were negatively correlated with plasma homocysteine (rho coefficient = -0.367,  $p < 0.001$ ; -0.173,  $p = 0.004$ ; -0.185,  $p = 0.002$ , respectively). Serum folate and plasma PLP levels were inversely related with plasma homocysteine, adjusted for gender, age, smoking and body mass index ( $p < 0.001$  and  $p = 0.003$ , respectively). Percent deficiency values of folate, vitamin B6 and vitamin B12 were 39.7%, 52.8% and 6.6% respectively.

**Conclusion:** The high levels of plasma homocysteine could indicate a reason for mass micronutrient supplementation to prevent the high incidence of cardiovascular disease observed in Pakistani population.

## Still Photography Competition

*Reported by: Mr. Zayad Khan*

The Dramatic Society, BUIITEMS provided an opportunity to the students to express their feelings and abilities through photography. A time of two weeks was given to the students, from June 1, 2009 to June 15, 2009, to take snaps of various activities taking place at BUIITEMS, pictures of various components of the university which could better represent BUIITEMS. Hundreds of pictures were deposited with Mr. Ahmad Shah Durrani, Director Student Affairs. According to the results, Sania Ali, student of BS (Biotechnology & Informatics) got 1st position, Zayad Khan, student of MBA (Banking & Finance) got 2nd position while Muhammad

Kashif, student of BS (Computer Science) got the 3rd position. The Vice Chancellor BUITEMS, Engr. Ahmed Farooq Bazai appreciated the photographic skills of students and congratulated the winners.



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