GCU academia feels whiff of empowerment

By Munawar Minhaj

The Government College University, Lahore, has taken a bold step in the direction of empowerment. The students and faculty have shown great enthusiasm and support for the initiatives being taken by the university in this regard.

Vice Chancellor slashes fee by 23% and Prof. Khaleeq cuts hostel dues by 35%

GCU amending academic & examinations rules

The GC University Lahore has reviewed its academic and examinations rules and regulations in the interest of students. The GCU Academic Council has recommended the amendments to the university’s Syndicate for onward approval.

Details in next edition
Prof. Khaleeq cuts hostels dues by 35%

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman, the Vice Chancellor of GC University Lahore, has slashed the university’s hotel’s fee by 35 percent to facilitate students. The GCU Hostels’ Committee has issued a notification of revised dues for Quaid-i-Azam Hostel, Iqbal Hostel, Girls Hostel and New Hostel. The Vice Chancellor has waived off hostels’ admission fee, miscellaneous dues and welfare funds, besides reducing other charges. Prof. Khaleeq also directed the hostels’ superintendents that no facility being provided to students should be affected due to the reduction in dues. He said “Students who come from far-flung areas to seek knowledge deserve our special attention.” The Vice Chancellor said that the University would also increase scholarships for the deserving students through the GCU Endowment Fund.

Vice Chancellor slashes fee by 23%

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. M. Khaleeq-ur-Rahman has slashed the University’s fee of existing students by 23 percent. A notification of revised fee schedule has been issued providing enormous financial relief to 6,500 students of the University from Intermediate to Postgraduate level.

QEC holds training to edify teaching skills of young lecturers

The GC University Lahore Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) has organised a four-day training to edify young lecturers’ skills in modern teaching methodologies, time management, communication skills, stress management, lesson planning, education psychology and personality development. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. M. Khaleeq-ur-Rahman chaired the opening and closing ceremonies of the training programme. Addressing the participants, Prof. Khaleeq said “the biggest challenge faced by the universities is quality human resource.” However, he said, imparting appropriate skills, knowledge and good attitudes to talented faculty members undoubtedly would play a vital role in meeting the challenge. He also urged the teachers to inculcate feelings of patriotism and nationalism in their students.

Allied Bank donates Rs. one million to GCU

The Allied Bank of Pakistan has donated Rs. one million to the GC University Lahore Endowment Fund Trust (GCU EFT) for initiating a life-time golden scholarship for deserving students. The perpetual scholarship, to be named after the Allied Bank of Pakistan, will be given to a deserving student every year on merit. Zia Iljaz, an executive of the bank, handed over the cheque of Rs. one million to GCU EFT Executive Committee Secretary Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt. This is the second golden scholarship donated by the Bank to GCU EFT.

The Bonn University, Germany and GC University Lahore have signed an agreement to carry out research in flood-hit areas through social perspective and investigate vulnerability, resilience and coping strategies of average local population in the socio-cultural, political and economic context. GCU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman and Bonn University Center for Research Development (ZEF) Director Dr. Solvay Gerke signed the agreement to execute the research project titled “After the flood is before the flood: vulnerabilities and coping capacities in flood affected communities of Punjab”. The project is funded by DAAD - German Academic Exchange Service. Presiding over a meeting to ensure qualitative implementation of the project, Prof. Khaleeq hoped that the research would contribute to develop an appropriate understanding about the problems of flood victims among national and international aid practitioners and policymakers, enabling them to design and implement adequate assistance programmes for disaster prevention and livelihood support measures in flood prone areas of Punjab and beyond. ZEF senior researcher Dr. Conrad Schetter attended the meeting while GCU Dean Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Prof. Dr. Khalid Pervaiz, Academic Planning and External Links Director Ms. Fauzia Shahin and the chairpersons of Political Science, Statistics, Psychology, Economics and History departments were also present. Under the research agreement, every year two scholars from GCU would attend a course “A Social Science Perspective on Development” at the Bonn University, Germany.
GCU clinches 130 oratory awards

Orators of the GC University Lahore have won as many as 130 awards at the GLI debating championships held during the academic year 2010-11 across the country. The awards included 25 team trophies and 40 best speaker awards. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman chaired a ceremony organised by the Debating Society to commemorate the landmark achievement of its orators. Debating Society Secretary General Ali Zafar contributed as many as 22 oratory awards to the tally, including the prestigious team trophies of the debating championships at Aitchison College, Home Economics College and Punjab University Law College. The prestigious PAF Academy Risalpur Trophy was won by Raviants for the 10th time during the last 17 years.

Addressing the ceremony, Mr. Siddique Awan, a Co-advisor and former President of the Debating Society, shared some interesting episodes of 'Old versus Young Raviants Debates' where on two occasions father and son came face-to-face with each other. “In the mid-1990s, Barrister Aitzaz Ahsan and his son Ali Ahsan locked horns on a motion: ‘Men are democratic by nature while women are despotic’. Mr. Aitzaz warned his son during the speech that they were bound to go home and face the lady despot who was Aitzaz's wife and Ali's mother. However, it did not deter the son from arguing his case effectively and the audience gave their verdict in favour of the son that it’s men and not women who are to be blamed,” said Mr. Awan. Prof. Dr. M. Khaleeq-ur-Rahman pledged that he would extend unflinching support to further promote debates culture in the University. He congratulated Muhammad Zulqernain, Esha Tariq, Amna Ijaz and Ali Zafar for representing Pakistan in China, India, Bangladesh and South Korea respectively.

MSD wins Leadership Award

The GC University Lahore Management Studies Department (GCU MSD) has won the Leadership Award at the Second Asia Best Business School Awards held under the auspices of CMO Asia and World Brand Congress. Dr. Marie-Aimee Tourres, a noted French economist and faculty member of GCU MSD, received the award at a gracious ceremony held at Suntec, Singapore. The GCU MSD was the only Pakistani institution among twelve business schools who received Award.

GCU receives ISSR Best Library Award

The GC University Lahore Library has received the “Best Library Award” from the International Society for Science and Religion (ISSR). The GCU library now stands among the top 150 libraries worldwide to have received this honor. The GCU library is already representing Pakistan in the World Digital Library, which is a joint venture of UNESCO and Library of Congress. Only 47 libraries of the world have yet succeeded to add their books on the World Digital Library electronic catalogue.

“Gold Medal 2011” for outstanding research in Physics

The Pakistan Academy of Sciences, Islamabad (PAS) has awarded the Gold Medal 2011 to GCU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman for his outstanding research in the field of Physics. Every year, only one of the best scientists in each subject receives the prestigious award for his contributions to the cause of science at the national and international levels.

Educationist Award

Prof. Dr. Ikramul Haq (S.I.), the Dean Faculty of Science and Technology, was honoured with the “Award for Outstanding Contribution to Education” at the Second Asia Business School Awards held in Singapore.

Sitara-i-Imtiaz

The President of Pakistan has conferred Sitara-i-Imtiaz on GCU Physics Department Chairperson Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah in the field of Physics.

Best Teacher

Prof. Dr. Riaz Ahmad, the Director of Centre for Advanced Studies in Physics (CASP), was awarded the HEC Best Teacher Award for the year 2010.

Young Scientist

Dr. M. Akhyar, an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at GCU, has received the “Young Scientist Award 2011” from the Inter-Academy Panel - a global network of science academies.
Science Poster Exhibition

The GC University Lahore Chemistry Department has organised the “Inter-universities Science Poster Exhibition” in collaboration with the Ravians Forensic Society and an international organisation, MENDELEY. The exhibition was aimed at highlighting quality research carried out in Pakistan in the various fields of Chemistry. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman opened the exhibition which displayed more than 95 researches on topics related to metal-based drug development, DNA analysis, forensic explosive analysis, pesticides, nano-materials, bioprocesses, oxidative stress studies, pharmaceutical analysis, bio-diesel production and anti-microbial actives. Students from all over the country took part in the exhibition and presented their research work. Later, prizes, certificates and shields were given to the best researchers.

Concert of Heritage

Live music performances in Urdu, Punjabi, Balochi, English and Pushio by the talented Ravians have rocked the “Annual Concert of Heritage 2011” held in the GCU Bukhari Auditorium under the auspices of Nazir Ahmed Music Society. The four-hour concert proved to be a rich blend of pop, rock, folk, ghazal, classical and semi-classical. Qasim, Stephen Ashiq, Wali Khan, Imran Fida, Hassan Maqsood, Saad Farooq, Mateen Akmal, Faisal Malik, Hamza, Asad, Sheryar, Sumiya, Komail, Osama, Umair and Mohsin Abbas performed at the concert.

Glory of Spring

The GC University Lahore Botany Department has organised “Fresh Flowers Exhibition” to celebrate the glory of spring. The theme of the exhibition was “flowers signify everything that is positive in this world like; life, beauty, love and happiness.” Students from various educational institutions took part in the one-day exhibition.

NAGS' 11

The GC University Lahore has hosted a three-day all Pakistan mega event, “Nerds of Art and Gurus of Science 2011 (NAGS’ 11)”. Students from 27 educational intuitions participated in various competitions which were organised by the Department of Physics in coordination with Department of Fine Arts, Computer Sciences Department and IEEE Electronics Wing. The competitions of robotic race, circuit designing, technical quiz, speed writing, science project exhibition, best proposed scientific solution, best scientific idea, photography, essay writing, short film contest, sketching, painting, sculpture, dress designing, short story writing, poetry, recycling, dubbing, e-gaming and flash war were the part of NAGS 2011 that basked GCU into co-curricular and scientific activities.

Drama

The GC University Lahore Horticulture Society has staged an Urdu play, “Darakhton Ke Bhoot” (Trees’ Ghosts), in the Bukhari Auditorium. The play drew a loud applause from audience for its insightful and earnest messages conveyed in a light humorous vein. The theme of the play was deforestation and its consequences on environment and human lives. It opens in a peaceful and healthy environment of a village where people are happy, kind and active. The situation starts changing as soon as Chaudhry of the village allows industrialists to fell trees and install factories. The encounters amongst the characters were both witty and insightful. The play was also an open criticism on fake spiritual leaders who fool others for money. The play also raised criticism on the greedy nature of humans who sacrifice common welfare of society for their small interests. The play was written by Haroon Mehmoood, a student of BS (Hons) Electronics at GCU.
Independence Day: GCU prays for peace & prosperity

The GC University Lahore celebrated Independence Day with special prayers for peace and prosperity. Addressing a flag-hoisting ceremony, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman laid particular stress on strengthening the educational institutions of Pakistan, saying that it is the quality education that ensures national harmony, social tolerance and economic development. He paid glowing tributes to the martyrs, workers and leaders of Pakistan movement whose sacrifices paved way for our independence. Earlier, the Vice Chancellor hoisted the national flag in front of GCU clock-tower. Sweets were also distributed among the GCU staff members.

Seminar on “Dengue Control & Prevention” on CM’s Directions

The GC University Lahore has organized a seminar on “Dengue Control and Prevention” on the directions of Punjab Chief Minister Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif. Addressing the seminar, Zoology Department Chairperson Prof. Dr. Nusrat Jahan recommended biological control of Dengue, saying that fumigation and sprays can be used as emergency measures but they are not permanent solutions. “Mosquitoes after sometime develop resistance against the chemicals used in fumigation and sprays,” GCU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khaleeq-ur-Rahman and a large number of faculty members attended the seminar. Prof. Nusrat laid a particular stress on the need to support the research in the area of Medical entomology for developing population management strategies of dengue vectors in Pakistan. The GCU chief zoologist called on students and teachers to develop a habit of emptying and cleaning water storage containers, gutters, flower vases and desert coolers, proper disposal of discarded containers and tyres; removal of ornamental or wild plants that collect water in the leaf axils.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman said that the university will support the research being conducted by the Zoology Department on biological control of dengue fever. He said that the GC University Lahore is using the best available chemicals for fumigation. Khaleeq-ur-Rahman announced that the university would also hold fumigation in surrounding areas besides distributing posters especially prepared by the university to raise awareness among people about the Dengue fever and its prevention. He said that it is our collective duty to fight against Dengue.

Quaid’s Death Anniversary

Iqarul Hassan, an eminent Old Ravian and anchorperson of ARY NEWS, has hosted a talk show at the GC University Lahore Amphitheater in connection with the death anniversary of Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

National Plantation Day

The GC University Lahore Botany Department has celebrated the National Plantation Day by planting saplings on the university premises. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman inaugurated the plantation campaign by planting a sapling at the GCU Scholars’ Gardens. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Khaleeq-ur-Rahman announced that GCU would plant as many as 5,000 saplings of indigenous plants at the GCU Kala Shah Kaku Campus to create a healthy and conducive learning environment there. “I believe that essence of learning lies in the close relationship with nature”, he added.

Forest Biodiversity Day

The GC University Lahore Sustainable Development Study Centre (GCU SDSC) has organised the ‘Forest Biodiversity Model Exhibition’ to celebrate the International Forest Biodiversity Day 2011. The students of B.Sc (Hons) presented a large number of models based on different themes to highlight various threats to the global biodiversity.

Speaking the occasion, SDSC Director Prof. Dr. Aminul Haq underlined the importance to preserve biodiversity, saying “biodiversity is a measure of the health of ecosystems”. Greater biodiversity implies greater health, he added.
“Challenges confronting fourth pillar of the state”

The GCU University Lahore Young Journalists’ Society (GCU YJS) has organised a seminar on “challenges confronting fourth pillar of the state.” Daily Pakistan Editor Mujeebur Rahman Shami, Daily Times Editor Rashid Rehman, noted anchorperson Aftab Iqbal, Daily Din Editor Mian Habib, The News CNE Imran Sheikh and a large number of reputed Old Ravian journalists attended the seminar. Speaking on the occasion, Mujeebur Rahman Shami said that legendary journalists like Mulana Hasrat Mohani, Mulana Zafar Ali Khan and Hameed Nizami had set very high standards for the successive generations of Muslim journalists. He said that times have changed tremendously; 40 years back government agencies used to chase and pressurise journalists whereas today journalists chase governments and hold them accountable. Rashid Rehman said that the masses are the biggest check on media. “Any newspaper or channel that fails to maintain its credibility ultimately loses its readership/viewership,” he added. He also shared some of his student life memories when he was a member of GC Dramatics Club. Aftab Iqbal said that a major challenge which newspapers and television channels face at the moment is maintaining high quality news reports and upholding journalistic values in such a small yet extremely competitive market. The evening was followed by YJS Annual Dinner and Musical Night. A delegation of Lahore Education Reporters Association (LERA), led by President Mansoor Malik, also attended the seminar.

YJS visits Dawn & Daily Times

The executive body of Young Journalists’ Society visited the offices of Daily Dawn and Daily Times to observe the publication of a newspaper. Muhammad Ali, an eminent Old Ravian and Editor Sports, showed the YJS entire publication process at Daily Times. Later, they visited Daily Dawn where Senior Reporter Mansoor Malik addressed the young journalists.

Capital Talk

GEO NEWS pays tribute to GCU for educating special persons

Hamid Mir, an eminent Old Ravian, has recorded the GEO NEWS famous talk show, “Capital Talk”, in the GC University Lahore Bukhari Auditorium to highlight the achievements and success stories of visually-impaired persons. GEO NEWS invited to the show the visually-impaired individuals of the society who delivered their profound services in various spheres of life. Hamid Mir also invited GCU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman to the show as special guest and paid tribute to the valuable services GCU has offered to facilitate the visually-impaired persons. Prof. Khaleeq said that as many as 79 visually-impaired students are studying at GCU and the university has set up a state-of-the-art Centre for Special Students (CSS) to facilitate them. The talk show can be watched online on www.youtube.com.

GCU forms Media Watch Society

The GC University Lahore has constituted the Media Watch Society to groom Ravians in the art of information dissemination and critical news analysis. Established at the university level, this society will enable students to have hands-on experience of the latest working of leading newspapers and television channels. It will organize conferences, debates, seminars, training workshops and invited lectures by eminent opinion makers. It will also generate internship opportunities for GCU students by creating linkages between well-established media houses and GCU. Mr. Musadaq Sultan, who is currently heading the GCU Public Relations Department, is appointed as the adviser of the society.
Majid Nizami
inaugurates Amt-ul-Arifa Reading Room

Majid Nizami, an eminent Old Ravian and the Editor of Daily Nawa-i-Waqt, has inaugurated the Amt-ul-Arifa Reading Room which was established at the GC University Lahore Postgraduate Library with a generous donation of Rs. three million by GCU English Department Chairperson Prof. Dr. Nosheen Khan. Prof. Nosheen donated the money to perpetuate the memory of her late mother Prof. Amtul Hayee and her late sister Arika Khan. Addressing the ceremony, Majid Nizami showered accolades on Prof. Nosheen Khan for her generous donation and her philanthropic zest. He urged the youth to inculcate among them the love for book-reading. Reminiscing his time spent at the GC Lahore as a student, he paid homage to his teachers particularly Sufi Ghulam Mustafa Tabassum. He said he had used to pen down articles while sitting in the lush green Oval Ground.

Quiz Contest

The Raviens Quiz Society has organised its fourth mastermind quiz competition in the Fazl-e-Hussain Reading Room. Sixteen teams took part in the qualifying round. However, only eight teams qualified for the competition. Khalid and Ahmad got first and second positions respectively.

Naatiya Mushaira

The GC University Lahore Arabic Department has organised a Naatiya Mushaira in the Fazl-e-Hussain Reading Room. As many as 12 poets from various parts of the country including Prof. Ramzan Shakir presented their Kalam at the Naatiya Mushaira. Monthly Naat Editor Rasheed Mahmood was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

Talent Hunt

Students have exhibited their talent in singing, dancing, acting and showing tricks at the “GCU Talent Hunt” organised by the Business, Accounting and Finance Society in the Oval Ground. The venue remained overcrowded as students turned up in hundreds to show their talent. The show kicked off with a flute performance by Mohsin Abbas which earned a loud applause.

Bait Bazi

The Debating Society has organised the Verse Recitation (Bait Bazi) Competition at the Fazl-e-Hussain Reading Room. As many as ten teams took part in the competition which was aimed at promoting the love for remembering great poetry among the youth. The competition ends in a draw between both the finalist teams.

Faiz Ahmad

The GC University Lahore Nazir Ahmed Music Society (GCU NAMS) in collaboration with Majlis-e-Iqbal and Debating Society arranged an evening in the Bukhari Auditorium to pay a rich tribute to distinguished Old Ravian and poet Faiz Ahmad Faiz in connection with his centennial birth anniversary celebrations. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman was the chief guest of the ceremony. Faiz’ grandson, Dr. Ali Madeeq Hashmi, was also present.

The promising amateur signers of Nazir Ahmed Music Society presented several heart rending Ghazals and Nazams of Faiz which were composed by GCU music maestro Tariq Farani.
Reception in the honour of Prof. Khaleeq

The faculty members have hosted a reception in the honour of Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman - the 28th head of GCU. Prof. Khaleeq is one of the most eminent physicists of Pakistan. He served UET as Professor (Meritorious) and Chairman Physics Department. He did his PhD in Physics from the Manchester University, UK. The British government also bestowed upon him "ORS Award" twice. He was awarded the highest Presidential Award "Izzat-i-Kamal" for his meritorious service in education sector. He received "HEC Best Teacher Award" for his extraordinary academic work in 2008. The Pakistan Institute of Physics awarded "Fellowship Gold Medal" to Prof. Dr. Khaleeq as token of recognition for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of Physics in Pakistan. Prof. Khaleeq has over 100 research articles published in int'l journals to his credit, besides several books on the subject of Physics.

GCU BUKHARI LAWNS: The faculty members of various departments pose for group photo with the Vice Chancellor.

**GCU academia feels whiff of empowerment**

**ON CAMPUS**

The Government College University, Lahore, is taking a breath of fresh air with the appointment of new vice-chancellor Prof Dr Khaleeq-ur-Rehman, who has practically expressed his will to empower all departments' chairpersons, deans and provide an enabling environment to students for their all-round growth.

The university students, who had been complaining of suppression and monitoring up to the level of rector, are being allowed to express themselves without any hesitation. The students are not only visiting the vice-chancellor's office regularly but are also in touch with him on the Facebook.

In order to lessen financial burden on university hostels' residents, the new vice-chancellor drastically lowered hostels and mess charges after analysing that the respective management was earning 'huge' profit and piling up its resources. He said he would also make students' tuition fee realistic as soon as the university would start receiving funds from the Higher Education Commission as promised.

VC Prof Rehman discussed these issues candidly in a meeting with the Lahore Education Reporters Association (LERA) executive and general body members at varsity's Syndicate room.

In order to transform GCU into a world-class institution, Prof Rehman said he had involved all senior faculty members and planners to plan varsity's New Campus at around 400 acres of land available at Kala Shah Kaku. On the new campus, he said, the university had plans to introduce cutting-edge technologies and modern disciplines that would start meeting the needs of the modern world in next 50 years. He said latest labs would also be set up on the new campus because the existing one had become 'landlocked' and achieved saturation in terms of expansion.

Prof Rehman said the Higher Education Commission and the Punjab government would continuously be asked for release of funds because it was the state's responsibility to invest in the development of human resources. Referring to the availability of faculty at GCU, the vice-chancellor lamented that there were only eight full professors in the university and the departments were being run by as junior as assistant professors. Now, he said, the university was in the process of advertising senior faculty members' posts and attract qualified faculty with market-based incentives. He said he had informed the governor/chancellor about his question about the status of registrar's post in the university.

As he assumed the charge of vice-chancellor, Prof Rehman said he found university's system highly centralised. “It was centralised to the extent that the vice-chancellor himself was responsible for allowing even one-day leave to the senior faculty members,” he added.

Now, he said, he had started decentralising powers and empowered department's chairmen and faculties' deans to perform their duties at their respective levels instead of coming to the vice-chancellor's office for even petty issues, including those related to small finances.

Similarly, at students' level, he said, an enabling environment was being provided to them. The VC said almost 40 societies being run by students were being provided with extra funding despite resource constraints. “The training imparted at societies' level would help them gain experience of artificial administration.”

He said the university was also offering students career counselling and guidance. He, however, categorically rejected the concept of allowing creation of student wings of political parties on the university campus.

Prof Rehman told reporters that a body of vice-chancellors had recommended the chief minister to abolish the entrance test or transform it into an aptitude test because students were currently choosing their lines of studies on the basis of marks obtained at matriculation and intermediate level.

“I am a teacher for all students studying in the university and vice-chancellor for the planners at provincial and federal government level,” he said.

Courtesy DAWN
Political Science Alumni Association named after Prof. Saeed Usman Malik

The GC University Lahore Political Science Department has named its alumni association after the late Prof. Saeed Usman Malik - the former chairman of the Department and founder of the alumni association. The resolution in this regard was presented by the former students of Prof. Saeed Usman Malik at the annual reunion of the department's alumni. The resolution was passed unanimously. Lahore High Court former chief justice Khwaja Muhammad Sharif was the chief guest while a large number of other luminaries of the Political Science Department including PML (Unification Bloc) chief Mian Atta M. Manika, MPA Mrs. Ghaziaa Saad, former federal secretary Qazi Afaq Hussain and noted journalist Aftab Iqbal also attended the reunion which was held after a gap of 14 years. MNA Khwaja Saad Rafique and PSD Chairperson Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt also addressed the reunion.

A six-member delegation of educationists from India led by Damanbir Singh Jaspal has visited the GC University Lahore to promote bilateral academic relations. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman welcomed the delegation at the Syndicate Committee Room.

A delegation of Turkish educationists has visited the GC University Lahore and met with Dean Faculty of Science and Technology Prof. Dr. Ikram-ul-Haq and discussed the prospects of strengthening ties between the two countries and their universities. The delegation was led by Saadi Yildir.

About 20 students from Bangladesh have visited the GC University Lahore. They met with Dean Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Prof. Dr. Khalid Perviaz. The delegation also visited the GCU Sports Complex, Library and Nazir Ahmad Music Society during its one-day tour to the university.

A delegation of Old Ravians Union (ORU) has called on Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman. The delegation was led by former federal secretary Qazi Afaq while Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt, Advocate M. Cachchar and Taha Sadaqat were also present.

GCU to strengthen Met Office database

The GC University Lahore Department of Geography will strengthen the database of Regional Meteorological Center Lahore (Met Office) by using Remote Sensing Technology (RST) and Geographic Information System (GIS). A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed in this regard. The Lahore Met Office has also pledged to provide research projects to the BSc (Hons) Geography students besides creating internship and job opportunities for them on priority basis in Lahore Met Office. Under the agreement, both the parties would also jointly hold seminars, training workshops, conferences and lectures for the professional development of students and met officials.

BDS holds “Blood Donation Camp”

The GC University Lahore Blood Donor Society has set up a blood donation camp which drew a huge response from students especially girls who donated blood for the children suffering from Thalassemia. The faculty members and a large number of students donated blood at the Camp, which was handed over to Fatimid Foundation for the safe transfusion to the children suffering from Thalassemia. Health experts and hematologists also delivered lectures to different gatherings of people on the university premises and persuaded them to regularly donate blood as it is not only helpful in protecting lives of people who off and on require blood but it is beneficial for the donors also.
Old Ravain tops CSS Examination 2011

Rana Abdul Aziz, an Old Ravian, has stood first in the Central Superior Services (CSS) Examination 2011 held under the auspices of the Federal Public Service Commission. Mr. Rana was the General Secretary of GCU Debating Society during the session 2006-07. Being an accomplished debater, he won numerous laurels for his alma mater including Best Speaker Award at the Punjab Students’ Convention 2006 organised by the Punjab government.

Photography Award

Agha Rizwan, a former president of GCU Photographic Club, has won the “People’s Choice Award” at the International Photography Competition organised by UNDP on the topics of its millennium development goals. The picture that won the award was also captured in GCU on the topic of ‘gender equality and women empowerment.’ Agha is currently teaching photo journalism at the Kinnaird College Lahore.

VC orders to computerise marking of entry tests

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. M. Khaleeq-ur-Rahman has ordered to computerise the marking of entry tests being conducted by the university’s Computer Sciences Department for admission to their undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The Vice Chancellor directed the department to immediately acquire digital scanners and other required equipment for this purpose.

108 Ravians trained in natural conservation

The Eco-Internship Programme has concluded at GCU which imparted training to as many as 108 Ravians about the conservation of eco-system and Pakistan’s natural resources. The internship programme was initiated by WWF Pakistan in collaboration GCU Career Guidance and Placement Centre.

HEC holds training workshop at GCU

The Higher Education Commission and GC University Lahore Quality Enhancement Cell have organised a three-day “cascading workshop on ensuring trainings’ effectiveness” at the GCU Faiz Ahmad Faiz Seminar Hall. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman chaired the opening ceremony of the workshop which was aimed at “training the trainers” in advance professional development programmes. Addressing the opening ceremony, QEC Director Iram Sohail said the master trainers from HEC during the workshop would train the university’s faculty members in “Training Methods”, “Management of Training”, “Human Resource Development in Education”, “Training Needs Assessment”, “Use of Information and Communication Technology in Teaching and Learning”, “Result-based management” and “Training Evaluation and Management”. Addressing the participants, Vice Chancellor Prof. Khaleeq-ur-Rahman said that GCU has put the teachers’ training in its top-priority list and would extend its maximum resources for the professional development of its faculty members.

Ravians Forensic Society

The GC University Lahore Chemistry Department has formed the Ravians Forensic Society. The society will work for the promotion of forensic science as a career choice for young people and will disseminate scientific knowledge about variety of crimes in Pakistan. The Ravians Forensic Society will also work to develop and flourish the linkages between academia and law enforcing agencies. The society is offering membership to students and professionals, not only of GCU, but also from all over Pakistan.

Lahore Board Intermediate Examinations 2011

Ravians secure record

The GC University Lahore has secured record 10 positions in the Lahore Board Intermediate Examinations 2011. Ravians clean swept the Pre-medical Group (Boys) wherein Muhammad Arslan Arshad bagged the first position with 1021 marks while Ahmad Bani Sadar and Muhammad Hamza stood second and third with 1018 and 1013 marks respectively. The GCU students also secured all the three positions in the General Science Group (Boys) where Ashas Ahmad, Hafiz Muhammad Salman Saeed and Daniyal Haleem secured the first, second and third positions respectively. The university students also secured two positions in the Pre-engineering Group (Boys) where Omer Ajmal and Ammad-ud-Din stood second and third with 1027 and 1026 marks.

Two Ravians Shakhto Zulfiquar and Jawad Raza Sultan earned second and third positions in the Humanities Group (Boys) with 919 and 913 marks respectively.

GCU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman has congratulated Ravians on their tremendous achievement, saying that “students’ achievements bring glory to their alma mater.” He said it was due to unflinching dedication and commitment of the GCU students to their studies and invaluable pedagogical input of the university’s highly-qualified trained faculty that GCU is ranked among the top educational institutions of the country.

Participants pose for a group photo with the Vice Chancellor and academic heads at the opening ceremony of the workshop.
Handball Match between Afghanistan & GCU

The Directorate of Sports has hosted a friendly handball match between the teams of GC University Lahore and Afghanistan at the Oval Ground under the patronage of Pakistan Handball Federation (PHF). Afghanistan won the match with a meagre margin of just one goal. The score at the final whistle remained 29-28; in the favour of team Afghanistan. GCU Sports Board Chairman Prof. Dr. Ikram-ul-Haq (S.I) graced the match with his presence as the Chief Guest. Tajikistan Handball Team and PHF Secretary Haji M. Shafique also witnessed the match.

Football Team wins Independence Cup

The GC University Lahore football team has won the Independence Cup hosted by the University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Lahore (UVAS) in connection with the Independence Day celebrations. As many as 16 teams including Punjab University, University of Management and Technology (UMT), Forman Christian University Lahore and Lahore School of Economics (LSE) took part in the championship. The GCU football team beat Usman Club by 2-0 in the finals. Asad Subhani and Muhammad Nauman scored the goals from the GCU side. GCU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. M. Khaleeq-ur-Rahman congratulated the university football team on winning the championship.

Sports Summer Camps at GCU

The GC University Lahore Directorate of Sports has organised two-month sports summer camps for the training of sportsmen. The Camps provided free-of-cost training in as many as ten different games including Athletics, Cricket, Basketball, Football, Badminton, Squash, Tennis, Table Tennis and Gymnastics. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Muhammad Khaleeq-ur-Rahman also visited the camps. Talking to sportsmen, he said sports and co-curricular activities must be promoted in all educational institutions as they play a crucial role in the overall personality development of students. Prof. Khaleeq said sports activities have a profound effect on the physical fitness and mental health of students. “They ultimately enhance their capabilities and efficiency, besides they also teach tolerance and create an environment of competition,” he added. He said that GCU has a healthy tradition of excellence in the field of sports and he would also encourage sports and co-curricular activities in the university besides research and education. “Promotion of sports curbs negative activities among the youth,” he concluded.

GCU Oval: The handball teams of GCU, Afghanistan and Tajikistan pose for a group photo.

GCU honours its 76 best sportsmen

The GC University Lahore has honoured its as many as 76 best sportsmen with shields, cash prizes and titles like 'Iron Man', 'Mr Super Fit', 'Man of Mountains', 'Mr Muscular', 'Cheeta' and 'The Wall' for their outstanding performances in national and international competitions during the sports calendar 2010-11. The GCU Sports Board organised a special ceremony to acknowledge the talent of these sportsmen. GCU Chairman Sports Board Prof. Dr. Ikramul Haq (S.I) was the chief guest.

GCU STANDS SECOND IN ROVERING

Rovers of the GC University Lahore have secured the second position in the HEC Inter-universities Rovering Championship which was held at Azad Jammu and Kashmir University, Rawla Kot Campus. There were total nine events in the competition.

Oval: A child playing football during Summer Camp.
Ravians support an Old Ravian's resolve to break the begging bowl

Situation and multifaceted challenges. Opening the debate, Zeenia Mansoor, a student of BSc (Honours) in Biotechnology, drew the audience's attention to the vast economic potential of Pakistan in minerals, agriculture, livestock, dairy and above all human resource.

Looking at the opposite side of the motion, Kamran Hussain Hashmi, a student of intermediate, opined that sovereignty - the economic and political - could only be safeguarded through across-the-board accountability. However, he said, foreign loans could be rightly utilised for national uplift.

Saadul Hassan, a student of BA (Hons) in English literature, deplored the fate of every newborn Pakistani baby who inherits a debt of Rs 30,000 at the time of his/her birth - a gift from the ruling junta!

Concluding the debate, Noorus Saba, a student of BSc (Honours) in Chemistry, stressed the dire need to strengthen the mechanism of accountability, so that the looters and plunderers could be brought to book. She believed that there was no harm if the countries helped each other. All that was needed was the right utilisation of foreign aid.

In between the speeches, the Nazir Ahmed Music Society played Kalam-e-Iqbal and inspirational national songs. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that he had heard the speakers, for and against the topic today, in their fiery oratory. “I think it came from the core of their hearts. It reflected true feelings of not only of this House, but the entire country as well,” he added. Shahbaz Sharif also candidly responded to the questions put to him by the young Ravians.

Drive against Dengue

The GC University Lahore has initiated fumigation and awareness campaign against dengue. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khalique-ur-Rahman monitored the campaign to ensure fumigation and spray of anti-mosquito chemicals in every nook and cranny of the University including hostels, classes, gardens, offices, corridors and playgrounds etc. The University campus was fumigated thrice every week. GCU purchased its own fumigator machine, spray pumps and WHO-recommended chemicals to ensure timely spray and fumigation. The Zoology Department published posters and displayed them in all departments of the university to raise awareness among students about Dengue. Special lectures on Dengue were also arranged. Related news on page 5.