

IBA NEWS

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STUDENT SERVICES TRAININGS HELD AT THE IBA UNDER USAID



A four-day training was organized by **USAID** Pakistan's Higher Education System Strengthening Activity (HESSA) on 'Student Support Services: Mental Health and Microenterprise Development', hosted at the IBA.

The training included participants from **16 partner universities**. With a focus on mental health and microenterprise development (MED), the participants learned about micro-counseling skills, career counseling, student mental health, and understanding and working with trauma.

Dr. Kari Trexler Ellingson, who served as the Associate Vice President for Student Development at the University of Utah for 20 years was the lead trainer for the mental health stream, while the MED stream was led by Islam M. Orban, Chief Investment Officer at Arweqah, KSA.

Those in the MED stream delved into identifying best practices in university-based incubator design, crafting a winning incubator roadmap, and developing ecosystem support interventions that support incubation centers at higher education institutions.

Dr. Kenneth Holland, Chief of Party USAID-HESSA, and Gwendolyn Schaefer, Assistant Director, Institute of International Education, U.S. distributed certificates to all the participants.

The USAID's HESSA training hosted by IBA, stands as a testament to collaborative efforts in advancing the quality and effectiveness of higher education services across diverse institutions.



'Celebrating Failure in Leadership' was a panel session at the assembly which featured panelists including Junaid Zuberi, CEO, NAPA and Dr. Asad Mian, former Chair and Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, Aga Khan University, and moderated by Dr. Ayesha Mian, Founder and CEO, Synapse, Pakistan Neuroscience Institute.

The **Tabeer** journey concluded with the last large assembly on '**Creative Leadership**' which focused on the importance of learning to take risks, not fearing failures, being open to criticism, listening, adapting, and valuing lived experiences.

The keynote speaker, Unjela Kaleem, Principal, International Development and Humanitarian Assistance, Miyamoto International, shared with the audience the two key ingredients for creative leadership – storytelling and strategic communications.



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FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE



Leaders, innovators and changemakers came together at the **IBA Leaders Connect** showcasing their dedication to advancing higher education and enabling the youth to achieve brighter futures.

In his captivating keynote address, Hussain Dawood, Chairman, Dawood Hercules Corporation and Engro Corporation, underlined the importance of human development based on the values of Character and Good Manners (CGM). To achieve self-actualization and lasting success, he urged the audience to prioritize character building by always upholding the principles of truthfulness, trust, humility, integrity and striving in times of hardship (TTHIS).

Dr. Shakeel Khoja, Dean, SMCS, delivered the opening remarks, and Malahat Awan, Director, Alumni Affairs, Resource Mobilization & Corporate Relations presented IBA's impact and opportunities for partnership.

11TH DEANS AND DIRECTORS CONFERENCE ON NAVIGATING DISRUPTION AND INNOVATION IN BUSINESS EDUCATION



Through stimulating conversations, insightful presentations, and engaging workshops, VCs, Deans and Directors, thought leaders, educators, and industry experts from across the country convened for the **11th Deans and Directors Conference 2024** on 'Navigating Disruption and Innovation in Business Education', which focused on the future of business education in the face of rapidly advancing technology and evolving industry landscapes.

The two-day Conference was hosted by the National Business Education Accreditation Council (NBEAC-HEC) with IBA as the Exclusive Partner of the event.

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NCEAC's inspection team visited IBA - IBA welcomed the National Computing Education Accreditation Council (NCEAC) Inspection Team, emphasizing their strong commitment to academic excellence, particularly for the BS Computer Science program. Meetings with the Executive Director, Computer Science Chairperson, Dean SMCS, Director QEC, and faculty members were held during the visit. Program objectives, curricula, faculty, students, infrastructure, and alumni were all reviewed in detail in the presentations. By interacting with Computer Science students, the inspection team witnessed firsthand the active academic community at IBA.

Town Hall with the Executive Director - The HR Department invited students and staff to a Town Hall with Dr. S Akbar Zaidi, Executive Director, IBA, where they had a candid discussion with him to help make IBA a better workplace and an institute for all.

Interactive discourses at the Karachi Literature Festival - At the 15th Karachi Literature Festival, our faculty members engaged in thought-provoking discussions.

Training sessions for IBA staff - IBA's HR believes in continuous learning for all the employees. In February, 45 participants received trainings in the following courses:

- Effective Communication Skills - Level I
- Personal Grooming & Effective Communication
- Basic Housekeeping Skills

Genocide and Settler Colonialism: The Case of Israel

SESS had the honour of hosting Dr. Joseph A. Massad, Professor of Modern Arab Politics and Intellectual History in the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies at Columbia University for a talk on the ongoing genocide of the Palestinians -- a defining moment for the world, leaving it more divided than ever.

SBS and IE Business School signed an MoU marking an important step towards academic collaboration and knowledge exchange. It symbolizes a commitment to academic excellence, research advancement, and global education. Dr. S Akbar Zaidi, Executive Director, IBA, and Dr. Abdullah Sheikh, Dean, SBS signed the MoU which will start a wide-ranging arrangement between the two organizations and lead to substantial collaboration between IE Business School and the IBA, including exchanges between students and faculty.

CICT organized an international conference on **ReCy:PHER, focusing on rethinking cybersecurity and human factors' essential role in a digitalized world**. ReCy:PHER aims to raise awareness on cybersecurity challenges, and create a course addressing the intersection of the cyber world and human factors. The conference featured discussions among partner universities moderated by Dr. Syed Irfan Nabi, Assistant Professor, IBA, covering topics such as incorporating cybersecurity into existing curricula.



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Rahima, a BS Economics student, made it to the 37 international finalists for the **McCall MacBain Scholarships**, Canada's largest leadership-based scholarships for master's and professional studies. She is one of the three finalists from Pakistan.

Our students Muhammad Usman Rasheed, Aisha Ishaq, Sidra Kamran, and Muhammad Umar made us proud by securing an honorable mention award in the Economics and Finance Committee at the **Harvard National Model United Nations** - the world's largest MUN conference! A special thanks to Sarah Mazhar, Patron of the Public Speaking Society, for supporting our student delegation.

The Department of Social Sciences and Liberal Arts launched **Timeless College Tales** by Dr. Nadya Chishty Mujahid, Associate Professor, SESS. The launch featured an engaging discussion with Dr. Chishty which was moderated by Dr. Anum Tariq, Assistant Professor, SESS.

The Social Sciences and Liberal Arts Department at SESS in collaboration with Urban Nerves screened a documentary '**Flyovers - Flying Over the Poor**' which was followed by a panel discussion. The documentary highlights how the Gizri, Bacha Khan, and Naya Nazimabad flyovers, which were built to facilitate the commercial interests of private builders and interest groups, have ruined the environment, the social and economic fabric, as well as the landscape of the local area.

The Population Research Centre at SESS hosted a webinar on **Global Demographic and Human Capital Futures: The Case of Pakistan** featuring Dr. Anne Goujon, the Population and Just Societies Program Director at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis with Maria Hassan, Assistant Professor, SESS, as the moderator. The focus of the webinar was a global update on population dynamics, with a specific emphasis on Pakistan, where the fertility transition has been slower than anticipated. The webinar provided valuable insights into the implications of population trends on age and education structures in Pakistan. The session attracted a diverse audience, including students, faculty, and research scholars from government departments and private organizations.

The Department of Mathematical Sciences at SMCS, hosted its first seminar on 'Simplicity I' under the banner of **Basic Notions Seminar Series** featuring Dr. Babar Ahmed Qureshi, Professor, SMCS, as the speaker.

For the SMCS **MS Project Poster Presentation**, 21 students from the MS Computer Science and Data Science programs showcased their projects in various industrial domains, including Finance, Islamic Banking, IoT, Blockchain, Energy, Text Analytics and RPA, which were evaluated by senior industry experts.



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SMCS and CXO Media organized an event titled '**iSec Grey'24**' where students had a chance to interact with leads from different organizations working in risk, security, human resources, finance, and technology. The event included panel discussions and a digitalization roadshow led by Saiyed Shahab Ahmed, Visiting Faculty IBA and CDE PARCO.

The panel discussions on '**Innovations in Cyber Security: Trends and Future Directions**' and '**Cyber Security in the Age of Automation and AI**' offered insights into security threats and solutions, a roadmap for students aspiring to build a career in fields like cyber security, information security, and OT security, as well as tangible steps that industry leaders can take to bridge gaps with academia alongside exploring the integration of AI in the Cyber Security landscape concerning industry-academia linkages, offensive/defensive security, skills in demand, and the ethical, security, and economic impact on cyber security.

It rained medals for our students at the **16th Annual Karachi Boat Club Rowing International Inter-School Regatta 2024** where the team bagged 9 medals (6 golds, 2 silvers, and 1 bronze) in the U25 Men's and Women's categories in indoor and outdoor rowing!

Pakistan's clogged court system, with lengthy case resolutions, has found a potential remedy in mediation. This swift and more accessible alternative could reduce the backlog and improve justice delivery. Expanding this approach, IBA delegates and senior officials from Pakistan attended a '**Mediation Skills Assessment & Accreditation**' training program at the **Singapore International Mediation Centre (SIMC)**. Organized with the support of the Commercial Law Development Program, this immersive training initiative aimed to equip participants with advanced mediation techniques while fostering international collaboration in dispute resolution.

It brought together a diverse group of participants, including senior judges from Lahore and Islamabad High Court, lawyers, judiciary members, PSX and SECP representatives, in-house counsels, independent lawyers, academics and members from IBA and IBA-CEE.

IBA-CDC organized the **Road to U.S. Graduate School Information Session**. Omer Bashir, Educational Advisor from the Education USA Karachi team, advised students about applying to the U.S. for a graduate or postgraduate degree.

Over 20 universities from the UK and Australia guided the students for their academic journeys at the **Study Abroad Fair** organized by the IBA-CDC in collaboration with IDP Pakistan.



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FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE



The Social Inequality Lab organized its second **book talk** on **“Visions of Inequality; From French Revolution to the end of Cold War”** by Branko Milanovic. The talk featured Adnan Ahmad as the discussant with Dr. Faiz ur Rehman as the moderator. The discussion explored the evolution of inequality and income distribution from the perspective of different philosophers.

The Marketing team hosted a **‘Craft Your Legacy’** session for students from Beaconhouse College Harbor Front Campus, Army Public School and College Saddar, Karachi, Behbud College and the Aga Khan Higher Secondary School featuring Hamza Abdul Rauf and Akbar Raza as the guest speakers.

Hamza, Co-founder of Telemart and an IBA alum, and Akbar, Managing Partner of RAS Group, Founder of Reatless, and a current MBA student at IBA, shared their IBA experience and how that has shaped their journeys. Talking about how one’s network is their net worth, the guest speakers emphasized the power of connections made at the IBA!

CED's IVENTURE Round 3 was an exhibition featuring innovative ventures of our talented students showcasing the entrepreneurial spirit thriving within our student community.

FEBRUARY AT A GLANCE



Cosplayers bring IBA's first ever Anime & Comic Con come to life - The IBA Anime and Comic Convention (IBACON) brought together enthusiasts of anime, comics, pop culture, and gaming for a day of immersive entertainment and interaction. The event provided a platform for all the participants to explore various aspects of the anime and comic world, engage with artists and creators, participate in competitions, and enjoy stage performances.



Last but not the least, we are one of the proud winners of the **K-Electric KHI Awards** in the '**Uplifting Communities**' category! The award was given due to the numerous scholarships and initiatives at IBA where student scholarships enable our young scholars to uplift themselves and their families by pursuing quality higher education and gainful employment upon their graduation. Ms. Asma Inayat, Head of Marketing & Communications, and Mr. Burhan Allah Saiyed, Senior Manager of Alumni Affairs & Resource Mobilization, received the award on behalf of IBA Karachi.

IBA Karachi is committed to ensuring deserving students receive the help they need to continue their studies and are not denied any opportunity due to their social or financial standing in society. IBA Karachi is the only university that won in any category. This is a testament to our dedication in providing quality education to the leaders of tomorrow!