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EDITORIAL

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As the year 2006 was drawing to its close, Balochistan University of Information Technology & Management Sciences witnessed a colossal change in the higher administrative set-up as Dr. Muhammad Abbas Choudhary_ the founder Vice Chancellor of BUITMS said good bye to the institution. During his tenure as the Vice Chancellor, the varsity witnessed vast expansion and rapid developments in every aspect. Within a short span of four years the strength of students touched three thousand mark which is a great achievement. Apart from increase in the number of pupils, the physical development in the institution was also tremendous. Expo Centre at Takatu Campus, modern electronic labs and a third floor at the City Campus speak volumes about his future vision. His dynamic personality and able leadership led the University to have linkages with several renowned universities of Europe, USA, Iran and Australia for scholars exchange. The very first batch of ten scholars in this regard has already made its way to Glasgow University, UK. On the completion of their program of study, these scholars will turn into valuable assets not only for the University but also for the whole nation.

Academic growth of the students as well as the Faculty remained his top priority_ several new programs of study were launched and new departments were inducted into the Varsity. Students were encouraged to work harder as their hard work would not only earn them a better future but they would get scholarship from the University as well. In this connection an MoU was also signed with Khushhali Bank Pakistan which takes the responsibility of financing 10 hardworking students of the Faculty of Management Sciences. Apart from this incentive, frequent educational visits to different parts of the country were also arranged for the students and that is important for the enhancement of knowledge. In short, he left no stone unturned in upbringing the newly established university on modern grounds.

The caravan of people keeps on marching forward, the need is of firm policies which keep the institution on the track of success and glory. It is hoped that the institution maintains the tradition of yielding brilliant results as it was during the tenure of Dr. Muhammad Abbas Choudhary as the founding Vice Chancellor.



Farewell to Dr. Abbas Choudhary

Report by: Prof. Sultan Mahmood Niazi,
Director Languages

The sudden exit of Dr. Muhammad Abbas Choudhary from the top administrative setup of the Balochistan University of Information Technology & Management Sciences was an event marked by grave sense of loss and disbelief. The members of the administration and various faculties found it hard to digest the reality that they were bereft of the continuous patron-ship and guidance of a person, who had become an inbuilt part of the institution.



Dr. Abbas Choudhary with Dean & Teaching staff of the Faculty of Biotechnology & Informatics

He was the founder Vice Chancellor of the Balochistan University of Information Technology & Management Sciences and he was instrumental in the development of the University from its embryonic stage to the state of fruitful productivity. Under his guidance and supervision, so many development schemes and projects had been initiated at such a fast pace that the journey to institutional distinction which takes decades to accomplish had completed within four years. But his constructive capabilities caught the eyes of the high-ups at the national level and he was entrusted with the responsibility of founding an International Engineering University in another part of the country.

With this sense of gratitude and loss, the administrative staff and teaching faculty of the Balochistan University of Information Technology & Management Sciences decided to give a befitting farewell to Dr. Abbas Choudhary. A dinner was arranged at Killa Saifullah Hall of Hotel Serena, Quetta on 12th of January, 2006 to mark the occasion.



Dr. Abbas with Secretaries, Deans & Chairmen

The function started with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Dr. Shoukat Iqbal. Thereafter, Mr. Ali Zaman, Student Affairs Coordinator, highlighted the contributions of Dr. Abbas Choudhary to the institution. He found it hard to reconcile to the reality that Dr. Abbas Choudhary would no longer be with us. He paid glowing tributes to him for setting a high example of hard-work and dedication. Dr. M. A. K. Malghani, the officiating Vice Chancellor and Dean Faculty of Biotechnology started his speech with the expression of heart felt gratitude to Dr. Muhammad Abbas Choudhary for the unforgettable leadership provided to the team. He said that Dr. Choudhary had established the University on such stable foundations that it would continue to grow under its own impetus. Dr. Choudhary had proved to be an affectionate patron with expectations of high ideals from his colleagues. He prayed that Dr. Choudhary may find success and happiness wherever he may work.



Mr. Ayub Baloch expressing his feelings

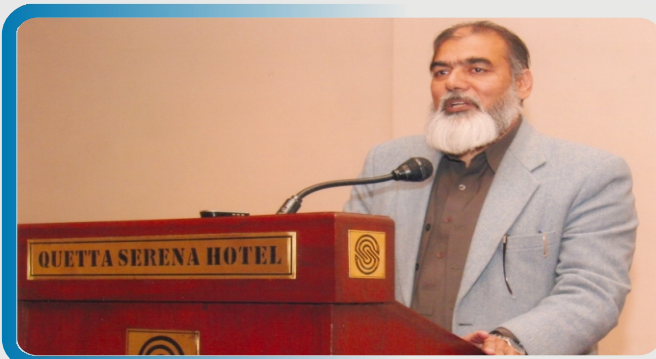
Mr. Ayub Baloch, Secretary Culture and Archives, G. O. B. recounted the first day when he himself, Dr. Abbas Choudhary and Governor Balochistan, Justice (R) Amir-ul-Mulk Mengal sat together chalking out the blue prints of the new university. It was the good luck and privilege of the province of Balochistan that Dr. Abbas Choudhary hand joined hands in their efforts to alter the academic landscape of Balochistan; and he had set to work whole heartedly



from day one and kept on pursuing his ideal of achieving supremacy in the task assigned to him. He expressed his satisfaction at the quality and magnitude of achievements of Dr. Choudhary. He expressed the hope that Dr. Choudhary would some day come back to Balochistan with the determination of starting some other quality institution at some other part of the province. Dr. Choudhary was leaving us at the peak of his performance when his capacity of industrious input was enviably rich and ripe. In his peculiar soft but scholarly style Mr. Ayub Baloch concluded his address with a Dutch proverb meaning that “He conducted himself very well”.

Dr. Muhammad Nawaz, Dean Faculty of Computer and Emerging Sciences, BUITMS, in his turn, eulogized the immense contribution made by Dr. Abbas to the emergence of BUITMS as a reputed and prestigious institution of top ranking in the province. He envied the untiring spirit with which Dr. Choudhary undertook and pursued various schemes and projects for development. According to him Dr. Choudhary had left indelible marks in the history of growth of the University and every nook and corner of the institution stood testimony to the zeal and zest, energy and strength of purpose of the outgoing Vice Chancellor.

Professor Barkat Ali, Chairman, Department of Management Sciences in his brief tribute said that it is difficult to be a human being but it is even more difficult to be an accomplished and admirable leader. The qualities of head and heart reflected in the person of Dr. Abbas Choudhary are much too high to find an easy parallel. He prayed that Allah Almighty might endow Dr. Choudhary with still greater energies.



Dr. Abbas Choudhary giving his parting address

Dr. Abbas Choudhary in his address detailed the history of his career as the founder Vice Chancellor, BUITMS. He had the satisfaction of leaving honorably and was indebted to the warmth and

respect shown by his sincerity of purpose of those who were among the pioneer planners of establishing the Balochistan University of Information Technology & Management Sciences. The ground work done by people like Dr. Atta-ur-Rehman, Mrs. Zubaida Jalal, Mr. Muhammad Ayub Baloch, Mr. Dostain Jamaldini and other quiet contributors was the outcome of sincerity of purpose of such people. The four years spent by him at the University were the most gratifying and enjoyable period of his life, free of tensions and worries. He thanked all his colleagues for their whole-hearted support and cooperation in his endeavors.



A general view of the farewell function

The formal part of the ceremony was followed by dinner and rendering of songs and ghazals by an amateur artist belonging to the bankers community.

The 13th of January, 2007 was the day of parting. The administration section of BUITMS arranged a function in the auditorium where Mr. Qadeem Kakar conducted the ceremony.



Female staff with the outgoing VC

Dr. M. A. K. Malghani, the officiating Vice Chancellor, Prof. Shamim Akhtar, Dean Faculty of Management Sciences, Mr. Muhammad Azam Baloch, Registrar paid rich tributes to Dr. Muhammad Abbas Choudhary, who in return, appreciated the efforts made by all his colleagues in making his tenure as Vice Chancellor a memorable one.

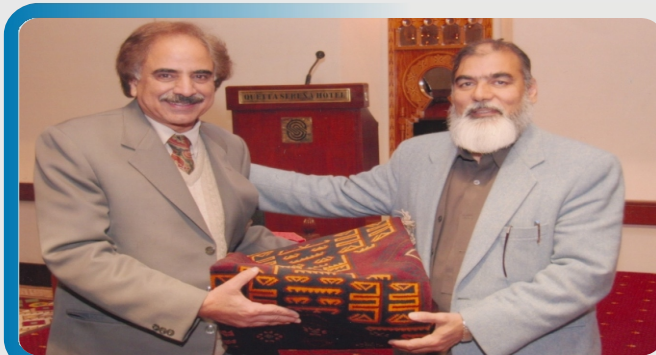


Dr. Choudhary distributed letters of his personal regards to some of his colleagues who had been 'close to his heart'.



Dr. Dostain Jamaldini receiving letter of appreciation from Dr. Abbas Choudhary

The function was followed by a luncheon arranged by the administrative staff of BUITMS and presents were offered to the outgoing Vice Chancellor.



Dr. M. A. K. Malghani presenting the souvenir

Workshop on Solar Energy

Report by: Engr. Imran Ahmed
Regional Incharge AEDB

A two days workshop was organized by the Alternative Energy Development Board (AEDB) in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the German collaboration (GTZ) on 18 and 19 January 2007 in the Centre of Excellence for Renewable Energy and Environment, BUITMS.



Workshop participants in the opening session

Alternative Energy Development Board in collaboration with the Irrigation and Power Department, Government of Balochistan and the Renewable Energy Department, Government of Sindh has launched an ambitious programme of rural electrification through solar home systems. 400 villages in Balochistan and Sindh will be electrified in a first phase.

The purpose of the workshop was to develop the curriculum for the technical training to be dispensed to installers and operators of solar home systems and operators of solar water pumping system.

The workshop was attended by selected teachers of technical training institutes of Balochistan and Sindh, and representatives of the provincial and federal government and private entrepreneur.

The inaugural session started with recitation from Holy Quran followed by the welcome address by Dr. M.A.K Malghani, the officiating Vice Chancellor, BUITMS. In his address he welcomed the chief guest and all participants on behalf of the Centre of Excellence in Renewable Energy and Environment, BUITMS. He said that BUITMS has taken the lead in Balochistan in building a resource centre for renewable energy in the province by inaugurating the Centre of Excellence for Renewable Energy and Environment together with the Honourable Governor Balochistan, Chancellor of our University and the Chairman AEDB.

He said that this workshop is a good opportunity to renew the commitment of the Balochistan University of Information Technologies and Management Sciences towards the development of renewable energy in the province and offered the collaboration of CEREE for the next trainings to take place in the framework of the solar rural electrification programme.



MD BIDA, reading speech on behalf of the Chief Guest



His speech was followed by the address by chief guest. MD BEDA read the speech of Secretary Irrigation and Power on his behalf as he could not come due to eleventh hour commitments. In his speech he thanked UNESCO, GTZ, BUITMS and the Alternative Energy Development Board for organising such an event and ensure them the full support of the Irrigation and Power Department. He said that I&PD have been collaborating with the Alternative Energy Development Board to develop the solar rural electrification strategy. In the next 30 months, 300 villages are to be electrified in Balochistan and 100 in Sindh. He said that one local operator per village will be in charge of the operation and maintenance of systems. However, solar rural electrification is a new technology in the province and no technical training institute is yet teaching the specific skills needed for installing and operating Solar Home Systems. The development of a specific curriculum is thus an indispensable and first step towards manpower development. He also emphasized the interest of I&PD in developing a certificate level course for local technicians involved in solar home systems with all possible support to complete this task.

After the speech of the chief guest, a presentation on project details was made by senior officer incharge of Balochistan Projects in AEDB, Mr. Qamaruddin.

He said that Rural electrification project is part of the national ROSHAN electrification initiative launched by the Government of Pakistan. Its target is to electrify 6968 villages in Balochistan and Sindh through renewable energy. As rural Balochistan and Sindh have highly scattered population, renewable energy technology offers a least cost and reliable energy supply option. The first phase of the project is targeting 300 villages in Balochistan and 100 villages in Sindh and has been approved by the Planning Commission, will be funded through the federal budget funding (PSDP) from the budget earmarked for electrification "Roshan Pakistan".

The Alternative Energy Development Board [AEDB] is responsible for the overall planning and implementation of the project. The Government of Balochistan (Irrigation and Power Department) and Government of Sindh (Renewable Energy Department) are highly involved in the project, mainly in site identification and on site implementation as well as operation and maintenance. Private companies will be involved in user information, training of operators, supply and

installation of systems and operation and maintenance of systems for one year after installation. GTZ has been providing support to AEDB in developing the strategy. UNESCO is supporting AEDB in developing the training strategy.

Individual households will be electrified with PV Solar Home Systems of different size. The Federal Government will subsidize the capital investment according to criteria including number of household members and number of rooms. The fees are proportional to the system capacities. The user can choose between systems and can get larger capacity systems by self-financing the cost difference.

The expected benefits of the project include: access to lighting and information; access to safe drinking water; increase in available time for activities (additional hours at night, less time to fetch water); improved health conditions; and integration into national mainstream and access to technology.



Dr. Nauman of AEDB giving his views

As of now, access to energy is very limited in remote areas of Balochistan and Sindh. A detailed baseline survey will help identify the demand for energy, potential productive and social uses of energy services, ability and willingness to pay of future users. Users will pay for energy services and not for energy systems (fee for service). The Government of Pakistan will provide the initial investment. Energy fees will cover the costs for operation and maintenance of systems.

Operation and maintenance is challenging because of the very scattered pattern of population distribution and the poorly developed road network. Operation and maintenance would be done by operators based in villages and trained for this purpose. The local operators will be back-stopped by private companies and later by the provincial governments (Irrigation and Power Department and Renewable Energy Department respectively).



Private companies will provide energy services to users (user information, supply and installation of solar home systems, training of operators, operation and maintenance during the first year). Selection of private companies will be done through a tendering process. The tender documents were published in July 2006 and are available on-line at: <http://www.aedb.org>.

The Irrigation and Power Department, Government of Balochistan and the Renewable Energy Department, Government of Sindh will be in charge of Operation and Maintenance of systems after the first year.

Previous projects in Pakistan have shown that quality of systems and installation is of utmost importance to reach sustainability. Quality standards have been adopted for the project and a quality control procedure set up.

The project includes the provision of drinking water to targeted villages. A feasibility study will be conducted in each targeted village in order to make a participatory design of water supply schemes.



*Maj. Shahid of Trillium Pakistan,
Mr. Adnan of Akhter Solar and Mr. Abdul Hafiz
Abro, Principal TTC, Kotri*

The second session after tea started with the presentation of Mr Irfanuddin, Principal TTC, Quetta on present courses, programmes and facilities at the centre and also the possibilities of TTCs getting involved in the training. Maj. Shahid of Trillium Pakistan, a private company dealing in solar equipment, in his presentation, highlighted the available technology, the developing technology and their previous experiences and lessons learnt. He also highlighted the importance of training of operators for system sustainability.

After question and answer session, draft curriculum was presented by Mr. Saeed Kazmi of NUST consulting. He explained in detail the topic to be

covered, the time required for each topic and duration of the whole course, the time for theory and practical and testing and certification methodology.

The third session started after lunch. The participants were allowed to give their inputs on each and every aspect of the curricula presented by NUST consulting on the basis of their experiences and existing environment. Looking at the interest of the participants, and their valuable inputs, this session was continued next morning before the start of scheduled session.

Next morning in the first session, Mr. Adnan of Akhter Solar, a private company involved in manufacturing and supply of solar equipment in Pakistan, in his presentation highlighted some important training aspects focusing on behavioural and social aspects.



*Engr. Imran Ahmed, Regional Incharge,
AEDB Quetta, making his presentation*

After tea, Engr. Imran Ahmed, regional in-charge of Alternative Energy Development Board, made an interactive presentation for participant's input on training material, medium of instruction, equipment required and facilities available and required. All participants gave valuable inputs during this session.



*Mr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, Secretary Manpower
& Labour GoB, Air Cmdr.(R)Qamaruddin,
AEDB & Mr. Ashraf Aziz, Director Electricity,
Irrigation & Power Department
GoB at closing session*



The closing session started after lunch. Mr Mumtaz Khan, Secretary Manpower and Labour, Government of Balochistan was the chief guest at this occasion. Mr. Abdul Hafeez Abro, Principal TTC, Kotri, presented the results and outcomes of the workshop.



Mr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, Secretary manpower and Labour GoB and Mr. Ashraf Aziz, Director Electricity, Irrigation & Power Department, GoB visiting Renewable Energy Lab in CEREE

The chief guest in his closing speech praised the impressive results achieved during workshop and wished that the results will be soon translated into trainings resulting in professional energy service for the rural people in Sindh and Balochistan.



Group photo of the Workshop participants

He also praised the initiative, one of the first of this kind, to integrate technical training in the centre of a development project. This approach ensures that local manpower is enabled to take part of development initiatives in the province and ensures the sustainability of such intervention. Expressing his pleasure on close collaboration started between the Labour Department, the Alternative Energy Development Board and the Irrigation and Power Department, he extended full support to this new initiative and inclusion of curriculum to be developed as an outcome of the workshop in the existing curriculum of electricians and auto electricians in selected technical training institutes of the province.



Chief Guest giving away appreciation certificate to a student of BUITMS

In the end, the chief guest gave away the certificates of appreciation to the students of BUITMS, who voluntarily participated in workshop activities to make it a success.

BUITMS Students Visit State Bank of Pakistan

Report by: Miss Romana Aziz

Banking sector is the backbone of Pakistan's economy. It provides financial support to the economy due to peculiar requirement of financial needs especially long term and as-well- as short term for poles apart bases so the most important tutorial of banking is based on Islamic History. It is necessary for citizens that they are provided with adequate and timely tribute by the banking sector. For this reason in Pakistan different banks provided their services according to the needs of people, like some international banks and Islamic banks. These banks work under the regulation of the Central bank. State Bank of Pakistan was established on 1st of July 1948, as a central bank. It is the bank of banks. In Quetta the branch of State bank was established on 24th September 1952. The central bank has accounts of different banks including 34 commercial Banks and 4 specialized Banks.



Delegation at the main entrance of SBP

SBP Quetta was visited by the students of MBA (Banking and Finance) 4th semester of BUITMS for the first time with the collaboration of staff of SBP. The visit was arranged by Miss Romana Aziz Course



Instructor of Credit Management. The basic purpose of this visit was to comprehend the prudential regulations of State Bank of Pakistan. Presentation of regulation was delivered by Mr. Sajid Ali Shah Chief Manager, Currency Officer Mr. Waheed Ahmed Khan, Officers Grade-2 M/S Shahzaid Aziz, Muzafar Hussain and supportive staff members. They provided very important information about the operations and prudential regulations of the Central bank.



A section of the participants

They drew the attention of the students towards the importance of central bank in terms of the involvement in national income, monetary policies of different financial markets. The students also discussed some serious problems like the problem of elimination of Riba from the Islamic economy, problem of modern banking, currency exchange, problem based on changing currency design, dreadful conditions of currency, and the problems of ups and downs in international markets and the effect on national market currently faced by our bankers and as well as by clients. Students also discussed the main three types of loans_ development loans, investment loan, and the production loans.



Students being briefed by SBP officer

Students also visited different departments of the bank like Administration Department, Accounts Department, Internal Audit Department, Engineering Department, Foreign Exchange Operations Department, Foreign Exchange Adjudication Department, Internal Bank Security Department and Medical Services provided at the bank. Lastly Students of BUITMS visited the library of State Bank.



Delegation in the SBP Operations Deptt.

The administrator explained and discussed about the books (approximately 10,000 Books), timings, rules of library, membership of library and invited the students to come and take membership free of cost.

4th International Conference on Information & Communication Technology 2006, Cairo

Report by: Imran Siddique
Research Associate



A delegation led by Dr. Mohammad Abbas Choudhary visited Cairo, Egypt from 10th December, 2006 to 14th December, 2006 in order to participate in 4th ITI International Conference on Information & Communication Technology. Three papers were presented in the conference by Dr. Muhammad Abbas Choudhary and Mr. Imran Siddique in different sessions. Abstract of the papers are reproduced below for general information.

Automatic Functional Brain MR Image Segmentation Using Region Growing and Seed Pixel

IEEE CCC Code: 0-7803-9770-3/06/\$20.00 ©2006 IEEE.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is used to visualize the anatomy and structure of a body organ for assistance in medical diagnostics of certain diseases or conditions and to evaluate a particular disease. Magnetic resonance images of a specified anatomy are constructed by using radio waves, a



magnetic field and compute. This technical paper demonstrates the segmentation process of brain MR images by using Region Growing and Seed Pixel methods. Segmentation is a noteworthy phase in various image processing applications. Automatic Brain MRI Segmentation is a simple, robust and efficient image segmentation algorithm for classifying brain tissues from dual echo Magnetic Resonance (MR) Images. The designed system incorporates this robust ability of the described algorithm to segment the various parts of brain MR image automatically. The utilized algorithm consists of an assortment of components as adaptive histogram analysis, threshold, and region growing segmentation. These vigorous techniques are used for the sake of accurate categorization of assorted brain regions such as the brain white, gray matter, cerebrospinal fluid and ventricular regions. The orthodox techniques used for the analysis of a sequence of MR images were time consuming and inefficient. The conducted research minimizes this overhead by using the semi-automated designed system which has been tested successfully on multiple DICOM standard MRI real brain images.

Web Layout Mining (WLM): A New Paradigm for Intelligent Web Layout Design

IEEE CCC Code: 0-7803-9770-3/06/\$20.00 ©2006 IEEE.

The problem in designing of modern website projects is to produce contents according to the latest trends and styles. The common website editors just help to draw the intended layouts but the problem is to design the accurate web layout according to the demand and latest trends and style. This approach is useful when the user has a specific layout already in mind and is familiar with the web page layout principles as to what kinds of layouts are possible. It is intrinsically difficult for particularly those who have limited artistic and creative abilities to design good layout from scratch which is acceptable in every respect. An automated system is required that has ability to mine the layouts of the desired type of websites. The designed system for “Web Layout Mining (WLM)” helps to mine the most popular web-layouts from the internet database and design a web-layout that is near to acceptable and have all the marks and features of modern requirements. The designed system actually bases on a rule based algorithm which helps the user to search out some samples related to his website category and afterwards the user himself chooses a desired web-layout and designs its own one with proper implications and variations according to his own requirements.

Automatic Domain Specific Terminology Extraction Using a Decision Support System

IEEE CCC Code: 0-7803-9770-3/06/\$20.00 ©2006 IEEE.

Speech languages or Natural languages contents are major tools of communication. This research paper presents a natural language processing based automated system for understanding speech language text. A new rule based model is presented for analyzing the natural languages and extracting the relative meanings from the given text. User writes the natural language scenario in simple English in a few paragraphs and the designed system has an obvious capability of analyzing the given script by the user. After composite analysis and extraction of associated information, the designed system gives particular meanings to an assortment of speech language text on the basis of its context. The designed system uses standard speech language rules that are clearly defined for all speech languages as English, Urdu, Chinese, Arabic, French, etc. The designed system provides a quick and reliable way to comprehend speech language context and generates respective meanings. The application with such abilities can be more intelligent and pertinent specifically for the user to save the time.

Socio-Political Management of Foreign Investment in Third Millennium: A Case Study of Balochistan

Report by: Ahmad Shah Durrani



Balochistan is one of the major provinces amongst the four provinces of Pakistan. Situated in the southwest of the country, and spread over 347,190 square kilometers, the Province of Balochistan comprises 43% of Pakistan's territory.

In the west, it has common border with Iran, and in the North West with Afghanistan. In the south, Balochistan has a long coastline on the shores of the Arabian Sea. Balochistan is mainly mountainous region, although there are some plains and desert areas too. The terrain is generally barren and rugged. The land of Balochistan is rich in mineral resources. Apart from gas, it holds deposits of coal, copper, silver, gold, platinum and uranium. It also possesses oil in substantial quantities. Thus it has been recognized that Balochistan is surely enriched by the



hidden natural resources whose economic benefits and long lasting strategic impacts can never be denied.

Balochistan has an estimated population of 7,000,000 (according to the census of 1998 it was nearly 6,511,000) which comes to about 4.5 % of the total population of the country.

In the same context, a one day seminar was held on the “Socio-Political Management of Foreign Investment in Third Millennium: A Case Study of Balochistan”, in the auditorium of Balochistan University of Information Technology and Management Sciences (BUITMS). The seminar was organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences and Linguistics. Dr. Musarrat Jabeen, Associate Professor, Department of International Relations, University of Balochistan, was the guest speaker at the seminar.



Dr. Musarrat Jabeen, Guest Speaker

She said that poverty, lack luster people, lack of political commitment, effects of Afghan war, inverse population density and priority attitudes are the horizontal challenges to manage foreign investment in Balochistan. On the other hand, globalization, center-province political patterns, lack of socio-political impact assessment and corruption are the vital challenges to manage foreign investment in Balochistan.

She divided her research study into four sections:

1) Significance of Foreign Investment in Balochistan: She said that due to geo-strategic importance and geo-economic status, Balochistan has got much significance for foreign investment.

2) Geology of conflict related to foreign investment in Balochistan: She added that conflict in Balochistan has been prompted; as contenders are seeking to possess the economic resources, and to occupy the same exclusive position; while playing incompatible roles through incompatible means. The issue is about the management of foreign investment and the

relationship of mutual trust and benefit between the federation and the province and the other stake holders- regional and international powers. The struggle and the fighting are to determine “who is the owner of Balochistan's wealth and resources, the people of Balochistan or someone else.” She further said that dependency, mistrust, center-province disharmony and international imperatives that establish the base for conflict, are main factors of conflict related to foreign investment in Balochistan.



A section of the audience

3) 3-D Strategy to Manage Foreign Investment in Balochistan: She said on length management of local component for economic development, management of center-province disharmony, and management of regional-international relations vis-à-vis foreign investment in Balochistan, is the 3-D Strategy to Manage Foreign Investment in Balochistan.

4) Learning statement: In the learning statement, she pointed out non sustainable conflict resolution, poverty of conflict resolution, lack of domestic component for economic development, non existence of genuine democracy, provision of incentives to native population is difficult. She added that no strength exists in the education system of Pakistan and particularly of Balochistan for the refinement of the political capital. In Balochistan, matter to the fact is that the investors out of Balochistan and out of Pakistan are equally considered foreigner by virtue of practice. In socio-political management of foreign investment in Balochistan, the Sardars can not be over looked.



Another section of the audience



She further said that while locating Balochistan in global foreign investment trends the study establishes; that the natural resources have become integrated into the political economy of local, regional, and global conflicts. With the present distribution of factor endowments and technology between developed and developing nations, the theory of comparative advantage thus prescribes that developing nations should continue to specialize primarily in the production and export of raw material, fuels, minerals, and food to developed nations in exchange for manufactured products. The study has found that locals are suffering from crises of identity and the national elites at the helm of affairs are facing the challenges to federation legitimacy while the regional states are overvaluing their interests whether they may be Chinese commercial interests or US war on terrorism-energy interests. She said that Politicians are not included in the factors of production, but they affect the process of production.

She finally told the audience the following future trends:

- Entrepreneurship will effect the management of foreign investment.
- It seems that international interests would work with power structure of Pakistan so it is desirous on part of local socio-politics to resolve the conflict amicably with power structure of Pakistan for greater development of Balochistan.
- It seems also that future socio-political fabric going to be generated by virtue of migration streams from and out of Pakistan will also be affecting the future political economy of Balochistan.



Prof. Shamim Akhtar concluding the Seminar

At the end of seminar, Professor Shameem Akhtar, Dean Faculties of Management and Social Sciences, BUITMS, thanked Dr. Musarrat Jabeen and appreciated her efforts for conducting a productive research. He commented that the people of Balochistan have their first and foremost right on the resources of Balochistan.

1st International Conference on Assessing Quality in higher education ICAQHE, 2006

Report by: Dr. Shaukat Iqbal Malik

A 3-day International Conference was organized by the Institute of Quality & Technology Management, University of the Punjab, Lahore in the Collaboration with HEC, UNESCO, Asia Pacific Quality Network and University of Management & technology Lahore at PC from 3 to 7 December, 2006. The aim of the Conference was to make aware the academician and students about the quality of education at international standard.



International Conference in progress

135 papers were received by the Organizing committee for the said conference, but only 27 papers were approved for oral presentation. Academician from more than 20 countries of the world participated in the conference. Dr Shaukat Iqbal, Associate professor BUITMS, Quetta was selected to represent the Balochistan Province and presented his paper orally.

Abstract: *Assessment of Teaching and Learning*

In recent years educational authorities in many countries have introduced out-comes-based assessment and reporting systems in the form of national standards, frameworks and benchmarks of various kinds which are used both for purposes of system accountability and for assessing individual progress and achievement in language learning. However, in some cases the introduction of these systems has proved problematic, owing to a number of political, technical and practical factors. These include the difficulty of combining formative assessment with summative reporting, the differing information requirements of different audiences, concerns about the validity and reliability of outcome statements and the lack of appropriate resources to support implementation. Such problems may be able to be alleviated by closer consultation between policy-makers, administrators and practitioners, by undertaking further research into the validity and



consistency of outcome statements and by strengthening the links between assessment and reporting.



A group photo of the conference participants

A major investment in teacher professional development is necessary if teachers are to be responsible for carrying out their own assessments. Ongoing research needs to be conducted into the effects of outcomes-based assessment and reporting on student learning. Educational evaluation is the systematic appraisal of the quality of teaching and learning. In many ways evaluation drives the development and change of curriculum. At its core, evaluation is about helping medical educators improve education. Evaluation can have a formative role, identifying areas where teaching can be improved, or a summative role, judging the effectiveness of teaching. Although educational evaluation uses methods and tools that are similar to those used in educational research, the results of research are more generalisable and more value is invested in the interpretation of results of evaluation. Evaluation can also be a hindrance to curricular change.



Shields being awarded at the conference

In the United States, for example, enormous weight is placed on the standardized multiple choice type assessment that is taken by all medical students. At this point it is worth differentiating between monitoring, evaluation, and assessment. Assessment refers to the quality measures used to determine

performance of an individual medical student. Monitoring is the gathering and recording of data about courses, teachers, or students and is regularly carried out at institutional level. Evaluation uses data gathered in the monitoring process to place a value on an activity. According to Edwards, evaluation seeks to “describe and explain experiences of students and teachers and to make judgments and their effectiveness.”

Visit of Students and Faculty to Geophysical Centre, Quetta

Report by: Zia-ud-din Khan, Director
Geophysical Centre, Quetta

A visit of faculty and students of Electronic, Telecommunication and Computer Engineering was arranged to Geophysical Centre, Quetta on January 18, 2007, on the request of Prof. Dr. Abdul Razak Memon.

About 70 students with four faculty members of the Faculty of Computer & emerging Sciences visited this centre. The following faculty accompanied the students:

1. Prof. Dr. Abdul Razak Memon
Chairman, Deptt: of Computer Engineering
2. Prof. Dr. Abdul Hussain Shah Bukhari,
Chairman, IT, Electronic & Telecommunication Engineering
3. Eng. Wajahat Maqbool
Lecturer, Deptt: of Electronic Engineering
4. Mr. Zeeshan Zahid, Lab. Administrator

The aim of this visit was to give experimental training to the students in the subject of “Electromagnetism and Electromagnetic Theory”, prescribed for 5th semester students in the syllabus.

The students were divided into three groups and taken around the Seismic Section, Ozone measurement Section, Global Atmospheric Watch (GAW) Station, Agro-Meteorological Observatory, High Resolution Picture Transmission (HRPT) and Forecasting Section.

Section Incharge of various Sections briefed the delegation regarding the purpose and operation of scientific equipments in their sections. The equipment included Automatic Weather Station (A.W.S), Dobson Spectrophotometer, World Wide Standard Seismograph Network (WWSSN), High Resolution Picture Transmission (H.R.P.T) etc.

Prof. Dr. Abdul Razak Memon being a Seismic expert discussed the methodologies of future cooperation/coordination with Director, Geophysical Centre, Quetta regarding various Seismic activities and the research, three upon. It was also decided that exchange of views will also continue in future.