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Old Ravians Beat VC XI By 16 Runs

Former test cricketer Salim Malik was seen in action after many years at the annual festival cricket match at his alma mater, Government College University Lahore. The match was played between the teams of Old Ravians XI and Vice Chancellor XI at the University's Oval Ground. Earlier, winning the toss Old Ravians XI chose to bat first and posted 148 runs in just 12 overs. The coin was tossed by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah.

Salim Malik said that GCU was one of the finest sports nurseries for producing top sportsmen for the national teams, and had been maintaining its tradition of excellence in sports since 1947. Sports facilities in diverse fields such as athletics, cricket, hockey, tennis, gymnastics, basketball, table tennis, boxing, swimming, rowing and squash.



GCU Holds Pashto Debates



The Government College University Lahore Debating Society (GCUDS) held the second GCU Annual Internal Pashto Debates 2017 to promote national integration and cultural harmony. It was the first time when a large number of Pashtun female students also participated in the debates on the topic "the amalgamation of FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will blur the identity of FATA".



Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU said, Pashto was the second-largest regional language of Pakistan widely spoken in the west and northwest of the country. He expressed satisfaction at the cultural harmony being observed by Ravians hailing different ethnic backgrounds.



More than 100 speakers participated in the initial rounds and 16 in the finals of Pashto debate contest. Muhammad Kashif Khan from Political Science Department was declared as Best Pashto Speaker of GCU, while Wajid Aslam from Economics Department stood second. The debates were adjudicated by Sajid Wazir; a Pashto writer, Kamran Khan; a recipient of three roll of honors in debates from GCU, and Noor Rahman; a PhD scholar.

Smart Devices put on Display during APEX 2017 at GCU

The engineering students from different universities, including Information Technology University Lahore (ITU) put on display their self-made smart devices, robots and innovative technologies at the Annual Projects Exhibition (APEX 2017), organized by the Electrical Engineering Department of Government College University, Lahore. About 21 smart devices were put on display including a military spying robot, power distribution system for satellite, automatic solar irrigation system, autonomous self-balancing robot, visible light communication system, wireless water quality monitoring system and object positioning robotic arm with auto path-finding vehicle system.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor on the occasion said that the students had worked hard over the past semesters on the projects ranged from power electronics to surveillance and embedded systems. He appreciated that different companies, funding agencies were witness to APEX 2017 and to fund the students' projects.

Dr. Junaid Zafar, In-charge Department of Electrical Engineering said knowledge was nothing without practical implementation, and new knowledge was created through the process of disseminating and applying existing knowledge. He mentioned GCU APEX did not only provide opportunities to outgoing students to demonstrate their knowledge & technical skills but also to educate and motivate the other students to come up with more innovative ideas and technologies. Prof. Dr. Raiz Ahmed, Dean Faculty of Engineering and Technology GCU said that market has become highly competitive for engineers and they should be highly innovative and technically sound to survive.

OLD Ravian Mrs Iqtidar Ahmad Donates to GCU Endowment Fund

An eminent businesswoman and Old Ravian Mrs. Iqtidar Ahmad donated an amount of Rs. 500,000/- to the Government College University Lahore Endowment Fund Trust (GCU-EFT) for initiating the "Silver Scholarship" in the name of her uncle and aunt "Prof. A.R. Zafar and Farida Rehman". The scholarship would be given to one deserving student of GCU every year on merit and would cover his university dues.



Blood Donation Camp at GCU

The students of Government College University Lahore have donated almost 100 pints of blood for the cancer patients at "one-day blood camp" organised by the university's Blood Donor Society (GCU BDS) in collaboration with the Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (SKMCH&RC). Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU, visited the camp and appreciated the efforts of Blood Donor Society members who donate more than 1200 pints of blood every year for thalassemia patients. Prof. Shah called upon all the students to donate blood and highlighted the importance of voluntary blood donation in protecting precious human lives.



Workshop on Intellectual Property at GCU

A one-day training workshop was held at GCU on "Intellectual Property" to guide the university faculty and postgraduate scholars in registering their intellectual property rights i.e patents, copyrights, trademarks and industrial designs. The workshop was organized by the Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) in collaboration with the Intellectual Property Organization (IPO)-Pakistan, a government body working under the Commerce Division.

Ms. Iram Sohail, Director QEC on the occasion said "Intellectual properties are intellectual creations of mind. These are intangible goods that hold value". She emphasized that intellectual properties protection should be given the same treatment and respect as personal and real property.

Ms. Shakra Khursheed, the resource person from IPO-Pakistan said that United States last year removed Pakistan from priority watch list due to effective measures taken by IPO and their coordination with international enforcement agencies. She stated that the enforcement of intellectual property laws were critical for sustaining and strengthening the national economy.



OLD Ravians Reminiscence of their Alma Mater

A grand alumni reunion night was held at the Government College University Lahore. The event organized by the Old Ravians Union (ORU), was marked by a rocking music performance of singer Jawad Ahmed, and the candid reminiscences of their student life by the eminent Old Ravians, including the former Prime Minister, Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali. The historical Gothic Style building of GCU was also illuminated for the reunion celebrations.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor said that a university requires multibillion rupees investment for new buildings, laboratories, classrooms, equipment and infrastructure; therefore, it is essential that funding by government and fund raising by Old Ravians Union must continue for establishment of the state-of-the-art facilities at the University's new campus at Kala Shah Kaku. The Vice Chancellor also reiterated that Old Ravians were their real strength who always helped them in advancing the University's vision and mission.

GCU Model United Nations (MUN) 2017

A three-day Model United Nations (MUN) debates were held at the Government College University Lahore. The shining orators from thirty-five universities participated in the GCU-MUN 2017, organised by the GCU Debating Society (GCUDS). They presented different nations around the world and practiced diplomacy to resolve conflicts.

A delegation of University of Engineering and Technology (UET) Lahore, representing the United Kingdom, was adjudicated the Best Delegation, and awarded the Patras Bokhari Award; dedicated to Prof. Syed Ahmed Shah Bokhari, the first permanent representative of Pakistan in United Nations and first Muslim Principal of Government College Lahore.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU said, "Model United Nations is the best forum to develop a global perspective students where they are assigned a country and a UN committee". He hoped that GCUDS would hold MUN every year where students would not only sharpen their oratory skills but also increase understanding of world politics; groom as leaders, and learn to respect opposing beliefs and arguments.



GCU holds Book Fair

Library Society of the Government College University Lahore has organized a two-day book fair at the University's Salam Hall in connection with the World Book Day which is celebrated on April 23 every year. A large number of national and international publishers set up their stalls at the book fair, which received a warm response from students and faculty members on the opening day. Eminent writer Dr. Tariq Rahman inaugurated the book fair.

Talking to media, the university students said visiting book fair was a different and informative experience in itself without even buying books. It is pertinent to mention that publishers were offering discount up to 25 per cent on books at the book fair.





International Conference on Health Psychology at GCU

Speakers at the opening ceremony of three-day international conference on “Health Psychology: Issues and Challenges” at the Government College University (GCU) Lahore laid a stress on expanding the role of health psychologists in education and health sectors to modify human behaviors.

More than 600 scholars, faculty members from 35 universities of Pakistan and delegates from Germany, United Kingdom and Canada participated in the conference jointly organized by Department of Psychology GCU, Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC) and Punjab AIDS Control Program. The conference spread over fifteen scientific sessions and six invited talks by eminent foreign psychologists.

“Despite the realization for overall unhealthy lifestyles, increasing ratio of chronic illnesses and escalating health care costs, the government has yet to focus on health psychology which helps to modify human behavior that has been implicated in the chronic illness, relieve pain, reduce stress, improve compliance with medicine, teach patients and family members to live with chronic diseases”, Dr. Syeda Shahida Batool, Chairperson Department of Psychology said in her inaugural address.

In his presidential address, Mr. Raza Ali Gillani, Punjab Minister for Higher Education said that health psychology is broad field that covers multiple issues related to social, emotional and physical well-being. He hoped that this prestigious gathering of scholars and professionals would avail this responsibility and make recommendations to the government for meeting the challenges to their education and health care systems. He also said it was psychologists' duty to reform the society.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU said that the university had received more than 300 quantitative and qualitative research papers for the conference on coping stress, heart diseases, hypertension, cancer, eating disorders, infertility, arthritis, HIV/AIDS, diabetics, burden of care, and assessment issues in healthy psychology. He mentioned that these papers would add to their understanding that how psychological, behavioral and cultural factors contribute to physical health and illness of individuals.

In his key note address, Prof. Dr. Syed Ashiq Ali Shah from Kwantlen Polytechnic University British Columbia, Canada, highlighted the impact of psychosocial-cultural Influences on physical and mental health. He said arrogance, prejudice, xenophobia, and aggression eradicate happiness from life while gratitude, thankfulness, sincerity, love, and respect toward others are the source of true happiness.

Dr. Barbara Keller from University of Bielefeld, Germany said that health was not just absence of disease but the presence of positive well-being and movement towards positive directions. She also believed faith and religion had key role in strong mental health of individuals.

Adnan Zafar Khan, the Additional Secretary of Health Department, Punjab also laid a stress on expanding the role of health psychology, saying that one major challenge to mental health professionals was to manage chronic illnesses like cancer, arthritis, coronary heart disease, hepatitis, and HIV/AIDS.



Shaukat Khanum Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign

Make a Promise to Yourself To Take Care of Yourself

Breast Cancer is the most common cancer in women worldwide. Pakistan has one of the highest incidences of breast cancer in Asia. The best way to fight this cancer is to detect it early and start appropriate treatment. Women below the age of 40 should carry out regular self-examination and those over 40 should undergo regular screening mammography.

SKMCH sets up Mobile Mammogram Facility at GCU

The Government College University Lahore female faculty and staff members of age forty and above underwent the mammogram as a precaution against the breast cancer which is the most common cancer in the country and killed more than 40,000 women every year in Pakistan. The Shaukat Khanum Memorial Hospital and Research Center (SKMCH&RC) in collaboration with the Quality Enhancement Cell at GCU set up a special mobile mammogram facility for one-day on the university campus and conducted mammogram of female faculty and staff members of the university free-of-cost.

On the occasion, Ms. Iram Sohail, Director QEC said that Pakistan has the highest incidence of breast cancer in Asia, so every woman above the age of forty should go for a mammogram test once a year. "Women in the developing countries, like Pakistan tend to die at greater rates than in developed countries because the disease is generally detected when in advance stages".

Pakistan has Shortage of 36,000 PhDs: HEC Chairman

Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman, Higher Education Commission (HEC) has laid a stress on increasing the budget for higher education in Pakistan saying, currently there is a shortage of 36,000 PhDs in the country. He was addressing the journalists from federal capital during their visit to the Government College University Lahore. The visit was arranged by the HEC for enlightening the journalists about the academic and research development at GCU.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU along with the Chairman HEC said that after the 18th amendment, provincial higher education commissions were reality and there was no conflict between federal and provincial higher education commissions. However, the role of provincial higher education commissions was needed to be defined to end confusion. Chairman HEC mentioned that this issue would amicably be resolved in the Council of Common Interests (CCI). The stance was also supported by the Vice Chancellor GCU, who mentioned that it's good for the universities to be benefited from both federal and provincial higher education commissions. However, he stated that major budget of universities came from federal HEC.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah said GCU had always given a special focus to the character building and personality development of its students, teaching them tolerance towards the beliefs, faith, race, religion and ideas of other people. He mentioned that schools in Pakistan should also pay special attention in personality development and on moral training of children. The Vice Chancellor told journalists that GCU could not expand itself over the last few decades due the space constraints. Now, a new campus of the university is under construction at Kala Shah Campus with a grant from the government.

Earlier, Ms. Fauzia Shaheen, GCU Director Academic Planning and External Links briefed journalists about the history, traditions, infrastructure, research output and international linkages of the University. GCU Deans Prof. Dr. Islam Ullah Khan, Prof. Dr. Raiz Ahmad and Prof. Dr. Tahir Kamran also attended the meeting with journalists.

Medical Camp at GCU

A three-day medical camp was set up at Government College University Lahore under the auspices of its Quality Enhancement Cell and Punjab AIDS Control Program (PACP). The camp conducted free medical check-up of university's students, faculty members and staff. The blood samples were screened for Hepatitis B, C, Syphilis and HIV/AIDS, and vaccinations were administered against the Hepatitis B.

Ms. Iram Sohail, Director QEC confirmed that more than one thousand students and staff members were screened and provided free vaccination against Hepatitis B, and that they would also be given follow-up vaccinations free of cost as per the international standards. The director also said that the focus of such camp was to provide facility to the university's support staff because they usually have less awareness and means for such expensive vaccinations and tests. "PACP is a brilliant initiative of the Government of Punjab, and these people are doing wonderful job," Director QEC said "prevention is better than cure" therefore, Quality Enhancement Cell held different awareness campaigns throughout the year against different chronic diseases for the better health of the university students and staff members.

Later, pamphlets and other awareness material against Hepatitis B, C, Syphilis and HIV/AIDS were also distributed among students at the medical camp.

Paintings of Walled City Gates Displayed at GCU

The thirteen gates of Walled City, the heritage of ancient Lahore, have brought back to life by artist Munawar Mohiuddin. The large-size landscape paintings from Lahori Gate to Roshni Gate were displayed at the painting exhibition at Minhas Art Gallery of Government College University Lahore.

Mian Ijaz ul Hassan, a renowned painter, writer and art critic inaugurated the Mohiuddin's solo show at GCU. Mr. Hassan, who is also Old Ravian, mentioned that most of these gates didn't exist anymore, and the artist had recreated them on the basis of their description in the historical books and documents. These thirteen gates were brands of ancient Lahore and Munawar Mohiuddin has made them eternal through his artwork.

Mr. Javaid Iqbal, a renowned cartoonist said that these oil paintings were vibrant in impression and they didn't only reveal the beautiful architecture of these gates but also the energetic life around these gates.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU said that every single gate of Old Lahore had its own history and significance. He further added that this show was a contribution to promote and save the majestic heritage of Lahore in form of paintings but unfortunately most of the young generation even know the names of all these 13 gates.

Mr. Erfan Ullah Babar, Chairperson GCU Fine Arts Department said that Mohiuddin was virtuoso on oil painting techniques and his short, thick strokes of paint swiftly capture the soul of the subject, rather than its details. "Colours are applied side-by-side with as little mixing as possible, as used by the impressionist,".

Talking about his artwork, Munawar Mohiuddin said that he has been living in Lahore for the last 30 years and the walled city and its architecture fascinated him more than anything else. He mentioned that heritage had a language of its own, and it communicates with the observer. He had researched for many years to reach at the conclusion about the real architecture of these gates.

PHEC, GCU Launch Int'l Split PhD Scholarship Program

The Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) and Government College University (GCU) Lahore have launched the International Split PhD Scholarship Program for the faculty of public sector colleges and universities of Punjab. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin, Chairman, PHEC and Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the Arfa Software Technology Park regarding the funding, eligibility criteria and other initial standard operating procedures for the scholarship Program.

According to the Split PhD program, the selected teachers would spend a year at the leading foreign universities for their research work, which includes expenses like admissions fee, stipend, book allowance, medical, travelling cost and settlement allowances etc. However, the PhD scholars would complete their two years course work at GCU Lahore, where foreign faculty would be also be invited for conducting workshops under the said program.

According to the accord, the PHEC would initially provide six scholarships of worth Rs. 28.92 million for the year 2017-18 for the launching of a pilot Split PhD Scholarship Program in the fields Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities. The GCU Lahore would advertise the Program and would process the admissions. However, a joint selection committee comprising representatives of GCU and PHEC will shortlist the candidates based on the approved criteria.

On the occasion, Prof. Nizamuddin said that the scholarship program aimed to maximize the opportunities for higher learning and research for the teachers of public sector higher education institutions. The PHEC intended to scale up the program with GCU next year and was also planning to extend it to other universities of Punjab in next phase to meet the shortage of qualified PhD faculty especially in the fields of social Sciences and Arts in the colleges and universities of Punjab.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah said that the International Split PhD Scholarship Program would help in refining the research culture at local universities. He mentioned that the faculty members would get an opportunity to study at top-ranked universities and would be engaged in research activities with foreign and local experts. The Vice Chancellor stated that Prof. Dr. Tahir Kamran, Dean Faculty of Social Sciences GCU and Mr. Muhammad Anees Sadozia, DG (Quality Assurance) PHEC are appointed as the focal persons to ensure the smooth and timely implementation of the programme.

Ms. Fouzia Shahin, Director Academic Planning and External Links said that the eligibility criteria for scholarship had been defined in the MoU, according to which applicant must be less than 45 years of age and a regular faculty member of any higher education institution in Punjab having minimum 3.0 CGPA in MS/MPhil Degree Program.

International Thalassemia Day

The Blood Donor Donation Society (BDS) of the Government College University arranged an awareness walk to mark the International Thalassemia Day. Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor and Prof. Dr. Iqbal Shahid, Dean Faculty of Languages, Islamic and Oriental Learning led the walk which was attended by a large number students and faculty members. The students carried banners and placards with messages spreading awareness about thalassemia and its treatment. These banners and placards were signed by the students and faculty members. The Vice Chancellor said that GCU student societies played very active role in raising awareness in the society about different chronic diseases.



GCU Stages Life of Galileo

The Dramatics Club of Government College University Lahore (GCU DC) this year presented Brecht's play "Life of Galileo" at the Bukhari auditorium, which met with a loud applause by the city's literati, Old Ravians, students and faculty members. The action of the play was directed by Mariam Hassan Naqvi, president GCU DC under the guidance of eminent philosopher Prof. Mirza Ather Baig. The play followed the career of Italian philosopher Galileo Galilei who was tried by the Roman Catholic Church for promulgation of his scientific discoveries.

Prof. Baig, the writer of famous novel Ghulam Bagh. said that the play explored not only the convoluted psychodynamics of reason and faith in history but also at a different place tried to deconstruct the very idea of a hero. Prof. Baig mentioned that in an academic institution like GCU with its strong interdisciplinary leanings. These are some of the most difficult questions of great importance; who is right and who is wrong, or perhaps both are right: How to decide?

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU welcomed the revival of GC's age old tradition of staging intellectually stimulating English plays, saying that theatre was not only meant for entertainment, rather it had more important function i.e. to reform the society. He hoped all universities should play vital role for reviving culture of quality theatre in the country. The GC Dramatics Club was established in 1890's during the tenure of Prof. Bell as Principal of the College. In that period, the Club mostly staged scenes from Shakespearian plays. Gradually, it came into its own and produced legendary thespians and playwrights like Rafi Peer, Imtiaz Ali Taj, Zia Mohyeddin, Shoaib Hashmi, Naeem Tahir, Qayum Jojo, Asghar Nadeem Syed, among others.

The cast of the play included Shehar Bano, Abdullah Mohsin, Rahat ul Ain, Ali Nawaz, Eesha Raazia, Raiz Umer, Umair Khan, Amna Azamt, Hassan Firdous, Waqas Khan, Shahrukh Baig, Afaq Imran, Javaidan and Salman Sikander.



An Inspiring act of Generosity

Dr. Zahir Ahmed Siddiqi, 83-year-old eminent poet, writer and distinguished Professor of Persian language, has donated rupees one million to Government College University, Lahore Endowment Fund Trust (GCU-EFT) to initiate a perpetual golden scholarship in the name of his late father, "Molvi Shafique Ahmad Siddiqi". The scholarship would be given to a financially-challenged student of BA (Hons) Islamic Studies every year on merit.

Prof. Siddiqi, the author of more than 52 books that includes Pakistan's first Persian-to-Urdu Dictionary, handed over the donation cheque of his savings to Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU and Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt, Secretary GCU-EFT at graceful ceremony at the University's VC office. Last year, Prof. Siddiqi had donated Rs. five million to GCU-EFT for the scholarships of financially-challenged students. The professor had also announced donating his 28 Kila land to GCU. He said that the money would be transferred to the GCU-EFT after the sale of land which values more than Rs. 140 million.

The Vice Chancellor said that the "inspiring" Dr. Zahir Ahmed Siddiqi having more than 52-year meritorious services in research, administration, and teaching for GCU, had also been donating all his salary to the GCU Endowment Trust for long to pay the fee of deserving students who could not afford their academic expenses. He mentioned that Prof. Siddiqi has set a precedence which he hoped, "other would also follow." Dr. Zahir said that "this wealth belongs to the Almighty Allah and he is returning it to Him."

Dr. Khalid Butt said that GCU was the only public sector university in Pakistan to have an active endowment fund trust, which offers scholarships of more than Rs. 25 million to deserving students every year.

Seminar on "LAHORE: Past and Present"

Speakers at the seminar laid a stress on preserving and promoting both the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of the City. "The recent studies on Lahore stress the need for questioning the colonial representation of the city's past and the process of 'modernisation'," said the eminent historian and writer Prof. Dr. Tahir Kamran. The seminar was organized by the Department of History in collaboration with the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC). It was aimed at exploring the multiple ways of seeing the city by interrogating stereo-types generated as a result of political, social, cultural and religious biases and misrepresentations regarding history and culture of Lahore.

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin, Chairperson - Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) chaired the inaugural session which was also marked by the launch and deliberations upon "Lahore in the Time of the Raj", a book by Prof. Ian Talbot and Prof. Tahir Kamran. Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU unveiled the book. Prof. Kamran, Dean Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences GCU and former Iqbal fellow at the University of Cambridge said that dawn of modernity has given a new turn to pre-colonial and colonial globalized world of the City. The walled city was considered "inward-looking", medieval, illiterate, uncivilized, while the newly developed areas in colonial Lahore, such as Model Town, Defence and Civil Lines, were considered "outward-looking", modern, literate and civilized. "We also see such representation of Lahore in official documents, memoirs and tourist guides; he added.

Ali Usman Qasmi, historian, writer and assistant professor at IJMS, also showed his concerns, saying that "we need to discuss the logic of this new liberal model of development which is going to alter the city again, and we would not be able to retrieve what we are losing in terms of our cultural heritage". Mr. Qasmi said he was not only concerned about the physical elimination of their cultural heritage also at how things were intentionally eliminated from their minds.

Talking about Prof. Kamran's book, Prof. Dr. Nizamuddin said that Dr. Kamran had wonderfully preserved the social, political and cultural history of Lahore. He mentioned that Government College University Lahore had historically played a key role in promoting peace and tolerance in the society. He suggested that strong student societies system of GCU was needed to be replicated in other educational institutions as well. Prof. Nizamuddin stated that PHEC would fully fund the intellectual debates in the provincial universities on different issues.

The Vice Chancellor GCU said that intellectual debates in academic institutions played key role in social development of the society. He stated that major objective of the seminar was to re-examine the stereotypes and assumptions conjured by meta-narratives of the colonial and post-colonial scholarships.

Noted historian including Prof. Mohammad Waseem, Dr. Shahid Imtiaz, Mr. Iqbal Qaisar, Dr. Umber Bin Ibad and Mushtaq Soofi also addressed at the seminar.



Consultative Workshop on updating Curricula

A consultative workshop was held at the Government College University Lahore in collaboration with Ministry of Climate Change, United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the university's Environment Protection Society (EPS). The workshop was organized to devise strategies, provide recommendations to integrate concepts, principles and values of sustainable consumption, production in tertiary education curricula and raising the awareness among faculty members of tertiary educational institutions.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor chaired the inaugural session of the workshop attended by head of departments and faculty members of various disciplines from GC University Lahore, International Islamic University, Lahore College for Women University, Kinnaird College for Women University and Punjab Environment Protection Department. The Vice Chancellor said that there was a dire need to update the curricula and integrate the concepts of sustainable consumption and production in various disciplines like Pakistan studies and Islamic studies where the students were taught same topics year

A consultative workshop was held at the Government College University Lahore in collaboration with Ministry of Climate Change, United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the university's Environment Protection Society (EPS). The workshop was organized to devise strategies, provide recommendations, to integrate concepts, principles and values of sustainable consumption, production in tertiary education curricula and raising the awareness among faculty members of tertiary educational institutions.

In key note address, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Irfan Khan, Consultant UNEF said that Ministry of Climate Change with support from Switch-Asia Program of European Union and technical assistance from Asia-Pacific Regional Office of UNEF had launched a sustainable consumption and production program. For development of a National Action Plan for Sustainable consumption and Production, a countrywide consultative process has been initiated by holding such workshops and this is the first workshop in the series at GCU.

Prof. Dr. Tahir Kamran, Dean Faculty of Social Sciences GCU stressed on the need of developing civic culture in the students and emphasized that academia should play in achieving this goal.

All Pakistan Tech & Art Festival Organized at GCU

A three-day All Pakistan Technology and Art Festival 2017 (APTA' 17) was organized by Department of Computer Science at GCU. The festival was endeavoured to provide a platform to students from across Pakistan to exhibit their innovative ideas, share knowledge and reveal their creativities. About 350 students and more than 15 educational institutions including, FAST, Punjab University, Kinnaird College, Virtual University, FCC University, Lahore College for women University and UMT participated. A total of 17 competitions held including Coding, Project Development, Graphic Designing, Calligraphy Typography, E-Gaming Championship, Scavenger Hunt, Concept Machine and Sky Lanterns etc. A one-minute Talent Hunt was also part of the grand festival.

Prof. Dr. Naveed A. Malik, Rector Virtual University graced the inaugural ceremony as a chief guest and key note speaker of the event. Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah Vice chancellor GCU, Moaz Athar motivational speaker and Dr. Asad Raza Kazmi Incharge GCU DCS also addressed the audience. Dr. Naveed Malik stated that the digital technologies had revolutionised all industries in the world including education. It's high time that all universities in Pakistan should also digitalise their examination systems as done by VU and provide their full cooperation to GCU if needed.



Mian Asad Bashir Donates Rupees One Million to GCU Endowment Fund

An eminent businessman, Mian Asad Bashir donated rupees one million to the Government College University Lahore Endowment Fund Trust (GCU-EFT) for initiating a perpetual golden scholarship for the financially-challenged students. The scholarship would be given to one deserving student every year on merit basis and would cover the university fee as well as the hostel expenses. Mian Asad Bashir handed over the donation cheque to Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor at graceful ceremony at GCU in presence of Prof. Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt, GCU EFT Executive Committee Secretary.



GCU Job Fair Receives Overwhelming Response



A job fair at Government College University Lahore received an overwhelming response as thousands of university graduates and final year students flocked to one-day fair at the University's Bukhari Auditorium. The objective of the Job fair was to explore the employment and internship opportunities for GCU students in leading national and multinational organizations. Mr. Jamshed Iqbal Cheema, a reputed businessman, inaugurated the GCU Job Fair 2017 which was organized by the university's Career Guidance and Placement Centre under the umbrella of Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC).



About 32 noted organizations including, IT firms, NGOs, private hospitals, manufactures, textile industry, shoe industry and ecommerce websites set up their stalls at the Job Fair and offered more than 500 internships and permanent placement opportunities to the university's students and graduates. The stalls of ecommerce websites and clothing brands remained the centre of attraction at the Fair. The companies conducted on-campus interviews and short-listed candidates for different positions.



On the occasion, Ms. Iram Sohail, Director, Quality Enhancement Cell said students are reflection of the institutions they attend, so they had invited the companies who could themselves witness the academic environment of GCU, and assess the potential of the students. She mentioned that such job fairs fast track the placements of students in the reputed organizations.



Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU said that such job fairs played crucial role in bridging the gap between the universities and industry, and also helped them understanding modern market demands. He said that academic environment and ethos of GCU concentrated on overall grooming, confidence-building and personality development of students which was the reason that the reputed companies preferred GCU students.

Talking to media, Mr. Mubasher Hassan, Placement Officer GCU was hopeful that more than one hundred students of last semester would secure permanent job placements from this job fair. Mr. Saboor Khan, Registrar GCU also visited stalls of all companies and discussed with the company executives about their recruitment policies and criteria. Later, the Vice Chancellor gave away certificates to the representatives of the companies participated in the job fair.

GCU Celebrates Biological Diversity Day

The Government College University Lahore and Environment Protection Society (GCU-EPS) celebrated the International Day for Biological Diversity in collaboration with World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF-Pakistan). The objective was to increase the understanding and awareness among students about biodiversity issues. The celebrations were marked by different activities including an awareness walk and seminar on biodiversity issues.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor GCU inaugurated the day-long celebrations releasing the house sparrows to highlight the importance of free flight of birds and also as a symbol of their declining numbers.

Dr. Faiza Sharif, Advisor GCU-EPS said that biodiversity at the level of species and ecosystems provides an important foundation for many aspects of tourism.



Al-Baraka Bank Donates Rupees One Million to GCU Endowment Fund

A private bank (Al Baraka Bank) donated rupees one million to Government College University Lahore Endowment Fund Trust for initiating scholarship for the university's financially-challenged students. Mr. Shafqaat Ahmed, Chief Executive Officer of the bank, handed over the donation cheque to Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor at a graceful ceremony at GCU Syndicate Committee Room. Prof. Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt, GCU-EFT Executive Committee Secretary, Tariq Hameed former Chairman WAPDA, Mian Muzaffar Ali former President LCCI, and Mian Ashraf and Mr Javed Oberoi noted businessmen were also present in the ceremony.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor expressed gratitude to the bank's CEO for their first donation to the endowment fund and appreciated that leading banks in Pakistan had a realization towards their corporate social responsibility. He mentioned that different banks had initiated perpetual golden scholarships in their names for the university's financially-challenged students.



Prof. Ikram Ul Haq Appointed as "Distinguished National Professor"

The Higher Education Commission bestowed the prestigious position of "Distinguished National Professor" upon the eminent biologist Prof. Dr. Ikram ul Haq, SI in recognition of his invaluable services and research in the fields of botany and biotechnology. Prof. Haq is currently Professor Emirates at GC University Lahore. Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah the Vice Chancellor congratulated Prof. Ikram ul Haq on his appointment at the prestigious position, saying that he was the first from GCU to be appointed on this position which was initiated last year by the HEC.

GCU EFT Awards Scholarships to 447 Deserving Students

The Old Ravians and philanthropists have donated about Rs. 15.7 million to Government College University Lahore Endowment Fund Trust (GCU-EFT) at the Annual Scholarship Distribution and Fundraising Dinner 2017. The scholarships will be distributed among the university's financially-challenged students. Eminent nuclear scientist Dr. Samar Mubarakmand was the chief guest at the ceremony where the donors were invited to personally meet the students who were benefited from their donations.

Mr. Iqbal Ahmed, Executive Committee President GCU-EFT said that the fund had swelled to Rs. 340 million and the target was to raise to rupees one billion by 2020 so that all financially-challenged students get the scholarships. He mentioned that more than 2000 students apply to the trust for the scholarships every year.

Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, the Vice Chancellor appreciated the untiring efforts of the GCU-EFT executive committee. He asked the scholarships recipients that these GCU-EFT executive committee members should be their role models who are successful in their lives and are now paying back the debt of their alma mater by supporting its students who could not afford their academic expenses.

Dr. Samar Mubarakmand expressed pleasure that Old Ravians are contributing towards continuation of education among the younger generation, and this is a biggest virtue by the definition of the Holy Quran. He said that GCU Endowment Fund was a role model for other educational institutions as well.

Later, inspired by the transparency and credentials of the scholarships' recipients, the Old Ravians including Khawar M. Butt, Dr. Safdar Malik, Main Asad Bashir, Dr. Zaheer Ahmed Siddique, Javaid Oberia, Mr. Aftab Iqbal, Ahsan Saeed Mian, Dr Sarfraz Khalid and few private banks gave away donations to the trust at the dinner.

Dr. Shumaila Seemi Malik Donates Rupees One Million to GCU Endowment Fund

Dr. Shumaila Seemi Malik, an eminent professor of radiology at Services Institute of Medical Sciences Lahore donated an amount of rupees one million to the Government College University Lahore Endowment Fund Trust (GCU-EFT). The donation will be used for initiating two perpetual scholarships in the name of her parents, Muhammad Bashir Malik and Ghulam Aisha Malik. The silver scholarships would be given to the two financially-challenged students of GCU every year on merit and would cover their university dues.