



BUITEMS

Quality & Excellence in Education



Newsletter

Volume 95

Our Vision

To be among the leading universities of the world - accessible to all, imparting quality education and promoting cutting edge research.

Mission Statement

At **BUIITEMS**, we are committed to providing quality education with focus on research and to equip students with the art of living as productive members of society, contributing to the socio-economic uplift of Pakistan in general, and Balochistan in particular.

Our Goals

- ♦ To provide outstanding academic programs that further strengthen our performance, pre-eminence and efficiency.
- ♦ To provide an excellent teaching and learning environment to students to reach a level that matches the atmosphere prevailing at best universities in the world.
- ♦ To raise revenues from partnerships, research grants and technology transfer while strengthening our ability to more effectively invest and allocate resources for education.

Our Core Values

- Accountability:** We are committed stewards of the human, fiscal and physical resources entrusted to us.
- Diversity :** We recognize that diversity leads to excellence, enhancing our teaching, scholarship and service as well as our ability to respect and interact with people.
- Integrity :** We practice honesty, truth and integrity in all that we do.
- Respect:** We treat each other with civility, dignity and respect.
- Social responsibility:** We contribute to intellectual, cultural, spiritual and economic well-being of the society.

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Editorial

Opportunity favours the bold. The unexpected pandemic may have washed off all our new year's resolutions, the BUITEMS family, however, took the challenge and continued playing their respective roles during the trying times. We at BUITEMS are bound by common goals and direction for the future and that is what makes us a family. We all may have been witnessing and experiencing the pangs and pains of the pandemic around us nevertheless, we managed to work for the society by doing our best.

The upheaval caused by the contagion affected every section and field of life. "In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity", rightly said the great scientist, Albert Einstein. BUITEMS family likewise turned the COVID-19 into a series of opportunity. Each faculty played its productive role in devising means and measures to combating the virus. A team of engineers built an indigenous ventilator, another group of engineers came up with low-cost sanitizers and disinfectants, the most essential safety products.

The hard work and dedication of the faculty during the lockdown is noteworthy which made it possible to be the only university from Pakistan to have snatched a spot among the top 10 Google's Android Developers Challenge. The faculty have been engaged in taking online classes which is a very new method of teaching for many who still accepted and adapted synchronous and asynchronous mode of teaching successfully. Many faculty members have published research papers in reputed journals during the uncertainty of the lockdown.

Success may be considered as an accomplishment of any aim or purpose. Usually, the meaning of the word success is subjective, for some it implies living a comfortable and prosperous life, for others it simply means achieving happiness, in whatever form. If we consider the current fast-paced challenging scenario, where everyone is involved in a rat race and aims to outshine others in the so-called 'real' world, success is inevitably synonymous with meticulous planning, dedicated implementation and achievement of goals, whether it is in the educational or the corporate sector. Achieving goals is an extremely essential parameter of success, but it is not all. There are the smaller joys in life that most of us tend to overlook. We should strive to live life in such a way that we bring about a change for the better, in whatever small way it might be. Only having lived completely, assimilating all the tiny pleasures, can one say that they have achieved success in its true form. This is what the global pandemic has taught us all. BUITEMS during the uncertainty has been playing its role successfully. May the future be bright and beautiful. Ameen

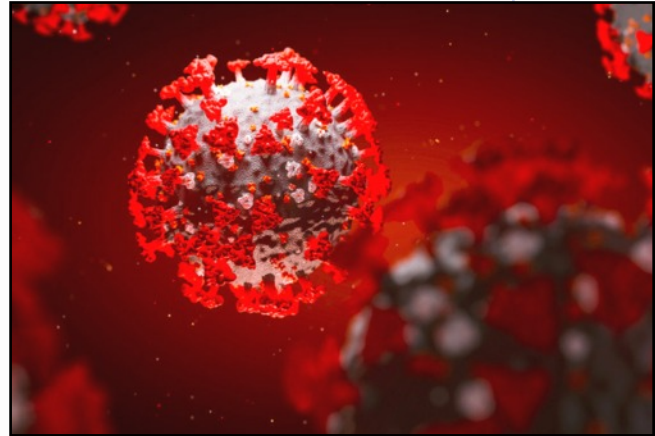
COVID-19 Activities

Faculty of Engineering & Architecture's Response to COVID-19

Production of Low-Cost Disinfectant and Hand Sanitizer

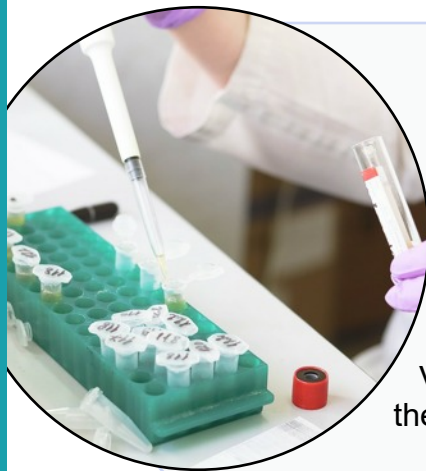
Reported by: Dr. Syed Kamran Sami & Dr. Muhammad Amin

In the wake of COVID-19, Dr. Muhammad Amin from the Department of Chemical Engineering along with the Dean FOE&A, Dr. Kamran Sami, introduced low-cost hand sanitizer and disinfectant. Hand sanitizers have been distributed among members of the society and BUIITEMS family. This disinfectant has been given to the Municipal committee of Quetta city and BUIITEMS for spraying at public places to reduce the risk of virus spread. The worthy Vice Chancellor, BUIITEMS and Pro-Vice-Chancellor appreciated the efforts of the Department for such constructive activities and motivated the team to continue the good work.



HAZMAT suit- A protective tool against COVID-19

Reported by: Dr. Syed Kamran Sami & Dr. Syed Zameer-UI-Hassan



Department of Textile Engineering, FOE&A developed the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) material based low-cost HAZMAT suit in the wake of COVID. This suit has been prepared according to the safety need of paramedical staff and society. Moreover, the project has been submitted to the Government of Balochistan. The Vice-Chancellor, BUIITEMS and Pro-Vice-Chancellor appreciated the efforts of the Textile Engineering team for their contribution.

COVID-19 Fundraising for Community

Reported by: Dr. Syed Kamran Sami & Dr. Abdul Malik Rehan Abbasi

Dr. Syed Kamran Sami, Dean FOE&A presented the

idea to raise fund for the people in the community that suffered the most during the pandemic upheaval. The idea was appreciated by the faculty members who generously participated in fund collection. Ration and clothes were purchased and distributed among the deserving families in Quetta city.

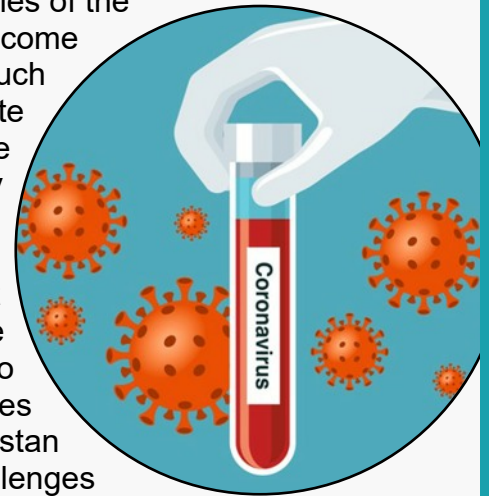


COVID-19 pandemic hit the world early this year and posed

Faculty of Information & Communication Technology's Response to COVID-19

Reported by: Dr. Bakhtiar Kasi

unprecedented challenges for even the most advanced countries of the world. While researchers around the world are still struggling to come up with a vaccine to combat the virus, preventive measures such as social distancing have been the workaround so far to mitigate the spread of the virus. In the fight to constrain the spread of the virus, technology has played a crucial role in keeping the society functional during the time of lockdowns and quarantines. The technologies that we have witnessed are likely to have a long-lasting impact beyond COVID-19 and help build a resilient society. Technology to support distance learning, online shopping, telemedicine, entertainment, and those designed to support work from home are noteworthy. COVID-19 poses manifold challenges for an underdeveloped country like Pakistan with a thriving economy. Pakistan is faced with serious challenges including health care, socio-economic issues, lack of infrastructure for distance learning, and for supporting work from home. At the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT), we are especially concerned with the challenges faced by Pakistan. To address some of these challenges the FICT undertook different initiatives as detailed below:

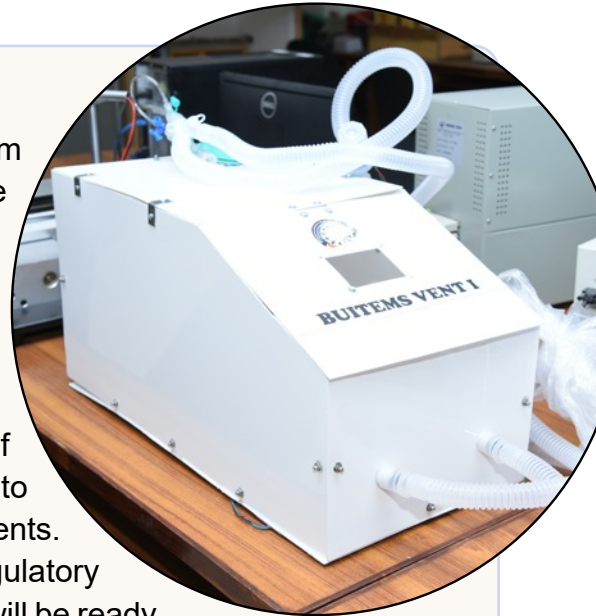


- **Balochistan Command and Operation Center Think Tank Team:**

In wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Balochistan established a special cell: Balochistan Command and Operation Center (BCOC) under the chief secretary office. The centre is assisted by think tanks of university professors who guide the BCOC on strategic decisions regarding the spread of the pandemic and on devising effective policies for smart lockdowns. The team of think tanks from BUITEMS include Dr. Bakhtiar Kasi, Dean FICT, Dr. Syed Attique Shah, Chairperson, Department of Computer Science, and Dr. Abdus Salam Lodhi Director, University College, Zhob, UCoZ, BUITEMS. Over the last couple of months, the think tank team from BUITEMS attended several key meetings of BCOC which were chaired by the Chief Secretary Balochistan and by Chief Minister Balochistan. BUITEMS think tank team assisted the Government by making informed policy recommendations on daily basis regarding effective lockdown policy, COVID-19 predictions, health care, and on the economic effects of COVID-19 in the province. Through this forum, the data and recommendations are shared with all necessary stakeholders at provincial levels as well as the national levels including the departments of Health, Local Administration, and PDMA.

- **BUIEMS VENT-I:**

As COVID-19 started to spread in Pakistan, the FICT team also became part of the fight against COVID-19. Due to the increasing number of cases, there was a dire need for Ventilators. Dr. Anayat Baloch, Chairperson Department of Electronic Engineering, along with his team developed a prototype of an indigenously built Ventilator "BUIEMS VENT-I". Their prototype incorporated all national and international standard requirements for the treatment of COVID-19 patients as enlisted. The team is working hard to add further features to assist the medical staff attending patients. Currently, the ventilator is being tested by the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) for level-II use. The ventilator will be ready for mass-scale production once the testing is completed.



- **Trace Together App:**

As the world is struggling to control the COVID-19 pandemic, the use of technology has been effective as well. Countries like Singapore and New Zealand are few examples, who used technology to control contagion. At FICT, a team of developers led by Dr. Bakhtiar Kasi, Dean FICT and Dr. Mumraiz Kasi, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science developed a smart application named "TraceTogether" to combat COVID-19 spread. The application uses Bluetooth technology to keep track of all contacts who have come in close contact with a potentially affected person over a while. So, by using this application if someone in the contact list gets infected by virus then the information of the affected patients is shared with the contacts who have recently been in close contact with the affected patients. Currently, an android version of the app is available which is being tested under different scenarios. The ios version is still being developed by the team and will be made available soon.



Faculty of Life Sciences and the COVID-19 Pandemic

Reported by: Dr. Muhammad Nazeer

The traditional role of academia has been evolving. The

teaching and research-centric academia are now well known for its contributions in supporting policymakers and services to the society. Though the current pandemic has been a testing time for academia too, as for any other section of the society, it provided an opportunity to the universities to actively involve itself in endeavours aimed at combating the disease.

The faculty of Life Sciences at BUIITEMS, realizing its responsibility in the post-COVID-19 scenario, duly contributed at various fronts. To start with, complying with their primary responsibility, they swiftly adopted the online mode of teaching ensuring at the same time that the quality of education is not compromised. On the research front, several grant proposals on COVID-19 were submitted to various funding agencies including

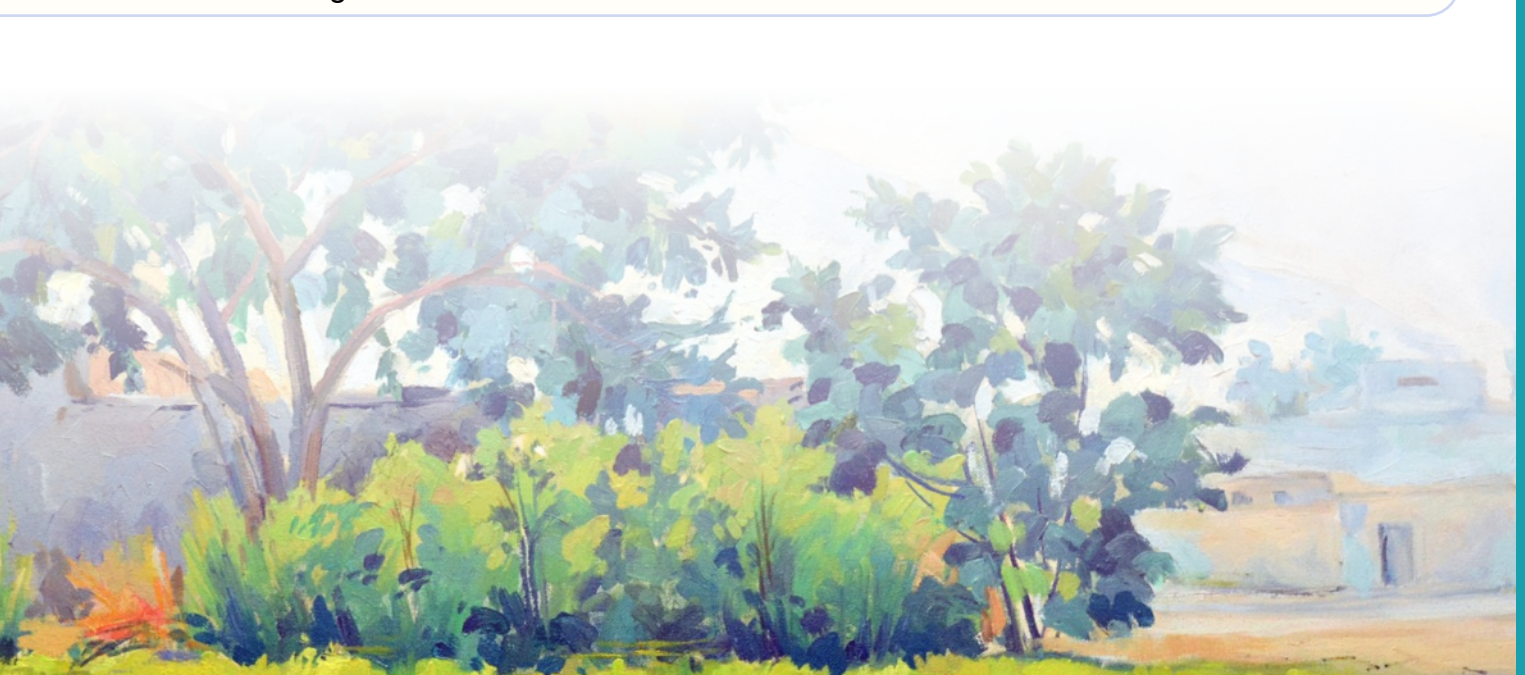
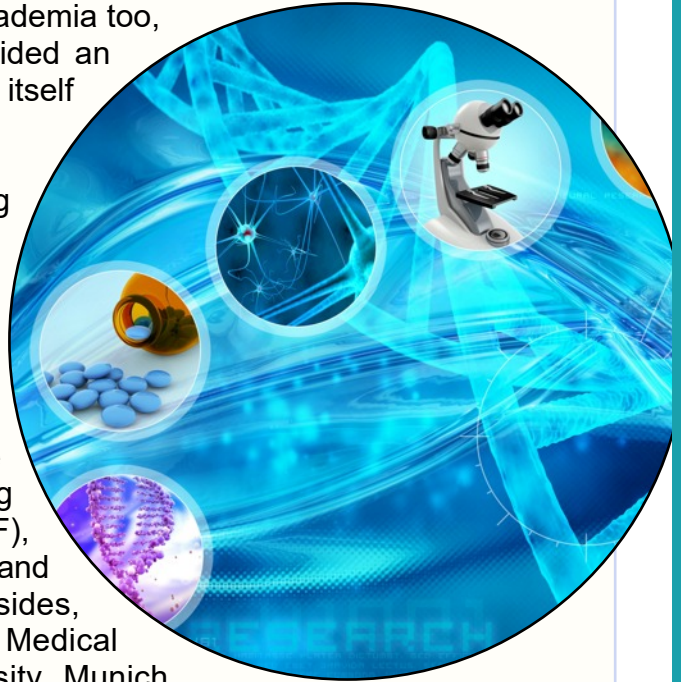
Ignite, Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF), Higher Education Commission (HEC) and Provincial Government. Besides,

BUIITEMS, Allama Iqbal Medical

University, Technical University Munich,

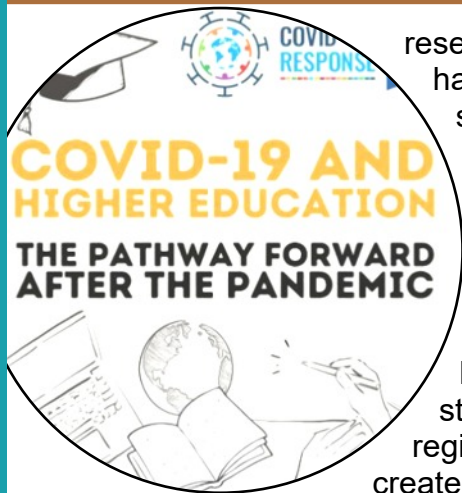
Germany and Paderborn University Germany jointly worked to Identify potentially effective Food & Drug Administration (FDA) approved drugs for repurposing against SARS-CoV-2 by combined deep learning and molecular docking simulations approaches.

The Life Sciences faculty also played an active role in assisting policymakers on COVID-19 related issues. The faculty extended technical support/expertise to the Government in establishing COVID-19 diagnostic labs in different districts of the province. In the initial months of the pandemic, experts from the faculty remained involved in Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) based testing of the Novel Corona Virus disease at Quetta.



COVID-19 and Higher Education: The Path Forward After the Pandemic

Reported by: Dr. Mumraiz Kasi



researchers in different parts of the world to find out how COVID-19 has affected them and how they are coping with the changes. The series also highlights lessons learned and potential positive outcomes of the global lockdown for higher education. Below are the key points published on July 8, 2020, from the interview with coordinator UNAI hub 8, BUIITEMS: In an interview with UNAI, Dr. Bushra Naeem talked about how the unexpected closure of the campus presented challenges for both faculty and students as they had to quickly switch to distance learning. Dr. Bushra and her colleagues used online tools and emails to communicate with students and address their concerns promptly. However, not all regions of Pakistan are equipped with high-speed internet, which created difficulties for students living in remote areas to study and take

exams online. According to Dr. Bushra Naeem, the pandemic has been a psychological shock for everyone, and educators are not only responsible for teaching courses and ensuring learning outcomes, but also for counselling students who are dealing with the loss of normalcy and their campus community. Dr. Bushra believes that post-pandemic, educational systems will become stronger and more flexible with virtual education providing more options for lower cost and more inclusive education. Dr. Bushra also believes that people will have a greater appreciation for things they previously took for granted and maintain a better work-life balance”.

In the COVID-19 and higher education series, United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) talks to students, educators and

Higher Education Commission (HEC) and Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) have

agreed with “Ehsaas Undergraduate Scholarship Project”. The objective is to work together to support the merit and need-based scholarships for the talented students from low-income families, underprivileged groups, and rural regions to complete undergraduate studies from a public sector Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) of Pakistan, Azad Jammu & Kashmir, and Gilgit Baltistan. The principal objective of the Ehsaas Program is to assist the maximum number of students who have secured admission in the universities at the undergraduate level but lack of financial means to continue their studies. The program

provides an opportunity for talented students who are penurious and are incapable of meeting education costs at partner higher education institutions. Ehsaas scholarship program was announced on November 17, 2019, through an online portal. Meeting of the Institutional Scholarship Award Committee (ISAC) was held on May 11, 2020. The selection of the deserving students was made as per the policy of the Ehsaas UG Scholarship Project. The committee members, after a thorough review of the evaluation sheet, recommended the most deserving students for the award of scholarships. The details are as following:

Ehsaas Undergraduate Scholarship Program

Reported by: Nausheen Sabir

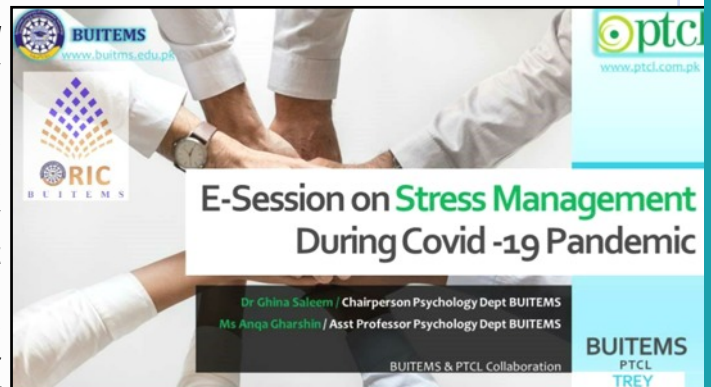


	Undergraduate Female	Undergraduate Male	Total
Total number of applications received	164	965	1129
Total Number of applicants selected	77	517	594

E-Session on Stress Management during COVID-19 Pandemic to Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) by ORIC BUITEMS

Reported by: Syed Usman

An 'E-Session on Stress Management during COVID-19 Pandemic', was conducted on May 16, 2020, under training exchange program collaboration of PTCL and BUITEMS. The keynote speakers for the session were Dr. Ghina Saleem, Chairperson Psychology department and Ms. Anqa Gharshin, Assistant Professor Psychology department from BUITEMS. These experts talked about the pandemic Covid-19 and its impact on our mental strength. Almost 80 high officials of PTCL from all over Pakistan attended the session; the participants who attended the session included 1 Senior Executive Vice President from Islamabad, 3 Executive Vice presidents, 7 General Managers, 25 Senior Managers and others from different cities of Pakistan. The E-Session was carried for three long hours along with question and answer session on Microsoft Teams. Concepts for tackling stress were presented, firstly Dr. Ghina Saleem emphasized on causes of stress, its symptoms, action-focused coping, and emotion-focused coping techniques. While Ms. Anqa Gharshin came up with some methodologies and relaxation techniques by describing adaptable ways for relaxing the nervous system and provided the listeners with tips for staying healthy in the time of crisis. In the end, the Higher Management of PTCL from Islamabad, Quetta and Karachi highly appreciated the efforts of BUITEMS and gave their admirable thanks to ORIC BUITEMS for arranging the session during the lockdown due to the pandemic.



UN75 (On 75th Anniversary of United Nations)

Reported by: Dr. Bushra Naeem



United Nations Academic Impact organized UN75 dialogue within the framework of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations (UN75). This included online conversations on compelling issues of global reach and relevance.

The virtual 75 minutes webinar was held on June 8, 2020. Given the outstanding job that BUITEMS has done as SDG Hub for Goal 8 to boost entrepreneurship skills among the

students as a way to foster social inclusion, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Faisal Ahmed Khan was invited to share the reflections on what university education can do to alleviate poverty and empower youth.

The audience of the event included individuals, professors, researchers, students, administrators, and members of civil society from all over the world who participated in the discussion on the overall theme, "The Role of Higher Education in Combating Poverty and Ensuring Social Justice". The purpose of this discussion was to serve as a space for "rethinking" familiar and less familiar ideas with the participation of experts, practitioners and scholars.

Android Developers Challenge top 10 winners

Reported by: Mirwise Khan, Dr. Mumraiz Khan Kasi

Google on June 22, 2020, officially announced its

Android Developers (ADC) challenge the top 10 winners and said it is launching their apps for download. Among the top 10 winners; 4 teams were from the USA, 3 from India, one from Germany, Africa and Pakistan each.

Google's (ADC) Android Developers Challenge is an annual global competition where they shortlist the 10 android apps for a theme which was to bring innovation with Machine Learning apps. Once shortlisted they provide mentorship and help the teams to complete their apps and publish to Google Play Store. Besides that each team leader is invited to Google headquarters at Mountain View CA, US for a week boot camp to look at their app and attend brainstorming sessions. Finally, as a prize, Google invites them to its annual IO event 2021 (postponed due to COVID from 2020). Also, the name of the winners remains at android developer's page for 3 years.

Team BUIITEMS created an app "*AgriFarm*" that helps farmers detect plant diseases and prevent major damage in fruits and vegetables such as tomatoes, corn and potatoes. Shortly after the announcement of the winners, the team received invitations from Google Developers Groups in Karachi and Lahore to attend their community programs and share experience.

The app *AgriFarm* whose idea was floated by Dr. Mumraiz Kasi, Associate Professor, helps farmers classify crop disease by taking a picture, provide market prices, recommend news and videos about agriculture. Besides farmers or anybody interested in agriculture can utilize it to connect.

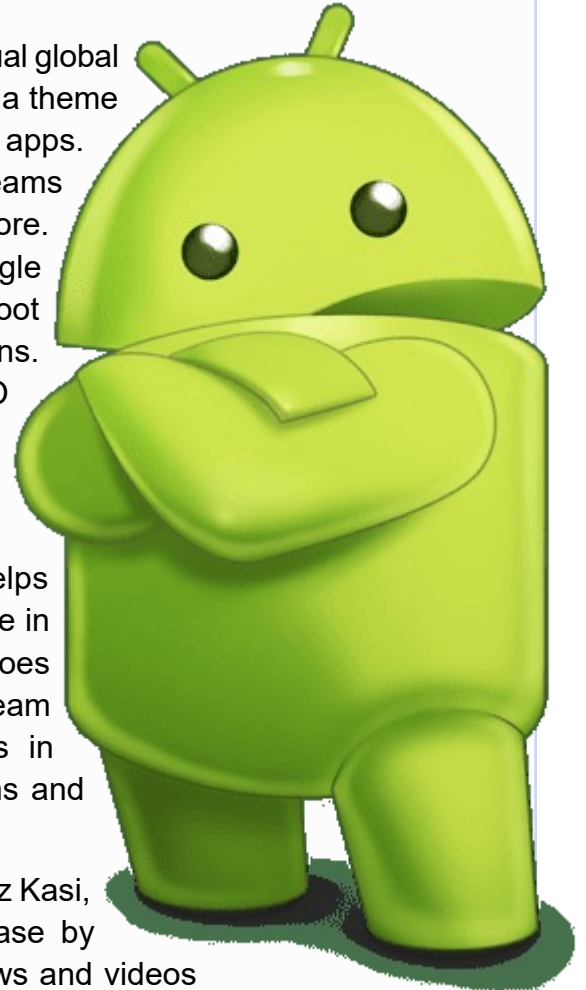
After a few interviews with farmers and agriculture experts, a feature plan was developed and work was started on its execution. A month later a selection email was received followed by tough deadlines and hard work that finally resulted in the release of a beta version on June 15, at Google Play Store.

Pakistan has never qualified for ADC before and it is a great achievement for both BUIITEMS and Pakistan. The Team particularly expressed gratitude to Dr. Faisal Khan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor under whose leadership and command the students were able to bring laurels to their alma mater.

Following links are shared for the reference;

<https://www.techjuice.pk/pakistani-team-agrifarm-won-the-android-developer-challenge-adc-2020/>

<https://developer.android.com/helpful-innovation#agrifarm-section>



AgriFarm is an android application that connects people interested in Agriculture. Specifically designed to help farmers classify crop disease by taking crop picture without farmers having any technical knowledge. AgriFarm offers market prices for fruits and vegetables at users' location. It shows historic prices and price fluctuations, thus, making it easier for farmers to make relevant predictions and plan future cultivations more strategically. AgriFarm provides its users all the relevant videos and news from agriculture sector based on a user interaction and interests




Mirwise Khan | Team Lead



I wanted to develop 3D games, followed by graphics design, and finally ended up as a full-stack android developer. My journey while switching between these fields has equipped me with great deal of creativity. As of now, I am an undergraduate and part time freelancer. My expertise is in android app development, NLP and RESTful webservices. Graphics designing is my passion and hobby and I design mobile UI and logo for personal interest. Throughout the four years that I spent in Buiitems, I served as Graphics Designer for ACM, an Ecosaviour (a team assembled by Pakistan Red Crescent Society to work for the awareness of severe effects of climate change in Quetta) and an old member of PUAN (Pak-US Alumni Network) Quetta chapter.

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Dr. Mumraiz Kasi
Supervisor



in/ehitshamAhmed




Ehtisham Ahmed
Backend Developer

I have learnt many programming languages but after exposure to python language, it took my attention and I started courses of python and machine learning and taking certifications over several platforms. As I got more experience, I started taking machine learning projects and made improvements over time. My focus is on building smart android apps that involves machine learning at its core and specifically offline machine learning powered by ML Kit.

✉ contact@agrifarm.website

in/samina-ismail



Samina Ismail
UI/UX Designer

I always wanted to be affiliated with tech-world. Sketching website designs as a hobby introduced me to UI/UX which then became a major part of my career. During graduation in Buiitems, I worked with some local organizations as a Graphic designer. Apart from designing, I have a big interest in ML and Data Science. Besides, I also work as a STEM social activist at Women Engineers Pakistan and represented the organization at major events. I am currently a student ambassador at Pakistani Women in Computing.

in/hassaan-khalid



Hassaan Khalid
Frontend Developer

My interest in Android development tracks back to 6th Semester of my bachelor's in Computer Science. I am a big smartphone fan from the very beginning of the smartphone era. I have in total over two years of active Android development experience. I am eager to constantly learn new developments. At the moment, my focus is on the new Java 8 and 9 language features, RX Java and RX Android, Kotlin, architectural patterns on Android (MVVM, MVP, etc.) and of course I am always up for trying out the newest Android libraries.

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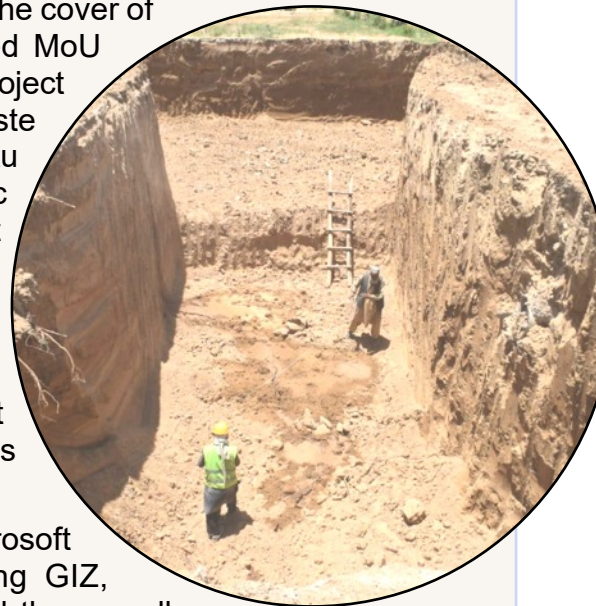


DEWATS Joint Call of S4M (Save for Millions)

Reported by: Sahar Munir

between ORIC-BUITEMS and Sanitation for Million (S4M) Project GIZ Germany, the construction work of a Decentralized Waste Water Treatment System (DEWATS), was started at Takatu campus on June 15, 2020. The system capacity is 60.5 cubic meters with an estimated cost of Rs. 12 Million. Subject construction work is carried out by the funding of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), whereas Bremen Overseas Research & Development Association (BORDA) is responsible for design, supervision and capacity building of faculty. Balochistan Rural Support Program (BRSP) in cooperation with GIZ and BUITEMS is guiding local service providers and executes tenders etc.

Under the cover of a signed MoU



A joint meeting for this purpose was conducted on Microsoft Teams on June 23, 2020, where members representing GIZ, BORDA, BRSP and BUITEMS participated and discussed the overall construction design, capacity building measures and curriculum to be included in the courses of few relevant departments under the chair of Prof. Dr. Muhammad Naeem Shahwani, Director ORIC and the focal person from BUITEMS of the joint venture. Other members from BUITEMS were Dr. Najam Khan, Associate Professor, Dr. Maqsood Ahmed, Assistant Professor, Dr. Faheem Nawaz, Assistant Professor, and Dr. Muhammad Amin, Assistant Professor, while Mr. Muhammad Hashim, Ms. Rabia Baloch, Mr. Michael Koeberlein and Mr. Muhammad Jaffar were the members from GIZ who moderated the meeting. From BRSP Mr. Syed Qahir, Mr. Asghar Raisani while from BORDA Mr. Tobias Ulbrich, Mr. Abdul Qayoum and Mr. Farid Safi were present in the meeting.

Balochistan Education Endowment Fund (BEEF) Cheque Distribution

Reported by: Nausheen Sabir

BUITEMS Financial Aid office arranged BEEF cheque distribution for the meritorious students from June 25-29, 2020 at Takatu campus. The distribution was organized to disburse the cheques among the students from all the disciplines studying at BUITEMS. In total 448 Students were awarded, a total amount of Rs. 29,280,000 (Rs.60000/-each) under BEEF Scholarships Policy 2018-19 covering students of 2nd & 3rd Professional of BS Program. The prescribed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for COVID-19 were followed strictly during the distribution event.



IEEE Computer Society Karachi section in collaboration with IEEE Quetta Subsection, IEEE-Student BUIITEMS Branch and IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE) - MUET Student Branch Chapter arranged a webinar on the theme of “Nature Inspired Artificial Intelligence and Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies”.

A Webinar on Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Reported by: Dr. Mumraiz Kasi

On June 28, 2020, a webinar was arranged with talks that covered Artificial Intelligence (AI) for individuals and commercial applications. There were 50+ participants and the keynotes were delivered by Dr. Bakhtiar Kasi and Dr. Bushra Naeem.



Dr. Bakhtiar Kasi talked about AI and parallel emerging technologies:

- Artificial Intelligence’s history, Ingredients and goals of AI
- Approaches, uses, and demands for AI
- Autonomous car technology, digital and Industry Revolution including Industry 1.0, Industry 2.0, Industry 3.0 and Industry 4.0
- Internet of Things, IoT as its structure got highlighted.

He included: “AI could be one of the solutions to these pandemics”. He also quoted “IoT is bringing a global change.” Wrapping up his part he showcased his research work.

Dr. Bushra Naeem covered topics on:

- Nature imitation and Nature Computing, Swarm Intelligence
- Evolutionary algorithms, Artificial neural networks
- Artificial immune system and their applications

To this she also presented her research ideas, thus making it very informative. Dr. Ismah Farah proceeded by thanking Dr. Bushra Naeem and Dr. Bakhtiar Kasi. The webinar was also honoured by the presence of Dr. Bhawani Shankar Chowdhry, Chair IEEE Karachi section; Dr. Bhagwan Das, chair IEEE Computer Society Karachi Section 2020, Dr. Sadiq Khan, Vice-chair IEEE Computer Society Karachi section 2020, Dr. Ismah Farah Siddiqui, General Secretary at IEEE Computer Society Karachi Section, Dr. Maleeha Anwar UBIT, University of Karachi, and IEEE Computer Society Karachi Section 2020 along with their team.



BUITEMS Pension Section

Reported by: Shams-ul-Huda

In July 2018, a two members' team Mr.

Shams-ul-Huda, Deputy Director Accounts, and Ms. Faiza Qazi, Assistant Director Finance of BUITEMS Finance department, embarked upon working on Pension of BUITEMS Family.

Pension Section has not only been completed, but the record of employees has also been documented. The first Pension Case of BUITEMS family surfaced due to the unfortunate demise of Mr. Sajjad Ahmed (Ex-Driver) in a tragic incident in March 2019. The first payment of family pension was released on May 20, 2020.

This initiative will enhance employee's motivation and become a worthy source of post-service benefit for BUITEMS family. It will promote a sense of protection among the employees and safeguard against future uncertainties. This milestone wouldn't be possible without the sincere efforts and dedication of Vice-Chancellor BUITEMS to the valued cause of employee benefits and facilitation, amid financial constraints.



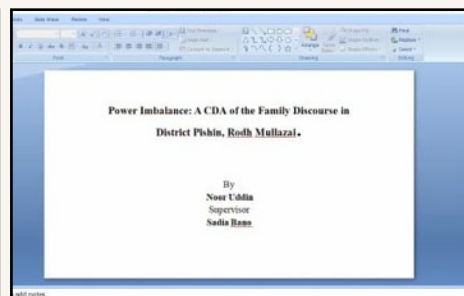
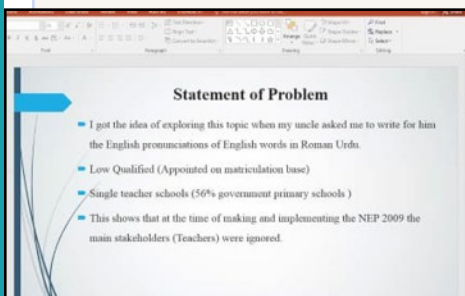
Online MS Thesis Defence at Department of English

Reported by: Aqsa Maryam

Difficult times need innovative solutions, and when the world is

enveloped in a smog of an unpredictable pandemic, it becomes crucial to discover unprecedented resolutions. Department of English at BUITEMS used the online space to create such solutions not only for the online classes and meetings, but also to hold MS thesis defence via MS Zoom. On April 10, 2020, the Departmental Graduate Research Committee, external supervisor Dr. Habibullah Pathan of MUET, students of MS English Language & Literature and candidate Mr Muzaffar Hussain joined an online session via MS Zoom to attend the defence of his thesis on the topic, "Ethnolinguistic Vitality of Hazargi Language in Quetta."

His dissertation was supervised by Dr. Liaquat Ali Channa and his co-supervisor was Dr. Syed Abdul Manan from Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan. The defence provided an occasion to gather a multitude of people from different areas at a platform; which would otherwise be impossible had the defence taken place on a physical location. At the end of a thorough question-answer session, the candidate was declared successful.



The successful experiment with the MS Thesis defence opened further doors for the Department of English. The same mode of communication was used to conduct the Proposal defences for both BS-ELL and MS-ELL programs

afterwards, thus saving time and efforts of both the students and the department.

Quality Policy Statement

BUIITEMS contributes in defining standards and systems for the uplift of socio-economic order through quality education and services by:

- Providing an environment conducive to learning, teaching, academic inquiry and innovation
- Maintaining academic excellence and professionalism
- Adhering to established systems for ensuring good governance for management and transfer of knowledge
- Benchmarking with other leading institutions of higher education for improvement
- Enhancing efficient and effective operations by encouraging participation of stakeholders
- Pursuing continuous improvement through creativity, team work and adaptation to change

for

Playing a catalytic role to achieve the national, regional and global harmony.



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