Preston University Organizes Farewell Luncheon in Honor of U.S. Ambassador Richard G. Olson

Speaking on the occasion Ambassador Olson reaffirms American commitment to higher education in Pakistan. Emphasizes "Education is the foundation of economic development, political stability, and personal self-fulfillment, and so it is naturally a main pillar of the U.S.-Pakistan bilateral relationship".

Preston University, Islamabad hosted a Farewell Luncheon in honor of U.S. Ambassador H.E. Richard G. Olson. The event which was held in August 2015 was jointly organized by Preston University and the Archaeological and Historical Association of Pakistan (AHAP). Senior-level Pakistani government officials, including Chairman, National Commission for Human Rights, Ali Nawaz Chohan, representatives from civil society, foreign diplomats, and students and faculty from the university attended the event, showcasing the history of cooperation in education.

Speaking on the occasion, U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Richard G. Olson highlighted the importance of U.S. Pakistan collaboration in higher education. Ambassador Olson said "Education is the foundation of economic development, political stability, and personal self-fulfillment, and so it is naturally a main pillar of the U.S.-Pakistan bilateral relationship," as he reflected on his interactions with young people during his three-year tenure in Pakistan. He highlighted the long-standing educational partnership between the United States and Pakistan, which has resulted in one of the world’s most vibrant academic and professional exchange programs.

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Preston University Co-sponsors “16th International Pure Mathematics Conference 2015”

The Chairman of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed inaugurates the Conference held at a local in Islamabad in August 2015. Profoundly appreciates the endeavors of the organizers/sponsors to organize a mega international conference on an extremely vital field like Pure Mathematics.

The 16th International Pure Mathematics Conference 2015 (16th IPMC 2015) was held in Islamabad in August 2015. The mega international event was jointly organized by the Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Higher Education Commission (HEC) and Preston University. The Pakistan Mathematical Society, Advanced Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Algebra Forum also participated in the referenced conference. The theme of the three-day conference was Algebra, Geometry and Analysis. The theme of the three-day conference was Algebra, Geometry and Analysis in which 65 speakers, 140 participants, nine keynote speakers. Foreign delegates from South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, China, Nigeria, Iran and Ethiopia also participated in the conference.

In his keynote address on the occasion, as Chief Guest, Professor Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman Higher Education Commission said Mathematics has a vital role in the development of science and technology around the world and its innovations are benefiting people. He emphasized that our academia should focus on nurturing social values among students besides imparting education in their particular fields. Pakistan, he said, being one of the important countries in global affairs cannot compromise on latest advancement in science and technology, and Mathematics being the backbone of science, Pakistan cannot afford to lag behind in this vital field.

Professor Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed said that our scholars and researchers in...
Preston Organizes National Literary Reference in Memory of late Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan

Speakers pay glowing tributes to the late President and Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan. Nostalgically remember his strong feelings for the downtrodden people of AJK in particular and world in general. Shed light on his mammoth contribution towards the Kashmir cause.

Preston University, in collaboration with the Archaeological and Historical Association of Pakistan (AHAP) organized a National Literary Reference in memory of late Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan, former President and Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). The referenced event was held at the Islamabad Campus of Preston University in July 2015. The event was chaired by Sardar Atique Ahmed Khan, the illustrious son of late Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan and former Prime Minister of AJK. Eminent among those who were conspicuous by their presence and spoke on the occasion were Senator Pervaiz Rasheed, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-ul-Haq, Leader of the House in the Senate of Pakistan, Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University and Dr. Ghazanfar Mehd, Chairman AHAP. Distinguished guests and the faculty, management and students of Preston University participated.

In his address on the occasion, Senator Raja Muhammad Zafar-ul-Haq paid glowing tributes to late Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan, former President and PM of AJK. He said, because of his extraordinary political acumen, Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan was an asset not only for Kashmir but for the entire Muslim Ummah. He said not only the Mujahideens (Freedom Fighters) of AJK but also those belonging to occupied Kashmir always sought his guidance in matters of perennial importance.

Preston University, Karachi signed a MoU with the Confucius Institute – University of Karachi.

The MoU was inked at a simple but impressive ceremony held at the main campus of Preston University, Karachi on September 23, 2015. Dr. Tahir Rajput, Vice Chancellor, Preston University Karachi signed the MoU on behalf of the University. Prof. Li Yong, Chinese Director Confucius Institute signed it on behalf of the Confucius Institute.

The purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) inked between the two institutions is to launch Chinese Language credit course at Preston University, Karachi. The primary objective of the program is to impart Chinese Language education to Pakistani students in order to equip them with linguistic skills and enhance socio-cultural understanding of China.

Conspicuous by their presence at the signing ceremony were Justice (Retd.) Deedar Hussain Shah, Pro-Chancellor Preston University Karachi, Dr. Aftab Lodhi, Director General Preston University Karachi, Brigadier (Retd.) Tariq Masood, Principal Staff Officer to the Chancellor Preston University, Mr. Mohiuddin Siddiqui, Director Confucius Institute, University of Karachi, the Chinese faculty of Confucius Institute, and the faculty and staff of Preston University, Karachi.

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Preston University organized a conference of its Senior Management in Islamabad in July 2015. The ‘Senior Management Conference 2015’ was held at the Islamabad Campus of Preston. Program Directors, Campus Directors, Senior Faculty and Senior Program Staff of all Preston campuses, situated across the country participated in the Conference. The Chancellor of Preston University, Dr. Abdul Basit presided over the conference and was also the keynote speaker on the occasion. Pro-Chancellor Preston University, Mr. Abdul Hamid and Vice Chancellors of Preston University Kohat and Karachi Prof. Dr. Muhammad Anwar Hassan and Prof. Dr. Tahir Rajput were also conspicuous by their presence.

In his keynote address, Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University at the outset presented ‘a kaleidoscope of journey through Preston’ for the knowledge of the participants. He outlined the history of the University since its establishment in 1984, as Pakistan’s first ever private university. While highlighting the achievements of the University he also spoke of the endeavors the University made, during its over three decades of existence, to attain its key ambition of becoming a respected institution of higher learning in the country. Dr. Basit informed the gathering that the University has achieved several outstanding milestones during its existence. He said this was possible due to the collective and dedicated efforts of the faculty and staff of the University. Dr. Abdul Basit expressed his confidence that with their continued efforts the University will attain greater heights in times to come. On the occasion, he also unfolded the Strategic Goals and Operational Plans of the University. While doing so, he outlined the Mission, Long-term Objectives (2015-2020), Strategic Goals (2015-16), Human Resource Plan, Systems Plan, Infrastructure Plan etc. of the University.

Earlier, in his welcome address the Pro-Chancellor of Preston University, Mr. Abdul Hamid extended a heartily welcome to everyone present at the Conference. He said the purpose of holding the Conference is to provide an opportunity to those who are involved in the day-to-day management and future growth of the University to gather at one platform and devise strategies to attain all the developmental goals of the institution successfully. He stated on the occasion that all that the university has been able to achieve so far is due to the very able and dynamic Leadership of Chancellor, Dr. Abdul Basit. He further said “we are indeed very fortunate to have a leader like him who has so ably and successfully led the University through its long and arduous journey of over three decades.”
A National Literary Reference in memory of late Gen. (R) Hameed Gul was held at Preston University, Islamabad. The event was jointly organized by Preston University and the Archaeological and Historical Association of Pakistan (AHAP). Gen. (R) Mirza Aslam Beg, former Chief of Army Staff, was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Educationists, intellectuals, and senior faculty, senior management, and students of Preston University participated in the event. Eminent among the speakers were Mr. Abdullah Gul, son of late Lt. Gen. (R) Hameed Gul, renowned political analyst and icon of journalism Agha Murtaza Poya, Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University and Dr. Ghazanfar Mehdi, Chairman AHAP.

In his keynote address on the occasion, Gen. (R) Mirza Aslam Beg, former Chief of Army Staff said Gen. Hameed Gul was a great human being. He said General Gul’s untimely departure for the eternal world is indeed a great loss for the Pakistani nation. He said late Gen. Hameed Gul devoted his life for the well-being of Pakistan and the Muslim Ummah. He played a significant role in the war against the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. Gen. Mirza Aslam Beg said during his tenure as the Chief of Army Staff he had full support and guidance of Gen. Hameed Gul. He said, late General Zia-ul-Haq during his reign invited him and Gen. Hameed Gul and sought their advice on various important matters. He said ‘We always stopped him from taking undemocratic measures and emphasized on running the affairs of the country according to the constitution of Pakistan’.

The Department of International Relations of Preston University organized a Memorial Lecture in connection with “50th Anniversary Celebration of September 6, 1965 War”. The referenced event was at the University Auditorium on September 14, 2015. Dr. Muhammad Rasheed, Dean Faculty of Education Preston University, Islamabad presided over the proceedings of the lecture as Chief Guest.

The Memorial Lecture was punctuated with video clips of 1965 war relating to the Martyrs of Pakistan Armed Forces. The Guest Speaker on the occasion was Col (R) Azam Qadri who served Pakistan Army in various important positions. He performed duties with King Khalid 6th Walid Armoured Brig in Saudi Arabia and also took part in Indo-Pakistan war of 1971 in the Sialkot sector. In his discourse on the occasion Col (R) Azam Qadri highlighted the commendable deeds of the gallant Armed Forces of Pakistan in 1965 war.

Earlier, Professor Dr. Z.A. Qureshi, Head of Department R Preston University, Islamabad presented his welcome address and introduced the distinguished Guest Speaker Col (R) Azam Qadri to the audience. The Memorial Lecture was attended by students of the Department of International Relations, Members of Preston Faculty, Senior Management of the University and other guests. At the conclusion of the proceedings of the Memorial Lecture a Shield of the University was presented to the honorable Guest Speaker as a token of gratitude. The Guest Speaker presented a set of books titled ‘Heroes of Pakistan’ to the University library.

Continued on page 7
Faculty of Computer Sciences Organizes Two-day Workshop on Android Application Development, Web Development and Quality Assurance

A two-day hands-on workshop on Android Application Development, Web Development and Quality Assurance was held at Preston University, Islamabad from July 8-9, 2015. The Faculty of Computer Sciences was instrumental in organizing the referenced Workshop.

On the first day of the Workshop, on July 8, Center of Development and Excellence (Code) conducted a session on Game Development and Application Development was held. This training session was attended by 54 BS-CS and MCS students. On July 9, which was the second day of the Workshop, Crevo Technologies conducted a workshop on Android Application Development. This Workshop was attended by 50 students.

Before the commencement of the formal sessions of the Workshops, Dean Computer Science of Preston University, Prof. Merit. Dr. Mohammad Daud Awan highlighted the benefits of University-Industry linkage. The students appreciated the holding of the workshops. They said these workshops were highly beneficial for them as they would immensely help in their future endeavors directed towards development of software in their respective fields of specialization.

In their brief remarks at the conclusion of the workshops, representatives of Crevo and Code expressed their satisfaction over the knowledge and hands-on experience gained by the students who participated in the respective workshops. They expressed their willingness to help in integration of the interested students of Preston University in the Software industry.

Preston University Karachi Celebrates 50th Anniversary of Defence of Pakistan Day with Immense Enthusiasm

Preston University, Karachi commemorated 50th Anniversary of the Defence of Pakistan Day with immeasurable enthusiasm. In consonance with the importance of the Day and to pay tribute to the martyrs of September 6, 1965 war the University organized a Guest Speaker session at its main campus.

The distinguished Guest Speaker on the occasion was Air Commodore (Retd) Shabbir Ahmed Khan. In his brief discourse on the September 6, 1965 war between India and Pakistan, Commodore Shabbir Ahmed Khan highlighted the circumstances that led to the war between the two neighboring countries. He emphasized on the occasion that Pakistan was dragged into the war by India. Regardless of the reasons for the war Pakistan’s gallant Armed Forces gave a befitting response to the Indian Armed forces and fought them with unparalleled valor. The bravery of the Armed Forces was indeed exemplary.

Commader Shabbir said the courage and sense of devotion with which each and every soldier and officer Pakistan’s Armed Forces fought the war against India in 1965 would be remembered by the Pakistani nation for a long, long time to come. On the occasion Air Commodore Shabbir Ahmed Khan also briefly spoke about the social services he is engaged in. In this regard he mentioned about some of the projects he has so far undertaken for the benefit of the downtrodden community.

Earlier, Dr. Tahir Rajput, Vice Chancellor, Preston University Karachi extended a warm welcome to the honored Guest Speaker, Air Commodore (Retd) Shabbir Ahmed Khan. He also briefly spoke about Preston University and its academic programs. Director General, Mr. Aftab Lodhi also spoke on the occasion. At the end of the session a shield of Preston University was presented to the Guest Speaker as a token of appreciation.
Ambassador informed the distinguished audience that each year more than 1,300 Pakistanis travel to the United States for academic and professional exchange programs. In addition to Master’s and PhD programs, other U.S. government academic exchanges support study at high schools, universities, and community colleges in the United States.

Earlier, in his welcome address on the occasion, Mr. Abdul Hamid, Pro Chancellor Preston University, extended a warm welcome to Chief Guest Ambassador Richard G. Olson and the other dignitaries and distinguished guests to the Farewell Luncheon. In his address, Mr. Abdul Hamid said, in a capital like Islamabad, it is not uncommon to witness receptions and dinners hosted in honor of diplomats departing after completing a diplomatic assignment in the country. However, a few of these events are rather memorable and touching. And, today’s Farewell Luncheon in honor of Ambassador Olson is one such memorable occasion. He said, looking back at the tenure of Excellency Richard Olson as US Ambassador to Pakistan, one gets the unmistakable feeling of deep satisfaction. A satisfaction of having made a good friend. A satisfaction of knowing a diplomat par excellence. A satisfaction of having achieved a better understanding between the two countries. And above all a satisfaction of looking forward to a future of further improved relations between the two countries.

Mr. Abdul Hamid also briefly spoke about Preston University and highlighted some of its significant achievements since its establishment three decades ago. Jurist of international renown and Chairman, National Commission for Human Rights, Justice (retd) Ali Nawaz Chohan and Dr. Ghazanfar Mehd, Chairman Archaeological and Historical Association of Pakistan also addressed the distinguished guests present at the Farewell Luncheon.

Mathematics should remain in touch with international mathematicians; our universities can facilitate such interactions by holding seminars, workshops, conferences and promoting exchange programs. The Chairman HEC profoundly eulogized the organizers and sponsors of the Conference for sustained efforts and creating the forum of International Pure Mathematics Conference in generating a true mathematical culture in mathematics. He assured the organizers of his full support in organizing such significant events on a larger scale in future.

Earlier, in his welcome address Professor Dr. Qaiser Mushtaq, Vice Chancellor of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur and President of the Pakistan Mathematical Society, briefed the participants about the historical background, contribution and significance of thematic mathematical conference series (IPMCs) being held since the year 2000. He thanked Professor Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman HEC, Professor Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor, Preston University and the participating organizations for their support in making the event a great success. Dr. Ali ah Wadhwio Baloeh, Registrar Preston University also spoke on the occasion.

The International Pure Mathematics Conference has become the only forum in Pakistan bringing Mathematicians of international renown, from across the world, on one platform and providing a unique opportunity to the researchers and scholars to share their latest ideas in one of the most crucially significant fields of applied sciences.

“Quotable Quotes

“I know God will not give me anything I can’t handle. I just wish He wouldn’t trust me so much.”
Mother Teresa

“You can observe a lot by just watching.”
Beria’s Law

“Adversity does not make us frail; it only shows us how frail we are.”
Abraham Lincoln
In his address Senator Pervaiz Rasheed, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting said Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan has left an indelible mark on the Kashmir movement. He was a man of remarkable traits, and it would not only be difficult but also unjust to confine him to a specific class of people. He was an outstanding political and spiritual leader and also a remarkable human being.

Speaking on the occasion, Sardar Atique Ahmed Khan former Prime Minister of AJK at the outset expressed his gratitude to Dr. Abdul Basit Chancellor of Preston University for organizing a Reference in memory of his late father. He also thanked the illustrious speakers who shed light on the life and achievements of Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan. Talking about his father, Sardar Atique said that despite always being in high positions, Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan lived a down-to-earth life. He never let his position overshadow his inborn qualities of truthfulness and forthrightness. His love particularly for people belonging to the subjigated segment of the society was immense.

In their brief remarks on the occasion, Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University, Dr. Ghazanfar Mehdi, Chairman AHAP, and Raja Yasin Khan, former Minister AJK also paid glowing tributes to late Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan. They said leaders like Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan are born in centuries. A magnanimous personality of his stature will be remembered by all those who admired him for a long, long time to come. Others who spoke on the occasion were Dr. Riaz Ahmed, Sardar Sagheer Chughtai, Abdul Majid Amjad and Mr. Naem Qureshi.

Students pursuing their studies at the bachelors and masters level, in various disciplines, participated in the events with immeasurable exuberance. They wholeheartedly demonstrated their love and respect for the gallant Armed Forces of Pakistan and also the civilians who sacrificed their valuable lives to defend their beloved motherland-Pakistan.

An impressive ceremony was organized at the conclusion of the day-long event to distribute prizes among the first, second and third position holders of different events. Former Director General Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) and eminent Defence Analyst, Lt. General (R) Asad Durrani presided over the ceremony as Chief Guest. Briefly speaking on the occasion, General Durrani said, "Our brave officers and soldiers alongside the proud people of Pakistan have set unprecedented examples of heroism and resilience in their fight against militancy. The sacrifices our Armed Forces made in the 1965 war can never be forgotten.

The Chancellor of Preston University, Dr. Abdul Basit in his welcome address on the occasion expressed his gratitude to Lt. General (R) Asad Durrani for his distinguished presence at the Pakistan Day Celebrations, organized by Preston University, as Chief Guest. During his address he also paid glowing tribute to the martyrs of the 1965 war as well as those who have lost their valuable lives in the ongoing war against terror.

In his address Mr. Abdullah Gul, son of late Gen. (R) Haqeeq Gul said his late father brought him and his brothers and sisters up by not imposing things on them but by doing good deeds himself and motivating and encouraging them to follow. He said Gen Haqeeq Gul played a pivotal role in the Jihad (war) in Afghanistan. During his entire life he intensely spoke about Jihad and Democracy, and played a key role in the acquisition of nuclear technology for Pakistan. Maulana Hamid ul Haq Haqqani, former MNA, speaking on the occasion paid glowing tributes to Gen. (R) Haqeeq Gul. He said, Gen. Gul was a very outspoken leader and he was respected by all who firmly believe in principles and have undisputed love for Pakistan.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Abdul Basit, Chancellor Preston University said late Gen. Haqeeq Gul was truly a hero of not only Pakistan but the entire Muslim Ummah. As the head of Pakistan’s Inter-services intelligence he played a critical role in the war in Afghanistan. He was due to his judicious planning and professionalism the Soviets had to see the face of utter defeat in Afghanistan. He thanked Gen. Mirza Aslam Beg, former Chief of Army Staff, for accepting the invitation of Preston University to preside over the Reference as Chief Guest. He also expressed his gratitude to Mr. Abdullah Gul, Agha Murtaza Poya and the other distinguished speakers for participating and speaking on the occasion.

Dr. Ghazanfar Mehdi, Chairman AHAP, Prof. Dr. Z. A. Qureshi, Head Department of International Relations Preston University, Mr. Fida-ur-Rehman and other distinguished personalities also spoke on the occasion. They paid glowing tributes to late Lt. Gen. (R) Haqeeq Gul and shed light on his illustrious life and achievements.
PINSAT Students Attend International Summer Camp and Nano Conference at NCNST, Beijing, China

A group of ten students of Preston Institute of Nano Science and Technology (PINSAT) attended an International Summer Workshop on Nanotechnology and a conference on Nanotechnology called ‘Nano-China 2015’ at Beijing, China from September 2–11, 2015. Both the events were organized by the National Centre for Nanoscience and Technology (NCNST) Beijing, China. The students of PINSAT were invited by NCNST under the terms of the MoU signed between PINSAT and NCNST.

The ‘Nano-China 2015’ was an International Conference held from September 4–6 2015. Some leading scientists in the field of Nanotechnology presented their latest research work in the field of nanotechnology at the referenced Conference. Eleven parallel Technical Sessions were held covering different aspects of nanotechnology. At the closing ceremony Ms. Momina Aamir from PAINSAT spoke on “Nano Education in Pakistan”.

The Workshop started immediately after the China Nano Conference. The students were divided into 5 groups of 2 students each. Each group was assigned a laboratory where the students performed experiments under the guidance of a PhD student. The students had an opportunity not only to work first hand on state-of-the-art equipment in the field of nanotechnology but also to interact with other researchers and professors. At the closing ceremony of the Workshop, Professor Liu Minghua, Director of NCNST congratulated the students on their performance during the summer camp. He also distributed certificates of participation among the participating students.

Besides the academic program, the Chinese hosts arranged some cultural evenings for the participants. A presentation on the culture and history of Pakistan was made by Ms. Shazrah Shahzad from PINSAT during one such cultural activity. The students also visited some historic places like the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace and the Great Wall of China.

Impressions of some PINSAT students regarding the International Workshop on Nanotechnology and ‘China Nano 2015 Conference: By attending the conference we learned a lot of new ideas and directions in which research is going on. It was also a great opportunity to meet with some of world’s eminent scientists working in the field of Nanotechnology. Kamran Amin

I met a few professors to discuss my future research interests. These interactions proved to be very helpful in clearing my future plan of action in nanotechnology. As a whole this trip was very beneficial for me in all respects. Jabran Saleem

Preston Mission Statement

“Preston is committed to providing university education of the highest quality for preparing students for professional careers, and promoting research and development. Its two-fold mission is to give students the opportunity for personal growth and development, skill enhancement and professional career advancement, and to create, sustain and promote research and development for expanding the horizons of knowledge.”

PRESTON UNIVERSITY CHARTER

Preston University, Kohat-NWFP is chartered by the Government of NWFP vide NWFP Ordinance No. LI of 2002. Preston University, Karachi is chartered by the Government of Sindh vide act V of 2004. Both, Preston University at Kohat and Karachi are fully recognized by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) the highest regulatory body of the Government of Pakistan in the field of Higher Education, and placed in the highest category “W”. The Islamabad Campus has been Ranked as “W-4”.

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