NBEAC Accreditation of BBA and MBA Programs

Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology Karachi’s BBA and MBA programs have been accredited for four years i.e. 2012-2016 in the year 2012, by the National Business Education Accreditation Council (NBEAC). The NBEAC has been established as an accreditation authority by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) for the accreditation of business degree programs nation-wide.

Abdul Fatah Brohi, Manager, University Affairs

Sindh Abhyas Academy Established

The Sindh Abhyas Academy (SAA) was established in SZABIST Karachi on March 1, 2012. Primarily concerned with both research and education, SAA has introduced a core course, Sindh Studies, for the Social Sciences and Media Sciences undergraduate students. The course consists of a series of seminars on subjects pertaining to Sindh, and is conducted by eminent scholars of Sindh. Much of the work of the Academy is directed towards creating an MA and MPhil/PhD program in Sindh Studies. Inauguration of the Sindh Abhyas Academy through a book fair was presided over by Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho, Chancellor, SZABIST, and a seminar series was held later on.

Dr Ghazala Rahman, Director, Sindh Abhyas Academy

Dr Ghazala Rahman Rafiq earned her doctorate in 2010 from the University of California in Education Leadership and Organization, with an interdisciplinary emphasis in Applied Linguistics. Her research is in the areas of Sindh, Language Policy, and Cultural Perspectives. She has taught in the Teacher Education Program (UCSD) and is a member of the Institute of World Culture.

FROM THE EDITOR’S DESK

On an average day, several tasks and people vie for our attention. The day may start on a promising note, but sometimes it ends up with us merely fighting getting out of problem situations without addressing the actual issue. Most stress we experience is due to the clutter around us. Some of this clutter has to be simply thrown out, while the rest has to be sorted out depending upon what we want from life. We can make the best use of our time interacting meaningfully with people and nature, improving one’s relationship with the Maker, and pursuing one’s passion. By devoting our life to things that will endure, we can have a lasting impact on the world.

Ambreen Ahmed, Editor, Faculty of Management Sciences

Second ZAB Media Festival and Fifth ZAB Film Festival Held

The second ZAB Media Festival and fifth ZAB Film Festival, organised by the students of SZABIST Media Sciences Department, were held during March-April 2012. With the theme ‘One for 99’, ZAB Media Festival set out to generate a beneficial change to lessen class differences. The competition included the Battle of Bands, Speedvertising, Photography, ZAB Film Festival, and Curtain Call. The judges were Mr Glen John, Mr Babar Shaikh, and Mr Omran Shafique for Battle of Bands; Mr Amin J, Mr Tapu Javeri, and Mr Kohi Marri for Photography; and Mr Shahnawaz Salahuddin and Ms Sofia Ishaque for Speedvertising. The fifth ZAB Film Festival was judged by Mr Rashid Sami and Mr Saijad Haider. The jury, comprising of academicians and professional film experts, shortlisted films after several screenings. At the Awards Night, a special award was given to a theme-oriented piece of work centring on ‘One for 99’.

Muhammad Mureed, BBA

Television in Pakistan: A Colloquium

The Department of Media Sciences organised a day-long colloquium titled ‘Television in Pakistan’ on March 3, 2012 to discuss the history, present state, and future of the medium in Pakistan. The Keynote Speaker, renowned actor and media personality, Mr Rahat Kazmi, decried the anti-intellectualism and obscurantism of current television dramas and talk shows, arguing that while the media rarely creates social change, it does reinforce pseudo-scientific ideologies and beliefs that have served to undermine civil society in Pakistan. Other participants included Mr Aslam Azhar (via video link from Islamabad), Ms Ayesha Tammy Haq, Dr Seemi Naghmana Tahir, Mr Mahtab Rashdi, and Mr Haider Waheed. The four consecutive sessions included ‘Khoshuts in Conversation’, ‘From Inception to Censorship: 1964-1980’, ‘The Zia Years: 1980-1991’, and ‘Seeing Ourselves: Television since Privatization’.

Dr Framji Minwalla, Faculty of Media Sciences
SZABIST PAYS TRIBUTE TO AN ICON

SZABIST celebrated the 59th birth anniversary of its Founding Chancellor, Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, on June 21, 2012. The Keynote Speaker was Mr Farhad Zaidi, President of Arts Council, a well-known journalist and author. He described Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto as a bold and courageous lady, who never succumbed to the brutalities of dictatorship, and worked for the rehabilitation of the marginalized, especially religious minorities and women.

Staff Reporter

COMMEMORATIVE LECTURE ON DEATH ANNIVERSARY OF SHAHEED ZULFIKAR ALI BHUTTO

On the 33rd death anniversary of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, a commemorative lecture on the life and struggle of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto was organised by SZABIST on April 4, 2012. Mr Meraj Mohammad Khan, a founder member of Pakistan Peoples Party, delivered an inspiring speech on Mr Bhutto’s glorious past. Video clippings of Mr Bhutto’s struggle, achievements, and speeches, displaying his leadership and intellectual qualities, were also shared with the attendees.

Saima Hussain, Faculty of Management Sciences

SZABIST HOSTS 14th NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HISTORY AND WAR

SZABIST Karachi organised the 14th National Conference on History titled ‘History and War’ on June 1, 2012. The impact of wars on various aspects of societies, such as media and literature were discussed in two sessions. The first session was presided over by Ms Zubaida Mustafa, a renowned journalist, whereas Syed Jaffar Ahmed, Director, Pakistan Study Centre, University of Karachi, chaired the second session.

Prominent speakers at the conference included Dr Mubarak Ali, an eminent historian; Dr Tipu Sultan, President, Pakistan Medical Association; Dr Mutahir Ahmed, Professor, Department of International Relations, University of Karachi Prof. Schar Ansari, Professor Emeritus, University of Karachi; Mr Maqida Mansur, Senior Journalist and Dr Riaz Ahmed Shahik, Associate Professor, SZABIST.

Dr Riaz Ahmed Shahik, Acting HoD, Social Sciences

MANAGEMENT SCIENCES RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

SZABIST hosted the third Management Research Symposium on May 5, 2012. Over 216 BBA and MBA students presented and defended 65 different research projects in the areas of Management, Marketing, Finance, Human Resource Management, and Supply Chain Management. In the first of two sessions, students showcased their research findings through poster presentations to corporate delegates, faculty, and students from different universities. In the second session, they presented and defended their research projects, which were evaluated by industry experts and faculty members from reputable educational institutions, including FAST-NU, IoBM, MAJU, and Bahria University.

The event organisers were Ms Wajeeha Fatima Javed, Head of Academic Services and BBA Program Manager; Mr Muhammad Zaki Rashidi, MBA-DAY Program Manager and Mr Kumail Raza Hemani, MBA-EVENING Program Manager. The research projects were well-presented and highly appreciated by the learned panelists and audience.

Mubin Shahzad, Program Support Officer

SZABIST HOSTS A FORUM ON THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

SZABIST organised a forum Mohrta Benazir Bhutto and her Emphasis on the Importance of Education on April 13, 2012. The speaker, Barrister Rehman Chishti, Member of the British Parliament and Special Advisor to the former Prime Minister of Pakistan, Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, stressed on the importance the great leader gave to education, merit, and women’s rights. He also noted the generous financial support that Great Britain has provided to Pakistan to promote education. Dr Saqib Rizavi, President, SZABIST, welcomed the audience and reiterated SZABIST’s vision to impart quality education. Dr Amanat Ali Jabani, Vice President (Academics), informed the audience that Barrister Chishti has promised to help SZABIST in the student exchange program, faculty exchange program, and in research collaboration.

The forum was attended by Dr Suleman Shaikh, Secretary Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and students of SZABIST.

Ambrreen Ahmed, Faculty of Management Sciences

SZABIST HOSTS THE 18th NATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

SZABIST Karachi held its 18th National Research Conference (NRC) on Management Sciences, Social Sciences and Economics, and Computing at 90 Clifton on May 12, 2012. The inaugural session was chaired by Dr Masuma Hasan, Chairperson, Pakistan Institute of International Affairs. She highlighted the impact of modern technology on contemporary research, and the importance of dealing with plagiarism. Seventy-eight research papers on Management Sciences, Social Sciences, Economics, and Computing, were presented in the Conference in six parallel sessions. Over 150 scholars, corporate delegates, and faculty and staff of SZABIST attended the Conference. The event was organised by Dr Mustaghiz ur Rahman, Program Manager, MS/PhD Management Sciences.

Ambrreen Ahmed, Faculty of Management Sciences

SZABIST MEDICAL DIAGNOSTICS: PRE-FEASIBILITY Study CONDUCTED

Inspired by the successful completion of diagnosis of SZABIST staff, the SZABIST Stem Cell Research Centre (SCRC) has prepared the pre-feasibility report to establish SZABIST’s own diagnostic lab at Karachi. The SWOT analysis revealed that very few labs provide reliable diagnostic services, creating a high demand for such services in Karachi. As SZABIST is a popular brand in the education sector, it can easily build its credibility in this market. The Critical Success Factors identified for the lab are Convenience, Credibility, and Time. The diagnostic lab will produce credible test results and reports with minimum processing time. As the project seems feasible, a comprehensive feasibility study will be done to ensure that the Critical Success Factors are met.

Shahab Mehmood, Research Associate, SCRC
Students of MBA, as a part of their Entrepreneurship course, organised ‘Enliven 2012’, a business plan competition, on April 30, 2012 at Karachi Arts Council. Ms Jehan Ara of P@SHA group was the Chief Guest, while other speakers included Mr Ozair Hanafi, Mr Amir Adnan, Mr Rehan Allawala, Mr Atif Vazir, and representatives of HBL, SMEDA, and Shell Tameer. Students from SZABIST, Greenwich University, Iqra University, BITZER, and other institutions benefited from the success stories shared by the speakers. The help desks set up by HBL, SMEDA, JS Bank, and other leading banks facilitated the aspiring entrepreneurs.

MBA students of Entrepreneurship also presented their business ideas, which were highly appreciated by the judges and audience. The winner was awarded a trophy and facility for business incubation by Shell Tameer Group.

The Merit Scholarship Examination Report Ceremony on May 5, 2012, recognised and applauded the work done by the SZABIST team, lead by Directorate of Schools and Colleges and Ms Lubna Khalid, Manager, Intermediate Colleges and Schools, for successfully conducting the scholarship examination for 5th-8th graders in over 27 districts of Sindh.

Speaking on the occasion, SZABIST Chancellor Dr Azra Fazal affirmed SZABIST’s stance on promoting education, keeping in mind the vision of its founders and efforts of its management and staff. The Chief Guest, Fr Mazar-ul-Haq, Senior Minister of Education, Sindh, appreciated the efforts of SZABIST and emphasized that promoting education and scholarship for developing talent strengthens a nation. Mr Sadiq Memon, Secretary Education, Sindh, and Dr Suleman Shahid, Secretary Board of Trustees, SZABIST, also spoke on the occasion. The ceremony was well attended by SZABIST faculty and staff.

BBA alumni dinner

An Alumni Reunion was arranged by the BBA Experiential Marketing class of 2012, for all BBA batches of SZABIST, on May 19, 2012. With a turnout of 600 people (although a charged activity), the event was a major success. It was themed on Oscar’s Red Carpet, and marketed as ‘Experience SZABIST’. The pre-event activities included updating alumni information, social media support for BBA in the form of BBA Alumni Council page, door-to-door delivery of invites, and making of alumni cards. On-day event management included greeting by incharge of guards, Mr Farid (one of the oldest members of SZABIST), the makaiseller outside SZABIST, a Wall of Fame, and a corner for memories to create the ambience of SZABIST. A well-appreciated play as in-function entertainment and a scrumptious dinner was followed by qawwals by the Coke Studio’s Abu Ayaz and Farid Ayaz qawwals. The event was conducted under the supervision of visiting faculty Mr Faizan Baloch.

Conference on Operations Management Held

The First Annual Conference of Accelerate Corporate Efficiency (ACE) was hosted by students of BBA 6B in collaboration with the BBA Program of SZABIST, Sui Southern Gas Company Limited (SSGCL), and InfoTech on April 1, 2012, at the Royal Rodale, as a part of their Operations Management course. ACE 1.0 is SZABIST’s most recent foray into accelerated corporate efficiency, and was organised to provide tomorrow’s leaders with the opportunity to learn from today’s legends. Mrs Biquis Edhi (Edhi Foundation) was the Chief Guest. Prominent guests and speakers included Mr Zafar Aziz Osmani, CEO, Excelerate; Mr Tanveer Jamshed (TeesJays); Mr Najib Butt, CEO, CIS Communications; and executives from SSGCL and IBM. The Conference included an interactive panel discussion moderated by Mr Leon Menezes (Shell Pakistan). The evening concluded with a dinner and qawwals’ performance by Fareed Ayaz and Abu Mohammad.

Merit Scholarship Examination

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Ayesha Imtiaz, BBA

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Q 1: Please tell us about the EMBA program at SZABIST and why should one pursue it?

SZABIST’s Executive MBA (EMBA) program for corporate managers and entrepreneurs, launched in 2007, offers an HEC-recognised degree to executives who wish to enhance their productivity and strategic thinking. Executives will be able to leverage their rich work experience through the curriculum, interactive sessions, conferences, symposiums, and a wide corporate network.

Q 2: How is EMBA different from regular MBA?

EMBA’s curriculum follows the same high standards of SZABIST’s full-time MBA program, while adjusting for the high level of experience and knowledge that the senior participants bring to the classroom. Most importantly, the program encourages students to bring work issues to class, where experienced fellow students and faculty help develop a solution. The class comprises of seasoned professionals with an average work experience of 10 years. Executives with at least four-year work experience and a bachelor’s degree are eligible to apply for the EMBA program.

Q 3: How do you see the EMBA program at SZABIST growing?

We have some very strong future plans in terms of enrollments and curriculum. The program has reached out to a number of companies and we are in the process of developing alliances with a few of them to broaden our student base. The curriculum has just been revised and new specializations like Supply Chain and Entrepreneurship have been added to meet the needs of the corporate sector. With excellent faculty and a strategic location, I definitely foresee SZABIST EMBA as the most preferred and recommended one in the next few years.

Ms Subeika Rizvi, Assistant Professor and Program Manager, Executive MBA, has done her MBA from IBA, Karachi and has over six years of corporate and teaching experience. She teaches entrepreneurship and finance courses at SZABIST.
To improve the quality of education at SZABIST, the Institutional Research/Quality Enhancement Cell (IR/QEC) has made progress on the previously launched Self-Assessment Reports (SARs) of the BS Social Sciences program, and the MBA 36 and MBA 72 credit hours programs. All three programs are in the final stages of the assessment process. SARs have been launched for the BBA, MS Computing, and MBA 90 credit hours programs.

To keep up with developments in the SAR process, IR/QEC staff attended a workshop organised by the Higher Education Commission on the ‘Program Mission, Objectives, and Outcomes’ components of SAR. The Self-Assessment exercise has given structure to the programs offered at SZABIST by enhancing their strengths, addressing weaknesses, and improving the overall quality of education.

In addition, IR/QEC has prepared the first draft of the Annual Report 2010-2011 and the Research and Development Annual Report 2010-2011.

edc hosts
A TEA WITH EMPLOYERS

SZABIST’s Executive Development Center (EDC) organised a networking session with the senior officials of PSO, Oglevy and Mather, Oman International Bank, Express Group, BMA Capital, and Pak Oman Asset Management to assess corporate requirements from business graduates, on February 17, 2012. The meeting was presided over by Dr Amanat Ali Jallabi, Vice President (Academics) and Dean Faculty of Management Sciences. Ms Wajeeha Fatima Javed, Head of Academic Services and BBA Program Manager; Mr Muhammad Zaki Rashidi, MBA-Day Program Manager; and Mr Kumail Hemani, MBA-Evening Program Manager were also present on the occasion.

FACULTY PARTICIPATES IN
18TH MASTER TRAINERS
FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Master Trainers – Faculty Professional Development Program (MT-FPDP) is an intensive eight-week in-service orientation and professional certification program by Learning Innovation Division, Higher Education Commission (HEC), for freshly-inducted faculty members at higher education institutions. So far, 524 faculty members of public and private sector universities have benefited from it.

Under this initiative, Ms Dania Majeed and Mr Obaid Pervaiz Gill received training and after successfully completing the program were conferred the title ‘Master Trainer’ by Mr Mustafa Shuja ur-Rehman, Minister for Education, Literacy, and Transport, Government of Punjab. The Master Trainers will organise and carry out trainings for the professional development of SZABIST faculty to ensure academic excellence.

Research Papers presented by SZABIST Faculty

The faculty of SZABIST has authored and presented the following research papers in international conferences: “Need Based Development of School Counseling Program: Unconventional from Pakistan’s Perspective” by Dr Farheen Nasir, and “Mapping Internet Exchange Points” by Mr Muhammad Naveed Dilber.

Executive Development center (EDC)

MOCK INTERVIEW SESSIONS

Through mock interview sessions, the EDC presented final semester students an opportunity to experience the real world job hunting process. The mock interview panelists, mostly SZABIST’s adjunct faculty with impressive credentials, provided feedback on students’ overall presentation and performance during the interview to make them realise how posture, body language, eye contact, and general demeanor can play as large a role as the content of one’s resume in an interview.

EDC Staff

CORPORATE FINESSE WORKSHOP 2012

The EDC conducted the Corporate Finesse Workshop from April 5-6, 2012. Up to 300 students from BBA, MBA, BSSS, and BSCS registered for six sessions of the workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to mentor students in choosing a career matching their natural inclination and aptitude; guide them in identifying their hard and soft skills; and make them aware of their most important workplace values.

During the workshop titled ‘Success Ka Chida Ya Ka Naam Hai’, Mr Farid Amiwal, a seasoned motivational speaker, trainer, and coach, shared his techniques on planning for a successful career. Mr Rashid Sami, trainer and motivational speaker, Green Cherry Solutions, spoke on the merits of entrepreneurship in the session ‘Employment vs Self Employment’. Mr Sohail Zindani, Trainer, Learning Minds Group, coached students on managing their careers and living life to its fullest in the session ‘To Live Your Strongest Life’. Ms Saman Khalil, Trainer, M. CUBE shared valuable insights on ‘The Power of Positive Attitude’. Ms Ayesha Saleem, Talent Acquisition Specialist, Standard Chartered Bank, in her session ‘The World of Competencies Know Thyself!’ gave an employer’s perspective on hiring.

JOBS FAIR 2012

The SZABIST Annual Job Fair organised by the EDC from February 10-11, 2012 received an overwhelming response from the corporate sector and the young graduates.

Around 30 well-known companies, including Nestle Pakistan, Cupola Pakistan, JS Bank, UBL, Hum TV, Summit Bank, w/tribe, Burj Bank, Herbion, Wavetec, State Bank of Pakistan, Express Media Group, DHL, Sybrid Pvt. Ltd., Avanza Solutions, Pak Oman Asset Management, Sagacious, Salsot, and Meezan Bank participated. The annual event provided 600 talented graduates with the opportunity to meet top employers, seasoned recruitment professionals, and consultants under one roof. It allowed participating companies and potential employers to have one interaction with students, while conducting CV screening and on-spot interviews, making job offers, and exchanging information relating to internship opportunities and management trainee programs.

JOBS FAIR 2012

SZABIST participates in Career Expo 2012

SZABIST Karachi participated in Career Expo 2012 organised by the Aga Khan Education Services, Pakistan, on April 1, 2012. Other participating universities included LUMS, IBA-Karachi, Iqra University, and Aga Khan University. SZABIST reached out to approximately 2000 students from all educational backgrounds.
Guest speaker sessions and seminars

Guest speaker sessions and seminars are a regular feature at SZABIST, in which well-known trainers, media persons, and corporate executives of MNCs and local companies are invited to give SZABISTians a taste of professional life.


Some of the prominent speakers were Mr Adnan Rashid, Senior Researcher, Hittin Institute, UK; Syed Hammad Jahlut, Professional Services Consultant, Teradata Karachi; Mr Sarmad Palijo, CEO, JOsh FM 99: Dr Durdana Butt (Sitara e Imtiaz: Artist); Dr Kashif Ali, Research Scientist, Natural Products Laboratory Institute of Biology, Leiden University, Netherlands; Mr Vqar Ahmed, former GM, HR, PSO; Mr Muhammad Amin Qazi, Senior VP, National Bank of Pakistan; Mr Nuru din Abjani, CEO, Tyre Sales Corporation, Karachi; Mr Mushtaq Khan, Chairman, OPEN, Washington DC; Mr Adnan Asdar, CEO, Multinet Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd.; Dr Fouzia Saeed, author Tabe: Ms Madiha Javed, Head, Treasury Function BYCO Petroleum; and Mr Qayser Alam, VP, Supply Chain Management, Unilever.

news briefs

SZABIST’s radio channel, ZABFM 106.6, completed four years of successful transmission on February 8, 2012.

As a public service message, SZABIST’s Sustainable Development Research Centre (SDRC) organised a presentation on gutka consumption for SZABIST staff on April 25, 2012. Around 45 staff members attended the seminar.

Dr Mustaghis’ur-Rahman, Faculty of Management Sciences, won a contract for preparing three case studies on best corporate social responsibility practices in Pakistan, in April 2012. In this regard, Dr Mustaghis worked with United Nations Global Compact Pakistan Local Network Project.

Dr Faraz Juneejo, Head, Mechatronics Engineering Department, represented SZABIST as a member of the Regional Project Evaluation Committee, in Microsoft’s Imagine Cup regional finals (Sindh), held from April 9-10, 2012 at HEC Regional Center, Karachi.

CSR ACTIVITIES

A group of SZABISTians, Jaag Morey Talibe-Ilm, established a montessori, Orange Tree, in January 2012. The project was initiated for underprivileged children mostly belonging to Lyari, Orangi, Korangi, and Azam Basti.

The cost of education is covered by the sponsors of the school. The fee of Rs300 per month is deposited by the Montessori in the students’ school accounts to be used if the need arises. Even after the children get admission to private schools, the sponsors will continue to pay for their education.

The first batch of 12 toddlers is being prepared for admission to schools such as St Michael’s, HeadStart, and DA Public School.

The Islamic Awareness Society (IAS) initiated a four-day environmental campaign, ‘Think Green Think Islam’, from April 2-5, 2012. The objective of the campaign was to spread awareness among students about the environment friendly teachings of Islam.

Mr Deen is Green invited students to place potted plants in SZABIST and tend to them. Many students signed a green banner and pledged to adopt at least one healthy habit that would benefit the environment. A food stall by the name ‘I am Islamic, Feed me Organics’ was set up to appreciate all the wonderful organic things that Allah has given us to consume.

student achievements

Mina Kidwai, a student of Media Sciences, has made SZABIST proud with her remarkable achievements. As President of ZABMUN, she represented SZABIST at Emirates Model United Nations in Dubai, and won the best delegate award. She was offered 100 per cent scholarship for RomeMUN.

Farhan Hafees, BBA

Sorath Neel, a student of BBA, was selected to represent SZABIST at the National University of Singapore Summer Program 2012. She was among the 18 students selected from all over Pakistan.

SZABIST Law school team secured first runners up trophy in the Third National Moot Court Competition organised by the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS). The SZABIST team consisted of Saad Jamuni, Hassaan bin Shaheen, and Shehrish Anees. A number of teams represented their institutions at the competition, including teams from Quetta, Multan, Gujrat, Islamabad, Karachi, and Lahore.

To encourage mutual understanding between Pakistan and the United States of America, 102 students from all over Pakistan were selected to study in the US for Spring 2012, under the Global Undergraduate Exchange Program by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), US Department of State. After rigorous selection, four students were chosen from SZABIST: Karachi. Manoj Kumar Maheshwan (BBA) was placed at Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota; Dosti Zahra Jafri (BSMS) went to State University of New York (SUNY), Plattsburgh; Ali Khalid (BBA) attended University of Arkansas; and Komal Gopi (BBA) was at the American University, Washington DC.

Komal Gopi, BBA

Zaheer Nayar, BBA Social Sciences
Students of BBA 4B, as a part of their course Business Ethics, conducted a Cruise for a Cause event on March 25, 2012. ‘The Calypso’ embarked on a voyage from the Marina Club with an aim to contribute towards helping the poor and saving the planet, simultaneously carrying out a profitable venture.

A certain percentage of the total earnings from the cruise were allocated for a CSR initiative which took place on April 17, 2012 in collaboration with a renowned NGO, Gulbahao. The NGO recycles discarded material and uses it to build houses, known as chandighar, which can be easily dismantled. The Calypso was chosen the Best Off-campus Class Project on April 2, 2012 by SZABIST Student Council (SSC).

Students of BSSS 8 undertook a field research project at a shopping mall to study the problem of its decreasing customer loyalty, for the course Quantitative Skills, on March 10, 2012. Thirty-one students administered questionnaires to visitors, conducted interviews of shopkeepers, and closely observed activities within the mall. As an incentive for participation, respondents were entered in a lucky draw for a cell phone. The research produced useful suggestions for the mall to increase competitiveness in the market.

Students of BBA 4A organised ‘Rang Dey – A Celebration of Colors’ as a part of their Business Ethics course, with the objective of saving the planet and helping the needy. The event was held at a farmhouse in Karachi on March 11, 2012. Over 250 students from SZABIST and other universities enthusiastically participated in playing with colours, kite-flying, scavenger hunt, and other exciting activities.

A day-long beach cleaning activity was carried out at the Sea View Beach, Karachi, on March 21, 2012. The profits from the event were donated to SSWAB Trust Dialysis Centre and Make-A-Wish Foundation, Pakistan.

Students of BBA 4C, as a part of their Business Ethics final project, gave their presentations on different topics from an ethical perspective on April 29, 2012 at Carlton Hotel. The five judges, all SZABIST Alumni and experts in different fields of Business Administration, were Mr Kamran Khalid, Mr Rafay Ahmed, Mr Mubashir Ahmed, Mr Imran Altaf, and Mr Fahad Zuberi. The students got a feel of the corporate world—its decorum, pressure, and ambiance.

Students of BBA 6A and 6E, as a part of their Marketing Management course, executed a blitzkrieg of high-profile projects with different themes during March-April 2012. ‘Reality Check’ by Team Invincibles taught people to realise the value of different aspects of life which are usually taken for granted and included a talk show hosted by anchor Faisal Qureshi. ‘Hai Koi Hum Jaisa’ by Team Incredibles highlighted the positive aspects of Pakistan and the great achievements of various Pakistanis in different fields. ‘Do the smart thing, CONSERVE’ by Team Sustainability created awareness about the wastage of water, paper, and electricity. ‘Paradigm Shift’ by Team Metamorphs involved activities that spread the message of equality and dangers of stereotyping.

A day-long beach cleaning activity was carried out at the Sea View Beach, Karachi, on March 21, 2012. The profits from the event were donated to SSWAB Trust Dialysis Centre and Make-A-Wish Foundation, Pakistan.
The SZABIST Law School team represented by Hiba Thobani, Faiza Saleem, and Misha Lakhani bagged a trophy at the All Pakistan International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Moot Competition organised by the SZABIST Law Society from January 14-15, 2012. Thirty-six participants comprising 12 teams from prestigious law colleges from all over Pakistan participated in the competition. The judges panel comprised of six lawyers and academicians. 

Chief Guest, Mr David Tuck, Legal Advisor, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and the Guest of Honour, Barrister Shahida Jamil, former law minister, appreciated SZABIST’s initiative in organising the moot. Dr Saqib Rizavi, President, SZABIST, inaugurated the ceremony. 

Participants were subjected, during the preliminary rounds, to demanding dual Moot Courts at the Carlton Hotel. The judges and participants were then taken to Port Grand to enjoy the pleasant scenery with barbecue cuisine. The Semi-Finals and Finals were held at Frere Hall, followed by a relaxing Ghazal Night. The Closing Ceremony was attended by the Chief Guest, Honourable Justice Faisal Arah, Sindh High Court; Guest of Honor, Justice Khalida Rachid Khan, President, UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda; Mr Ahmer Bilal Soofi, prominent international law expert; and Mr David Tuck, Legal Advisor, ICRC.

Association of Computing Machinery (ACM)-SZABIST Student Chapter organised a workshop on WordPress 2012, on January 17, 2012. Students were trained to create their own websites, e-stores, and blogs during the workshop, which was developed as an advanced training to the prior training on WordPress basics.

SZABIST Adventure Society (SAS) organised a two-day trip for students to Mohenjo-daro on January 28, 2012. SAS organised another trip on February 5, 2012 to explore deep sea waters through scuba diving and snorkelling at Mubarak Village and French Beach.

Young Senators Society (YSS), in collaboration with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Generation Next Voice of Youth, organised an event on ‘Youth Mobilisation and Community Development’ on February 15, 2012. The event was inundated with talks by various guest speakers and was well-received by the audience.

The Annual Zonal Assembly of the Rotary District Region was held on February 26, 2012. Rotaract Club of SZABIST Karachi Mid-city (RCoSKM) was triumphant by winning awards in a total of five categories, including the ‘Best President’ and ‘Best Club’. This event also marked the 107th birthday of Rotary International.

The Youth Ideas Competition 2012 (YIC12) was organised by SZABIST Entrepreneurial Society (SES). The 4-day event commenced on March 5, 2012 with 22 registered teams to submit innovative business plans. The competition was judged by Mr Nizar Noorali, Mr Baqir Zaidi, and Ms Parkha Khan. Teams were trained to market their ideas through a workshop conducted by Mr Mehmood Nanji. The first day of the event ended with a social event ‘ROFL’, which included plays and stand-ups. On the second day, Mr Tapu Jarveri, Mr Neil Christy and Mr Srush Khan judged the viability of marketing plans, after which the teams were trained to prepare financial plans by Mr Faizan Ahmed. It was followed by ‘Nokia Challenge’ wherein the participants sent in a write-up about their favourite social media application. On the third day, the financial feasibility undertaken by the teams was adjudged by Mr Samiullah, Mr Mustafa Jamil, and Ms Tabinda Baig. On the last day, presentations were given by Mr Zain Goplani and Mr Ali Saeed on ‘Inspiration’ and ‘Venture Capitalism’. The six shortlisted teams made 15-minute presentations each and the winning team was awarded the prize of Rs250,000. The event was awarded the Best Internal SZABIST Society Event by SSC.

SZABIST Literary Club (SLC), in collaboration with SSC, made a successful endeavour by launching a magazine called ‘IN INK’, which aims to integrate students from various study disciplines and give them an opportunity to not only discover themselves on an academic, but also on a practical level. The first issue was published in March 2012, and was well-received.

The SSC Awards Night was held on April 2, 2012 to recognise outstanding society and academic events, and the achievements of individual students. The most coveted award of the evening was Best Society, won by Rotaract Club of SZABIST Karachi Mid-city (RCoSKM). Other high profile awards were Best Internal SZABIST Society Event awarded to Youth Ideas Competition 2012 (YIC12) organised by SZABIST Entrepreneurial Society (SES); Best External SZABIST Society Event awarded to ZABMUN Conference organised by ZABMUN; Best On-campus Class Project awarded to ZAB Media Festival organised by BSMS 7; and Best Off-campus Class Project awarded to The Calypso organised by BBA 4B. In addition, shields were presented to individual students with outstanding academic and extra-curricular achievements.

The SSC Elections were held in the last week of April 2012. According to the revised SSC Constitution, elections were called on Panel Basis. Candidates filed their nominations after forming a panel of their choice. Elections for posts of Executive Body and General Body were held on the same day. Haris Ahmed (President), Ali Zahid (Vice President) and Sarrah Millwall (General Secretary) won the elections unopposed. Fawad Chohan was selected SSC Treasurer through a panel interview. The elected Executive and General Body will be serving SSC for 2012-13.

The Calypso CAMPUS BUSTLE AND BEYOND
FACULTY IN FOCUS

SHAAISTA SARKI

Ms Shaaista Sarki is an Assistant Professor and the Head of Law Program. She has earned her LLM from the Beasley School of Law, Temple University, USA. Ms Sarki launched the Law Program at SZABIST in 2002 with few students. Today, it is one of the finest law schools in Pakistan. Her advice to students is: ‘If law school is what you really want, then take it pretty seriously.’ Her areas of interest are British Constitutional Law, European Union Law, and Human Rights.

SUCCESS STORY

MUHAMMAD YOUSUF

Mr Muhammad Youusuf started his career at SZABIST in 1999 as an attendant at the Centre for Information and Research. In 2000, he was made a security guard. Looking at his zest for education, he was allowed to complete his F.A. He was then promoted to the position of Assistant in the Academics department and later served in the Administration department. Currently, he is working as a Library Assistant, and is in the process of completing his B.A. in Library and Information Science. He strongly believes that education and hard work can pave the way to a brighter and successful future at SZABIST, where he gained confidence with each step forward on the career ladder.

DEPARTMENT IN DEPTH EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The SZABIST Executive Development Center (EDC) ensures that SZABISTians are groomed for taking on challenging corporate roles in their professional lives. It channelizes the hiring of SZABIST graduates in reputed firms when recruitment efforts are launched. To ensure that these graduates succeed in the corporate sector, EDC takes a number of initiatives. It has instituted the annual student development workshop titled ‘Corporate Finesse Workshop’, an annual interactive event for students to network with potential employers titled ‘Job Fair’; and ‘Mock Interviews’ for senior students. All three events provide career counseling to graduating students and prepare them for the corporate screening process and subsequent career success. The EDC also maintains a comprehensive database of SZABIST alumni to keep their employment status up-to-date. They are engaged throughout the year through different events and social media activities. An alum is regularly invited for mentoring sessions on the ‘Alumni Ambassador Show’ broadcasted on ZABFM 106.6, whereas inviting alumni as guest speakers and trainers in conferences and workshops for students is a norm. While in cyberspace, EDC’s Facebook page provides a platform to streamline interaction amongst SZABIST’s fresh and old graduates in the physical world, an alumni reunion is organised annually to facilitate regular interaction between the alumni and students so that SZABISTians gain access to jobs that are never advertised.

EDC Staff

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS

REHAN HYDER

Rehan Hyder completed his MBA from SZABIST in 2003. After completing his MBA, he worked for the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), and is currently working for the World Bank.

He recently returned from the Fiduciary Forum in Washington DC. The Fiduciary Forum is a flagship learning event held every two to four years by the Financial Management (FM) and Procurement (PR) Sectors. The main objectives of the Forum are to expose participants to the latest approaches and practices in Public Financial Management and Procurement, debate issues, and exchange ideas. At the Forum, among the Harvard and Yale sweatshirts, people noticed and asked Rehan Hyder about the word ‘SZABIST’ printed on the back of his sweatshirt, to which he replied, ‘It’s the magic carpet that brought me here.’

Staff Reporter

STAR STUDENT

Umair Bilal

Umair Bilal, a student of BS Media Sciences, has been selected for a 2-year scholarship in Documentary Film Making by Erasmus Mundus. The course is delivered by three European Universities namely, Universidade Lusofona de Humanidades e Tecnologias (Lisbon, Portugal), Sint-Lukas Brussel Hogeschool voor Wetenschap & Kunst (Brussels, Belgium), and University of Theatre and Film Arts of Budapest (Budapest, Hungary). He will be studying for at least one semester in each of these universities for his Master’s program.

After his graduation, Umair intends to showcase the diversity of cultures that exists in Pakistan and change the way the world perceives his country. Recognising the importance of SZABIST, Umair said: ‘The best thing about SZABIST Media Sciences Department is its qualified faculty, which considers filmmaking not just a profession, but a medium of expression. The program equips students with both theory and practice, which enables graduates to be real artists.’

Severe Akhter, Marketing Officer

RECRUITER REVIEWS

DAMCO

DAMCO is one of the world’s most experienced providers of freight forwarding and supply chain management services. With 10,500 professionals in over 270 offices around the world, DAMCO generates revenue of USD 3 billion, while catering to more than half of the Global Fortune 100 Companies in industries as diverse as retail, electronics, apparel/footwear, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, food and beverages, chemicals, aerospace, and government service sector. In Pakistan, DAMCO is providing dedicated supply chain and forwarding services to customers through country-wide offices.

Currently, 15 SZABISTians are working in different capacities in DAMCO. ‘The students of SZABIST are dynamic. They always welcome challenges and add value to their profile by exploring new dimensions in given responsibilities and tasks. They are also keen towards growth and development, not only in terms of self, but for their team as well,’ said Ms Abeera Riaz, HR Generalist, DAMCO. ‘Besides good communication and interpersonal skills, they demonstrate great confidence in times of pressure. They have always depicted innovation and have added value through their association with DAMCO.’

Tazeen Naim (DAMCO) and EDC Staff
**szabist dubai**

**participation in ICTBM’12**

SZABIST Dubai participated in the International Conference on Technology and Business Management (ICTBM’12), held at the University of Wollongong in Dubai (UOWD), from March 26-28, 2012. Two papers were presented from SZABIST Dubai. Ms. Hadeeqa Batool, Admissions Executive, presented a paper titled ‘How does Social Networking Affect New Entrepreneurial Ventures in UAE?’ The second paper titled ‘Prioritizing IT projects in Rapidly Growing SMEs’ was presented by Waqar Ahmed, a student of MS Computing (IT), and co-authored by Dr A. Faiz M. Ishaq, Head of Campus, SZABIST Dubai.

*Sahar Qureshi and Hadeeqa Batool, Admissions Executives*

**MBA & MS IT HOMECOMING**

The Admissions Department at SZABIST Dubai organised an Alumni Homecoming from January 22-25, 2012, for MBA, MSIT, and MSCS graduates. The homecoming was the first step towards a series of similar events and activities planned for the future to build a strong and lasting bond between SZABIST and its alumni.

*Sahar Qureshi, Admissions Executive*

**RAYMOND BIG IDEA COMPETITION**

The Raymond Big Idea Start-Up Challenge finale took place on February 16, 2012 at the Dubai Knowledge Village Auditorium. The top 10 aspiring entrepreneurs shortlisted for the competition presented their business plans to a panel of distinguished judges. Ms. Fatima Sarwar, a student of BBA 4, won the Challenge for her idea of an innovative online tuition portal, which was titled ‘Teletuition Online’.

*Alijah Batra, Faculty of Media Sciences*

**PAKISTAN DAY CELEBRATIONS**

SZABIST Dubai sponsored a series of events related to Pakistan Day celebrations organised by the Pakistan Association Dubai (PAD) with the aim to gather the Pakistani community and celebrate Pakistan Day on March 23, 2012. The celebrations included Mushaira, Meena Bazaar, and a beach cleaning activity. Mr. Jamil Ahmed Khan, Ambassador of Pakistan to the UAE, was the Chief Guest at the certificate distribution ceremony.

*Hadeeqa Batool, Admissions Executive*

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**szabist islamabad**

**CONFERENCE ON PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

The First National Conference on Project Management Practices in Emerging Markets was held at SZABIST Islamabad on January 25, 2012. Some of the prominent guests included Mr. Guanrengan, Chief Operating Officer, Huawei Technologies Pakistan; Mr. Aadir Rauf, Chief Operating Officer, Alcatel Lucent Pakistan; Mr. M. Salman Bilal, Project Director, Ravi Welfare Society; Mr. Sohail Iqbal, CEO, SysCopm; and Mr. Ahsan Maqbool, Incharge PMO Systems, Descon Integrated Projects Limited.

**14th NATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

The 14th National Research Conference was held at SZABIST Islamabad on January 31, 2012 with an aim to promote research in diversified areas. Dr. Nazir Sangi, Vice Chancellor, Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad, graced the event with his presence along with Dr. Rakhshinda Perveen, Founder Executive Director, SACHET Pakistan; and Mr. Altaf Gohar Khan, Chief Executive Officer, PERITUS Pakistan.

**WORKSHOP on BUSINESS TECHNIQUES**

The Centre for Entrepreneurship and Leadership (CEL), a joint initiative of SME Business Support Fund, Ministry of Finance, and SZABIST Islamabad conducted a workshop titled ‘Business Techniques’ on February 16, 2012. Certified trainers from International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Bank Group, shared their expertise with students and professionals. ‘Business Edge’, a world class training system that delivers practical, needs-driven, and high impact management trainings for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), was also shared with the participants.

**4th CONVOCATION**

SZABIST Islamabad held its 4th Convocation on March 17, 2012 at Convention Centre. Dr. Fehmidah Mirza, Speaker National Assembly, was the Chief Guest for the ceremony. Twenty high performers received gold medals in different disciplines, and 532 students, including one PhD, were awarded degrees.

**BOOK PUBLICATION**

Mr. Mehdi Hussain, alumnus of MSC program, SZABIST Islamabad, has authored a book titled ‘Efficient Data Hiding Methods in Digital Data’. He is currently working as a Senior Software Engineer at Streaming Networks, Islamabad.

*Ayesha Mujtaba, Public Relations Officer, SZABIST Islamabad*
During Spring 2012, SZABIST Larkana organised guest lectures on diverse topics such as Ethical Issues in the Business World, Statistical Analysis, Training and Risk Management, and Communication Skills and Leadership. A number of eminent personalities from different industries were invited to share their valuable knowledge and expertise. Some of the prominent speakers were Mr. M. Asad Nizamani (Abbott Laboratories Pakistan Limited); Ms. Salma Rehman, Visiting Faculty, Bahria University, Karachi; Mr. Tanzeel Sahito, Risk Manager, Karachi Stock Exchange; and Mr. Andeel Ali, District Project Manager, Karachi, Hyderabad and Sukkur, Youth Parliament Pakistan.

A series of seminars was organised by SZABIST Larkana during Spring 2012 on various topics such as Islam and its Teachings, Merits of Saving, UN-Habitat, Career Counseling, and Fulbright Scholarship. Some of the prominent speakers at these seminars were Mr. Saeed Anwar, former cricketer; Mr. Zulkarnain Aali, Social Media Head, UBL; Mr. Ikramullah Khan, Field Coordinator, and Ms. Magdline Walter, Social Monitor, UN-Habitat; and Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Program Officer, Fulbright Scholarship Program.

To inculcate and encourage entrepreneurial spirit in students, a two-day event ‘SZABIST Entrepreneurial Blast’ was held from April 12-13, 2012. Students organised different businesses and catered to real life customers. On the second day, a musical performance was held by ‘Sketches’. The event concluded with the distribution of awards to students who demonstrated outstanding business acumen. The guests of honour included Mr. Amanullah Jokhio, Registrar, Mohtarama Benazir Bhutto Medical University; Mr. Abdul Razzak Soomro, Member Board of Trustees, SZABIST; and Mr. M.B. Soomro, Head of Campus, SZABIST Larkana.

CSR BY SZABIST

As part of a CSR initiative, students of MBA 4 visited various public schools and colleges in Larkana over a period of two months. They organised seminars aimed at personality management and grooming of the underprivileged members of the society.

Syed Ghous Ali Shah, Faculty of Management Sciences
SZABIST Larkana

SZABIST HYDERABAD

FOUNDER’S DAY

In honour of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, a Founder’s Day Seminar was organised by SZABIST Hyderabad on January 5, 2012. Dr. Suleman Shaikh, Secretary Board of Trustees, SZABIST, was the Guest of Honour. He spoke on Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto’s life, his vision, and contribution in politics. Mr. Manzoor Mirani, renowned journalist, Mr. Majid Siddique (media professional), and Mr. Amir Siddique, an educationist and development expert, also spoke on the occasion.

An Orientation Ceremony was held for the new admissions on January 8, 2012, at the Sindh Museum, Hyderabad. Dr. Amanat Ali Jalbani, Vice President (Academics), shared SZABIST’s future plans for improving the standard of education within the country. The Head of Campus, Dr. Rafiq Ahmed Chandio, and faculty members also addressed the gathering.

The Students’ Society of SZABIST Hyderabad organised the first Basant Festival on February 25, 2012. Mr. Sarfaraz Rajar, Advisor to the Chief Minister of Sindh, was the Chief Guest. Popular musical bands Sketches, Signature, and Positive performed at the event. Students also presented an entertaining skit.
IN MEMORIANCE

The Board of Governors, administration, faculty, and students of SZABIST extend their deepest and heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of alumni Jawed Azez Momon and Ahmer Akhlaq who were killed in separate armed attacks in Karachi, in January 2013. Jawed was working at MCB after completing his MS in Management Sciences programs. A number of research papers by Dr Isran have been published in HEC-recognised journals.

Management, faculty and staff at SZABIST felicitate him on this achievement and hope that he will continue his contribution to excellence in education at SZABIST.

Nabha Gul, Associate Editor, JISR-MSE

CONGRATULATIONS!

Dr Manzoor Ali Isran received his PhD in International Political Economy, from Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur in 2012. His thesis is on ‘TMP’s Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) and its Impact on Pakistan Economy 1988-2002’. Dr Isran has been associated with SZABIST since 2008. He teaches in Social Sciences and Management Sciences programs. A number of research papers by Dr Isran have been published in HEC-recognised journals.

Management, faculty and staff at SZABIST felicitate him on this achievement and hope that he will continue his contribution to excellence in education at SZABIST.

Nabha Gul, Associate Editor, JISR-MSE

team szab‘nings

L to R: Jaya S. Loungani, Malvah Sharan, Wajeeha Fatima Javed, Ambreen Ahmed, Brum Khan, Nabha Gul, Nasheen Munir, and Syed Bashir Ahmad

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SZABIST’s first Wind Power Turbine
Sindh Abyss Academy Seminar Series
International Research Conference
In-house Faculty Professional Development Workshop

For feedback and Suggestions
Send your comments to: newsletter@szabist.edu.pk

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