



Newsletter

NWFP UNIVERSITY OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY, PESHAWAR

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Mardan Campus



Bannu Campus



Abbottabad Campus



Vice Chancellor's Message

Fall 2008 is coming to a close. While the country is under tremendous economic and geo-political strain, we at UET have had a welcome, smooth sailing. Thank God for small mercies!

In November 2008, we had a colourful convocation, in which more than seven hundred graduates were awarded degrees. Scholars that had gone abroad in 2004 and 2005 in the HRD component of our projects, have started to trickle back. Infrastructure in those projects is in various degrees of completion, and many buildings have been commissioned, vastly broadening our scope of activities.

Our finances are still under stress, and we are trying hard to honour our commitments. We are hopeful that the corner has been turned, and we will see better days ahead. I would like to acknowledge the cooperation of the students and faculty in these difficult financial times. I am proud for the sagacity and patriotic maturity that has been exhibited.

And finally, I would like to congratulate the entire team responsible for the constantly-improving "Newsletter". Of special mention are the "correspondents" who, along with the Directorate, bring the whole thing together.

Good luck and God bless!



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Engr. Syed Imtiaz Hussain Gilani

CONVOCATION 2008

More than seven hundred graduates, got B.Sc and M.Sc degrees in telecommunication, mining, mechatronics, mechanical, industrial, electronics, electrical, computer systems, computer software, civil, chemical, architectural, and agricultural engineering, as well as computer science and information technology, at the UET Convocation 2008, held on 15th November, 2008.

NWFP Governor, Owais Ahmed Ghani, was chief guest, and awarded degrees to the graduates. In his address, the Governor said that engineers had a great role in economic as well as defense development of the country. "Whatever difficulties we have been facing are for the sake of independence we enjoy, and the more we as a nation become stronger, the more we would be secure," he said.

"The state of development and progress that we see on part of the advanced nations, in both economic and technological fields, has become possible after passing through many challenges and difficulties," the Governor said. He urged the graduates to continue the struggle to achieve more advancement to ensure a secure, respectable and honourable future.

The Vice Chancellor, while presenting the annual report, said that UET was the first amongst its sister institutions in the public sector, which adopted semester system of examinations four years ago, and the first batch has passed out. During the period, number of students has been brought from 1600 to 3700, while the number of departments has also doubled over the same period.

He said that 108 faculty members of the university were pursuing their PhD in high ranking foreign universities. The prevailing state of studies in various disciplines in UET is also compatible with the international standards, he said.

Earlier the governor gave away gold medals and awards to the graduating students. Mohammad Nisar Khan, Waqar Ahmed, Ameerul Hassan, Maqsood Ahmed, Usman Ali and Nadir Muhammad Khan were awarded the coveted presidential awards, while another 21 graduates were awarded gold medals for achieving distinction in their respective disciplines.



Graduation Night



More than 700 graduates celebrated the conclusion of years of their hard work, sacrifice and study at the graduation night, held on the eve of the convocation. It was a gala night of celebration and congratulations for everyone involved. While teachers and students gave a rousing cheer

for the graduates by offering a lively entertaining program and speeches, the "graduates" paid their tribute to teachers with memorable messages. **Highlights:**

Engr. Shah Nawaz, a prominent civil engineer who worked as General Manager (Tarbela Dam Project), served as ex-chairman WAPDA, ex-chairman Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC), and Pakistan Institute of Engineers for two terms, and ex-chairman NESPAK, in his key note address congratulated the graduates on obtaining engineering degrees from one of the most prestigious engineering universities of Pakistan. While sharing his experience, he said, the field of engineering is wide open for them to select through a range of engineering disciplines. While in his times, there was no choice for them, even they could not pursue engineering education in any engineering college, let alone an engineering university. "Opportunities were limited and resources were almost none" Engr. Nawaz went on explaining the way he had to manage", "today you find as many as 1000 consulting firms of engineers where you can pursue your career. But till 1973, we did not have a single firm of consulting engineers". During my service in three large hydro electric projects- Warsak, Tarbela and Mangla, I really was not very happy that all the consulting engineers were foreigners-not a single consulting engineer from Pakistan to serve the nation. Then I made a commitment to myself that if God Almighty gives me a position where I can help in establishing a Pakistani consulting engineering firm, I will do it. Luckily I got the opportunity. When I was appointed as chairman WAPDA, I invited a number of retired engineers who were doing nothing. I asked them to setup a consulting firm; one each in Sindh, Punjab, Balochistan and NWFP. While I was pursuing this, the government of Pakistan also felt the need to have a firm of consulting engineers in government sector, thus I was called up to set up the NESPAK. That's how I set up the NESPAK in 1973. I was appointed as its first chairman. My advice, therefore, to you is to set same goals before your enter in practical life, but first of all, be a good Muslim, and then be a good Pakistani.

I wish you a bright future. And, hope you will give the best to your institution and country!"

Vice Chancellor Engr. Syed Imtiaz H Gilani

The graduates were also acknowledged by the vice chancellor. In his closing remarks, the vice chancellor appreciated the graduates for showing discipline during the convocation, amid strict security conditions. The years taken to obtain the engineering degree reflect the commitment and sacrifice undertaken by the students. "You all have risen to the occasion - congratulations and enjoy your success", he added.

The commencement address was given by the Organizer, Dean Prof. Dr. Azzam-ul-Asar who congratulated the graduates.

MESSAGES

Engr. Umar Ibrahim (MS. Mechanical Engineering)

Education is not everything, but it is the only thing. In fact it is the central vision of our alma mater. Every one of us must take this vision where ever we go. We are thankful to the faculty for giving us the experience we had at UET.

Engr. Usman Ali (Gold Medalist Electrical Engineering)

My heartfelt congratulations to all graduates! I give recognition to the institution and to the people who are behind our success. We salute to our teachers and our parents who enabled us to get this cherished diploma. Thank you!

Engr. Munema Fatima (Computer Science & Information Technology)

Congratulations graduates and thank you, all the teachers, especially to my chairman, Dr. Inayatullah Babar, for taking us here, I must say destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice, which is not made in heaven, rather we have to achieve it.

Engr. Syed Ahsan Ali Shah (Computer Systems Engineering)

He dedicated a poem to graduate on the occasion.

*Goodbye, dear friends, classmates and graduates!
Our golden time is over now,
Our time of nothing more than time,
Days of simply being friends.
But I will always treasure how
Your love for me slipped into mine,
Embracing me where courage ends.
Graduation is a time
For feeling very proud,
For thinking lots of lovely thoughts
And saying them out loud...
Promise you wont forget me as you go away,
promise you'll be back to see me someday!*

Engr. Hina Ashraf (Electrical Engineering)

It is a great feeling for us to be called as "young engineers and future of this country". It is an incomparable and matchless experience for us. Our success, today is no doubt, a tribute to all our teachers' hard work and parents' support and mainly-God Almighty's help. UET environment has contributed a lot in our growth. In the end, I will request all the graduates to give a big hand to all our teachers. I wish the graduating engineers good luck!



ORIENTATION DAY

All the new students of first year session 2008 got a rousing welcome from the faculty, administration and senior students at the orientation ceremony.

In his welcome speech at the inauguration ceremony, vice chancellor urged the new entrants to make good use of their time to enrich their university lives, build up social networks, interact with people from different cultures, and broaden their horizons. By doing so, they shall equip themselves to meet the present and future challenges and the intense competition.

UET is a multi cultural university. "Culture is all about how we live, dress, eat and speak. We at UET do not recognize any group to be more or less than others, we believe in equality of all. In order to build this attitude, besides technical knowledge, we include soft courses like communication skills, culture and philosophy and professional ethics in our syllabi", he added.

In his concise advice, the vice chancellor urged students to follow semester schedules. "From the very first day, you have to prepare

for quizzes, assignments and examinations, as there is no compromise on schedules, and no provision of repeating the mid-term and final-term examinations. Semester system is like a 100 meter race, and every one has to keep his or her pace in a fixed time period". This is the reason UET is running this system successfully with out any delay. Our last year's batch graduated in three years and nine months, while before this, in the annual system, it could take four to five years", he added.

"Our goal is to make you well trained engineers, but we do not teach "politics" here. We ensure that in just three years and nine months, you will get the degree. During this time, no politics will be allowed to disturb the conducive environment we are maintaining here".

Ms. Ammara and Mohsin Hameed, students of 5th semester Electrical Engineering Department, also welcomed students and made orientation presentations about the university.



Students briefed on the orientation day

MEETING WITH NESPAK

A meeting with NESPAK team, headed by General Manager NWFP NESPAK, and Project Manager, UET Jalozai Campus, Mr. Habib-ur-Rehman, was held with Vice Chancellor and Advisor Finance & Planning, Mr. Muhammad Sarwar Khan. The objective was to discuss the geotechnical plan of Jalozai Campus, a mega project of NWFP UET Peshawar costing Rs. 6.656 billion, which was officially handed over to NESPAK for detailed designing, and construction supervision.

The meeting discussed issues related to geotechnical investigation. The Vice Chancellor directed the team to expedite the process by reducing the number of "bores" to a limit with a minimum cost so that tender documents could be finalized for hiring contractors.

NWFP UET has engaged NESPAK for master planning, detailed designing and construction supervision of its new campus at Jalozai, district Nowshera. Covering 352 acres, it is to host 3,500 students in eight departments, while the campus will have a total covered area of 1.02 million sq. ft.

The meeting was attended by civil engineering experts, Prof. Dr. Akhtar Naeem, Dr. Irshad Ahmad, and project team including Muhammad Siddique (Director of Works) and other senior faculty and administrative members.

NWFP UNIVERSITIES FACE ACROSS THE BOARD BUDGET CUTS

A meeting of vice chancellors of public sector universities of NWFP was held, with vice chancellor UET in chair. The meeting discussed the issue of severe budgetary crisis universities are facing, and difficulty in running the universities affairs. The meeting devised a strategy that was proposed to the Governor NWFP Owais Ahmed Ghani, Governor NWFP/Chancellor of Universities, in the vice chancellors conference on October 20, 2008.

In the backdrop of recent slash in higher education budget, it has become a real battle for public sector universities to deal with this issue. While 66 % cut in the recurrent budget has already put a tremendous pressure on universities, the expected 15% release in the next quarter development budget will leave us nowhere; some development projects have come to a halt and our foreign faculty development programs facing a serious blow. This would create a negative image of political government, that universities which are considered to be back-bone of development in a country, are facing severe crisis due to a sudden change in higher education policy.

Representatives and vice chancellors of University of Peshawar, Women University, Peshawar, Agricultural University, Peshawar, Gomal University, DI Khan, Kohat University of S&T, Bannu

University of S&T, Hazara University, Malakand University, Chakdara, Khyber Medical University, Islamia College University, Peshawar, and IM Sciences, Peshawar, attended the meeting.

FOUNDATION OF HYDRAULICS LAB

In response to the fast development in the field of Fluid Mechanics a core subject of mechanical engineering, a fully furnished Hydraulics Laboratory has been established in the department. Engr. Iftikhar Ahmad, Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department said that hydraulics laboratory will serve students of mechanical engineering by giving them hands-on experience and supporting them in undergraduate research.

STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES

- Students of 7th Semester, Department of Architecture, Abbottabad Campus, presented their research work at the Oxford Conference, 2008 under "Poster Program" held recently at University of Oxford, UK. The Oxford Conference 2008, offered two programs to participate in "Oral and Poster". Iftikhar Ali, Mir Wali Shah, Sohaibullah, Ishtiaq Ahmed, Farmanullah, Raham Zeb and Ibrar Hussain submitted the abstract of their research paper on the subject of "Environment responsiveness in design through site orientation: a study of buildings in Abbottabad" which was accepted by the organizers under Poster Program, and students and were invited to present their work from Pakistan as one of the 57 entries published in the Manual. The research work was supervised by Ar. Sameeta Ahmad.



- Fahad Khan, ASME's student Chair, will represent Pakistan at Leadership Training Conference (LTC). Fahad will represent District G (Asia Pacific, which includes India, Pakistan, Singapore & Taiwan) along with Ankush Gupta of India and Liu Shiyu of Singapore in Leadership Training Conference (LTC) to be held in March, 2009 in California, USA. The selection was very competitive and for the first time a Student Chair from UET Peshawar has been selected through a rigorous selective process. He will participate in different competitions, workshops and leadership seminars.



FACULTY RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

- The research articles, "Improvement of masonry structures against seismic force", and "Retrofitting of brick masonry columns by ferrocementing", authored by Engr. Khan Shahzad, lecturer, Department of Civil Engineering, have been accepted by the International Conference on Seismic Retrofitting (ICSR) scientific committee for oral presentation.
- Hamidullah and Bohez, E, (2008), research paper "A Petri net model for the design and performance evaluation of flexible assembly system" published in *Assembly Automaton*, Vol. 28, No. 4, P. 325-339.
- Hamidullah and Bohez, E, (2008) published their paper, "A Petri net model for sequence optimization and performance analysis of flexible assembly system" in the *Journal of Manufacturing Technology Management*, Vol. 19, No. 8, P. 985-1003.
- Research paper by Hamidullah and Bohez, E, (2009), "Mathematical modeling of feature conversion", was published in the *International Journal of Industrial and systems Engineering*, Vol. 4, No. 1, P. 94-110.
- Hamidullah and Bohez, E, and Irfan M.A. (2009), published paper, "Assembly features: definition, classification and usefulness in sequence planning" in *International Journal of Industrial and Systems Engineering*, Vol. 4, No. 2.
- Ahmad Junaid, M.A. Irfan and Hamidullah's research paper "LS Dyna as a valid tool for analyzing stress wave propagation under impact lading", got published in the *Journal of Engineering and Applied Sciences*. Vol. 27, No. 1, P. 53-61
- Rizwan M. Gul "The effects of peroxide content on the wear behavior, microstructure and mechanical properties of peroxide cross-linked Ultra High Molecular weight polyethylene used in Total Hip Replacement", *Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine*, Vol. 19, No. 6, P. 2427-2435 (2008).
- A research paper, "Real-time Object Tracking in a Video Sequence using a fixed point DSP", authored by Aamir Shah, Muhammad Farooq, Abdul Bais, M. Usam Karim Khan, Prof. Dr. K. M. Yahya and Muhammad Tahir has been published in 4th International Symposium on Visual Computing (ISVC) 2008, Lecture notes in computer science by Springer, Las Vegas, USA.
- Abdul Bais, M. Usman Karim Khan, Prof. Dr. K.M Yahya and R. Sablating, Ghulam Mubashar Hassan published a research paper, "Memory Efficient Vision based Feature Extraction for Tiny Mobile Robots" in *Signal Processing Pattern Recognition and Automation (SPPRA) 2008*, Innsbruck, Austria.
- A research paper by Ghulam Mubashar Hassan, Amad I. Marwat, Salman Wahid, Fazal Kareem and Prof. Dr. K.M Yahya and Abdul Bais "Cell Phone based Geographical Advertisement System (CGAS)", has been accepted for publication in *IEE-ICSR I.T. Revolutions*, Venice, Italy.
- Raziq Yaqub, Ihsan-ul-Haq, Prof. Dr. K.M. Yahya's paper, "Architecture Supporting Network Discovery in Future Heterogeneous Networks", has been accepted for publication in 12th IEEE INMIC 2008, Karachi, Pakistan.

- Ihsan-ul-Haq, Prof. Dr. K.M. Yahya published a paper, "Heterogeneous Networks: Challenges and Future requirements", in IEEE International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies, Bannu, Pakistan.
- "Analysis of VoIP by using different Vocoders in IEEE 802.11b Wireless Networks", a research paper by Ihsan-ul-Haq, Prof. Dr. K.M. Yahya, Ghulam Mubashar Hassan, Tariq M. Jadoon, published in 1st National Conference on Security, Computing Communication, Kohat, Pakistan.
- Shah Mahmood, Ghulam Mubashar Hassan, M. Hammad Hassan presented their paper, "DoS and DDoS Attacks: Analysis and Prevention", at the 1st National Conference on Security, Computing and Communication, Kohat, Pakistan.
- Dr. Gul Muhammad, Professor Electrical Engineering Department presented a paper titled "Emergent Instinctive Behaviour in Evolved Neuro-inspired Agents" at International Conference on Modelling Adaptive and Cognitive systems (ADAPCOG 2008). This paper was co-authored by Julian, F. Miller and David M. Halliday, later on published in the proceedings of ADAPCOG Conference.
- Dr. Gul Muhammad published a paper titled "Coevolution of Neuro-developmental programs that play checkers" in the book "Evolvable Systems: from biology to hardware"

DEAN DR. M. MANSOOR KHAN HONORED WITH FAREWELL

UET arranged a "farewell" for Dr. Mansoor Khan, (ex-Dean) and welcomed Dr. Azaam-ul-Asar the new Dean of Engineering, on December 5th, 2008. Dr. M. Mansoor Khan served for three years and retired on November 30, 2008.

Dr. Mansoor expressed his gratitude to the administration and teaching faculty for their support during his tenure as dean. "These were the most memorable times of my career and I tried to perform to the best of my abilities", he said.

Engr. Zahir Khan, Chairman Electrical Engineering Department, was grateful for Dr. Mansoor's support for teachers. "He is one of those remarkable people who everyone wants to befriend", he said, "You will be remembered for your friendly style. The teaching faculty found you comfortable to talk with that helped us resolve many issues".

Dr. Azaam, in his remarks, thanked the Chancellor for selecting him for this honor. "I am particularly thankful to the vice chancellor who



Prof. Dr. M. Mansoor Khan (Ex-Dean) expressing his views on the occasion

expressed confidence in me. The growing demand for engineering education, and the issue of sustainability of universities in present circumstances, are major challenges, which we have to carefully deal", said Dr. Azaam. We have to turn these challenges into opportunities. I promise that I will dedicate my energies for the betterment of the university, and I look forward to enjoy the support of all faculty members and remain a part of the team".

Vice chancellor also appreciated the manner in which this handing-over ceremony was held; "the most lively I ever saw", he remarked. He presented the university crest to Dr. Mansoor in the end.

VC VISITS MARDAN CAMPUS



Coordinator Mardan Campus briefing the Vice Chancellor

The Vice Chancellor along with Prof. Dr. Azzam-ul-Asar, Dean Engineering Faculty, Lt. Col (Retd) Imtiaz Ahmad Khan, Registrar and Provost Prof. Syed-ul-Abbar visited Mardan Campus. Campus Coordinator Engr. Mahmood Jan Babar welcomed and gave a brief presentation to the team regarding various issues and activities of the campus.

Later, the team had a wrap-around view of the campus. They visited the library, laboratories, research laboratories, class rooms, and hostels and greatly appreciated the endeavors.

The VC in his address expressed satisfaction over the facilities and learning environment at the campus. He assured that utmost efforts will be carried out to improve the existing facilities in our satellite campuses so that students study in a peaceful environment. He asked the faculty to involve students in research so that they get to know the real problems before they enter in the practical world.

APPOINTMENTS/PROMOTIONS

- Engr. M. Haris Shah, Engr. Sulman, Engr. Tabassum Yasmin, Engr. S. Asfandyar Gilani and Engr. Naveed Ullah, joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering as faculty members.

- Prof. Zahir Khan has been appointed as Chairman, Department of Electrical Engineering. He did his M.Sc in Power Engineering from University of Strathclyde Glasgow, UK. He joined UET as Assitt. Professor in 1983, and has served as Chief Proctor.



- Engr. Muhammad Usman Karim, Engr. Omer Nadeem and Engr. Rizwana Khan have been appointed as Lecturers at the Department of Computer Systems Engineering.

EUTA NEW PRESIDENT ELECTED

The newly elected cabinet of Engineering University Teachers Association (EUTA) took oath before a packed hall with teaching faculty and senior administration. The Vice Chancellor administered oath to the elected cabinet. Prof. Siddique Akbar took oath as President EUTA, while Engr. Zahid Wadud Mufti, took oath as Vice President.

After taking the oath, Prof Siddique Akbar looked to the future of the university. "We must work together for the betterment and welfare of the university. It is the first time in the university's history, that the election took place with maximum participation of teachers, particularly young faculty from satellite campuses. This reflects a "change", visible now with young members taking the office of EUTA."

Listing his agenda, he said EUTA would put all its efforts to work for the welfare and development of the university. He highlighted some problems of teachers, including faculty accommodation, allotment of offices, particularly in Mardan Campus, increase in faculty strength and regularization for contractual posts. He expressed his hope that the administration will consider them.

Vice Chancellor, in his address, congratulated the newly elected cabinet, said the teaching faculty is the strength of the university. "All of us are one family. There is no dichotomy between EUTA and the administration. We all must work as a team, and score at the same goal-post". But in these difficult times, we need

cooperation from teachers. "Stand on the same page with me", he said, "due to the financial crisis, we are trying to approach the government, and I urge you to take the same position and raise your voice through public forums", he remarked.

The new cabinet includes Mr. Ismatullah Khan (General Secretary), Mr. Dilawer Khan (Finance Secretary), Mr. Sardar Ali, (Joint Secretary), while Engr. Abdul Hadi, Prof. Syed-ul-Abrar, Engr. Aman-ul-Mulk, Mr. Shah Jehan, Engr. Nihar Ullah, Prof. M. Zahir Khan, Engr. Khan Shazada and Mr. Sadiq-ur-Rehman took office as executive body members.



The Vice Chancellor is administering oath to the cabinet of EUTA

WELCOME ABOARD

Prof. Dr. Irfan Ullah, has joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering after serving for a year at the College of Engineering, Taibah University, Madina, Saudi Arabia as Professor Mechanical Engineering. Dr. Irfan contributed in the preparation of curriculum, establishing state-of-the-art laboratories and helped in the accreditation of mechanical engineering program. The management and teaching faculty extend a warm welcome to Dr. Irfan Ullah on his accomplishment and joining back his home department.



FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

- Under the project "Strengthening of Existing Earthquake Engineering Centre", faculty members from the Department of Civil Engineering, Engr. Syed Kamran Ayub Shah, Engr. Shahid Ullah, Engr. Esa Khan, Engr. Adeel Arshad, Engr. Shah Naseer, Engr. Hassan Ali, Engr. Naveed Ahmad have recently joined the Rose School of Earthquake Engineering, University of Pavia, Italy, whereas Engr. Muhammad Fahad has joined the University of Buffalo, USA for PhD program.
- Dr. Rizwan Gul has recently been promoted as Professor of Mechanical Engineering Department. Dr. Rizwan obtained his Ph.D degree from MIT in 1997, with research on the use of high

molecular weight polyethylene in total joint replacements.

- Engr. Khan Shahzada, Lecturer at Department of Civil Engineering, UET Peshawar, has been enrolled as Ph.D scholar with Prof. Dr. Akhtar Naeem Khan.

PROF. DR. AZZAM-UL-ASAR APPOINTED AS DEAN, FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Prof. Dr. Azzam-ul-Asar, Professor Electrical Engineering, has been appointed as Dean, Faculty of Engineering, NWFP UET with effect from November 29, 2008 for a period of three years.



Prof. Azzam-ul-Asar completed his Post Doctorate in "Intelligent Systems" from New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, USA. He received his Ph.D. and M.Sc. degrees from the University Of Strathclyde Glasgow U.K. He did his bachelors degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from the NWFP University of Engineering and Technology (UET), Peshawar, Pakistan. His research concerns intelligent systems, neural networks, petri nets and supply chains, with application to engineering problems. He has over 40 publications in international journals and conference proceedings to his credit.

LEGENDS SPEAK: LECTURE / WORKSHOP SERIES FALL-2008

Three sessions of the Lecture/Workshop Series- Fall-08 under the theme of "Legends Speak" were held at Abbotabad Campus that focused on the work of "Living Legends" from the field of Architecture and allied professions to orient students with best practices and knowledge in building technologies in Pakistan.

In the first session, Ar. Ejaz Ahed, a renowned Architect shared with the students and faculty his professional achievements and made a presentation of his work, "Unfinished Journey" on October 17, 2008. Ar. Ejaz Ahed told the students that as an architect, this is a journey which continues on. "It is a profession in which you leave your work to be cherished for generations after you", he remarked.

Dr. Ejaz had a chance to work on real projects while he was studying architecture at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. At 27, he started to manage his company and to date he has accomplished many projects nationwide. A journey started in "Skidmore", with a building designed in Boston, has now entered into new millennium with a landmark project of CDA Towers (now City Hall) in Islamabad.

The most significant project of his presentation was CDA Tower being built in Islamabad. He explained the project through 3D visuals, explaining how an architect can see his/her building before it is built.

Ar. Yawar Abbas Jilani delivered his address on November 08, 2008 by sharing his understanding of Architecture and his professional achievements. Ar. Yawar Jilani said that architecture is a profession which gives you real understanding of how people

live, how spaces are created. He further said that he was still absorbing the definition of Architecture. "Architecture to me is about People + Culture + Context. I am personally inspired by 'Aga Khan' movement which put us to think how people live in their culture", he added.

Underlining the importance of studying history in architecture, he expressed his contentment for the campus located in Abbottabad, surrounded by areas which were the cradle of ancient of Gandhara and Buddhist civilizations in NWFP. It was a passage to India for Alexander and urged students to explore this important area for a better understanding.

"Ar. Habib Fida Ali addressed students on November 28, 2008 on the "Design Approach" and his achievements since he was admitted to AA (Architectural Association School of Architecture), London, after doing Senior Cambridge from Aitchison College, Lahore in 1956.

Ar. Habib acknowledged the Pakistan Burma Shell building as the turning point in his career. He got the project by winning a design competition. Started in 1969, Shell building on a 4,000 Sq.Yd. plot was the first-ever building finished in fair-faced concrete in Pakistan by a Pakistani architect.

Habib Fida Ali also explained his other corporate projects including Commercial Union Building, Cavish Court, Sui Northern, Sui Southern, Islamic Chambers of Commerce, Siemens, British Deputy High Commission, Ibrahim Fiber Agencies.



Ar. Yawar Abbas Jilani, Ar. Habib Fida Ali and Engr. Ejaz Ahed addressing the audience

UNDP WORKSHOP

The United Nation Development Program (UNDP) organized a training workshop on "Earthquake Resistant Construction for Construction Professionals" at Mansehra & Muzaffarabad from 3rd- 5th December 2008. UNDP officials had requested the UET Earthquake Engineering Center to participate in the event, and orient the participants on basic concepts, issues and structure of disaster risk management, and impart requisite skills that will enable them to plan and execute disaster management activities. Director of the Earthquake Engineering Center, Dr. Qaisar Ali, delivered a lecture on "Earthquake Resistant Design of Reinforced Confined Masonry and Retrofitting of Reinforced Concrete and Masonry Structures".

Dr. Zeeshan Aziz deliberated on "Introduction to Disaster Management and Disaster Response Techniques and Methods". His second lecture was on the "Earthquake and Landslide Risk Reduction and Land use Planning Techniques in Earthquake Engineering".

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADVANCES IN SPACE TECHNOLOGIES (ICAT-2008)

Prof. Dr. Azzam-ul-Asar, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, was invited as Keynote Speaker in the 2nd International Conference on Advances in Space Technologies (ICAT-2008), held on 29-30th November, 2008 in Islamabad. The Conference was held under the umbrella of IEEE Society Chapters of AESS and GRSS, Islamabad Section, organized by the Institute of Geographical Information System, NUST, Islamabad. This year the theme of the Conference was "Space in the Service of Mankind".

Prof. Asar spoke on "Application of Data mining Techniques". The keynote speech covered wide scope of data mining techniques, particularly focusing on its application in various fields and identified the potential areas where future research might help in tackling difficult problems.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PROJECT WORKSHOP

The Continuing Engineering Education Center (CEEC), a project funded by HEC, became operational on December 16, 2008, with the maiden event of a three-day workshop on construction project management. The workshop was for capacity building of engineering professionals working in the area of construction management in FATA, and was organized in collaboration with USAID.

The vice chancellor highlighted the significance of continuing engineering education for professionals, and stated that while universities are producing graduates, it is equally important that these graduates enhance their skills while working in the field. He said UET is negotiating with the FATA Development Authority to create a FATA chair at UET, which will act as a think-tank to analyze the industrial developmental needs of FATA. Through

this initiative, our academic experts will be directly involved with the local government, in identifying needs and ensuring that resources are utilized in an efficient manner, he added.

Additional Secretary Coordination, FATA Secretariat, Mr. Zubair Asghar Qureshi, appreciated UET for involving professionals from local government, and termed this as an ice breaker to develop university-industry linkage. "We are waking up to the reality that it is high time to work with academics to adopt modern processes", he added.

Project Director, Prof. Mansoor Khan, informed the audience that centers like this have been established in four other engineering universities of Pakistan. In NWFP it is the state-of-the-art facility to retrain engineers and related professionals in various marketable fields of engineering.



Dr. M. Mansoor Khan, Mr. Zubair Asghar Qureshi and Dr. Zeeshan Aziz addressing at the inaugural session

THREE-DAY TRAINING COURSE

A three-day training course on "Tools and Techniques for Solving Disaster Management Problems" was held at Department of Civil Engineering. The training was sponsored through a USAID funded project and was targeted at training officials from all across FATA region in disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery techniques. Training was coordinated by Dr. Zeeshan Aziz.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- The Earthquake Engineering Center at Department of Civil Engineering, is carrying out pioneering research in experimental investigation of behavior and performance of masonry structures under seismic loading. Dr. Shahzad Rehman, Professor Civil Engineering, is conducting research on developing numerical modeling strategies for computer based investigation into the behavior of masonry structures. Under this research activity, numerical models are being developed to model masonry structures. This research activity will complement the ongoing experimental research activities at the earthquake engineering center.
- The Earthquake Engineering Center is carrying out research on "Seismic evaluation and improvement of stone masonry buildings in Pakistan" under which different prototypes are subjected to tests on a shake-table in the seismic simulation laboratory of UET. Dr. Qaisar Ali is the principal investigator for

the project, funded by Board of Advanced Studies and Research (BOASAR).

VC VISITS ABBOTTABAD CAMPUS

The Vice Chancellor, accompanied by administrative staff, visited Abbotabad Campus on 30 December, 2008.

In his welcome address, Campus Coordinator, Prof. Mussarat Shah informed the team that Department of Electronics Engineering, started in 2004 has got accreditation with the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC), and qualified faculty is teaching the students along with hands-on practice in laboratories.

Ar. Shabir-u-Qureshi made a presentation in light of the Pakistan Council of Architecture and Town Planners (PCATP) Accreditation Criteria. The Vice Chancellor assured that University will support the Department to get it accredited with PCATP and will take necessary steps in this regard.

Later on, the Social Activity Committee of the Campus led by a student Mr. Hammad, held a prize distribution ceremony to present trophies and medals to the winning team and players of the cricket tournament between departments.



MOU WITH UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA SIGNED

NWFP UET and Vienna University, Austria have signed a memorandum of understanding to carry out joint research and academic exchanges in the field of computer systems and information technology. The MoU was signed by Prof. Dietmer Dietrich, Head of Institute of Computer Technology (ICT), Vienna University and Prof. M. Yahya, Chairman Department of Computer System Engineering.



UET, KMU TO SETUP INSTITUTE OF BIO-MEDICAL ENGINEERING

UET and Khyber Medical University (KMU) signed the MoU to establish the Institute of Bio Medical Engineering at UET Peshawar Campus. The agreement signed by the vice chancellor UET, Imtiaz Gilani, and vice chancellor KMU, Prof. Dr. M.Daud han, is aimed to develop a PC-1 for the curriculum development at undergraduate, postgraduate and diploma level of education..

UET PESHAWAR AND MARYLAND UNIVERSITY FORGE ACADEMIC LINKAGE

NWFP UET and University of Maryland, USA, have entered into a five-year academic linkage under which faculty members from UET would be trained at MS and Ph.D levels. Both universities will cooperate in fields of common interest, and develop joint projects to enhance exchange of scientific knowledge. They will exchange scholars, hold seminars and joint research activities. Under the agreement approximately 30 teachers will be trained at MS and PhD levels in UMD during next five years.



GOVERNOR NWFP INAUGURATES LARGE SCALE SEISMIC SIMULATION LABORATORY

The Governor, Mr. Owais Ahmad Ghani, inaugurated the Large Scale Seismic Simulation Laboratory at Earthquake Engineering Center (EEC). The state-of-the-art laboratory is being established at the cost of Rs. 500 Million. EEC initially established with a small amount in 2003 has been upgraded to the national level by looking at national needs.



GEMSTONE DEVELOPMENT CELL INAUGURATED

The vice chancellor, inaugurated a five-month diploma course in gemology, offered by the Department of Mining Engineering, under its project "Establishment of Gemstone Development Cell (GDC)", funded by Higher Education Commission, at a cost of Rs 32.6 million.

NEWLY ESTABLISHED GIRLS HOSTEL INAUGURATED

Vice chancellor inaugurated the girl's hostel building at Peshawar Campus in the presence of teachers, project director and representatives of Girls Hostel. The hostel building has been constructed with a grant from HEC of Rs. 17.5 million.

UET, NESPAK SIGN MOU

NWFP UET and NESPAK Pvt. Ltd Lahore entered into an agreement to carry out the consultancy services of UET mega project Establishment of Jalozei Campus, sponsored by HEC, at an approved cost of Rs. 6.56 billion. The agreement was signed by the vice chancellor, Syed Imtiaz Hussain Gilani, and Managing Director NESPAK, Mr. Karamatullah Chaudary.



Under the MoU, consultancy services for the project including planning, designing, tender documents and construction supervision have been assigned to M/s NESPAK. The project aims at developing the UET Jalozei Campus by establishing eight departments at under graduate and post graduate levels, in conventional as well as cutting-edge engineering disciplines. Jalozei Campus would help upgrade UET by expanding its capacity, improving the quality of education and increasing relevance to national needs.

MoU WITH GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SIGNED

NWFP UET and George Washington University entered into a new academic linkage under which faculty members of UET Peshawar would be trained at MS and Ph.D levels at GWU, Washington. Under the agreement, visits of senior professors of both universities will be arranged on reciprocal basis. In addition, few joint research projects, common publications, seminars and conferences are part of this agreement. It was also decided that GWU will admit UET scholars at the rate of 30% discount in tuition fee for admission to the MS and PhD.

GEMOLOGY STUDENTS AWARDED CERTIFICATES

Thirty students enrolled in the five month diploma course on Gemology received their foundation certificates, after completing a two-month basic course, from the vice chancellor, Engr. Syed Imtiaz Hussain Gilani, at a ceremony held under the auspices of Gemstone Development Cell.

Prof. Dr. Khan Gul Jadoon, Director GDC and Chairman Mining Engineering Department, opined that ever since its establishment, a positive response has been seen in the general public, which shows the need and popularity of this course. In future, he said, more courses will be offered in specialized fields relating to grading and evaluation of colored gemstones.

UET WINS ACU AWARD, 2007

The Directorate of Media and Publications, NWFP UET, Peshawar won the prestigious Association of Commonwealth Universities, (ACU) Public Relations, Marketing and Communication Network Awards, 2007.

Director, Media and Publications, Ms. Shamaila Farooq,

received the award from Dr. John Kirkland, Deputy Secretary General Development, ACU, at the award giving ceremony held at the 2nd Global Conference in Durban, South Africa. The theme of the conference was "Building a profile: Key relationships for the communication professionals", and was attended by 120 delegates from 29 countries.



UET GRABS 1st POSITION IN ALL PAKISTAN PROJECT COMPETITION

Ms. Ammara Masood and Mr. Tariq Adnan, students of 8th semester, Department of Electrical Engineering, won first prize in competition organized by COMSATS, Abbottabad on 12 and 13 May 2008.

The exhibition named "EMCOT 2008" was held nationwide in which 25 private and public universities participated and show cased their final year projects.



UET LAUNCHES CAMPUS MANAGEMENT SOLUTION

UET, Peshawar, formally launched Campus Management Solution (CMS), on 19 July, 2008 to efficiently deal with student management issues. The project was completed with the financial support of HEC. Executive Director HEC, Dr. Sohail Naqvi was the chief guest on the occasion.



DR. GUL MUHAMMAD KHAN RETURNS

Dr. Gul Muhammad Khan did his B.Sc Engineering from Department of Electrical Engineering, NWFP UET Peshawar with distinction. Dr. Gul has joined his alma mater after successful completion of Ph.D, sponsored under the Faculty Development Program of NWFP UET Peshawar. His Ph.D title was "Evolution of neuro - inspired developmental programs capable of learning".



USE OF SEISMIC HAZARD ANALYSIS IN ENGINEERING DESIGN

Department of Civil Engineering, in collaboration with USAID and HEC, conducted a two-day international workshop via video conference on "Use of Seismic Hazard Analysis (SHA) in Engineering Design", at HEC, Islamabad on 24-25 August, 2008.



Dr. Irshad Ahmad, Professor civil engineering department, and workshop organizer, discussed the effects of local soil on ground motions at surface level. He urged the need to analyze soil types to understand different frequencies of motion that earthquakes create.

IN FOCUS: DR. ZEESHAN AZIZ

Dr. Zeeshan Aziz joined the Department of Civil Engineering as Assistant Professor in August, 2008. He brings a vast professional experience in teaching, research and consultation. He has taught postgraduate level courses in civil engineering at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (USA), Loughborough University (UK) and London South Bank University (UK). He completed his doctorate in construction informatics from Loughborough University in 2005. Prior to that he did Masters in Construction Project Management and Software Technology from Robert Gordon University, UK.



Dr. Zeeshan's research interests include IT support for managing disasters involving critical physical infrastructure, application of novel technologies such as "Remote Sensing", "Virtual Reality" and "Geographic Information Systems" in major civil engineering projects, and for infrastructure condition assessments and intelligent automation of construction tasks.

His interest in the field of research is evident from the fact that two chapters on "Context Aware Virtual Prototyping" in the book titled, "Virtual Futures for Design, Construction and Procurement" are to his credit. Besides, he has authored eight papers in international journals and presented several conference publications. Presently he is the member of editorial review panel of International Journal of Construction Project Management (NOVA Science Publishers, USA). His consultations involve international construction projects-Fanest Business Intelligence (a Loughborough University spin-out) and Appear Networks (a Swedish Technology Company).

Based on his outstanding professional achievements, Dr. Zeeshan has received honors from Loughborough University, a research grant for his research on "Context-Aware Service Delivery to Support Class Room Teaching", conferred with the Best M.Sc Project award, SCMS, RGU-July, 02 and Under-Graduate Academic Achievement Award (1995-1997). He is also the Commonwealth Scholarship holder, to pursue his M.Sc in 1999.

With Compliments

Directorate of Media and Publications
NWFP University of Engineering & Technology Peshawar

Photographs: M. Zafar, Design: Aurangzeb

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NEWS BRIEFS

- Meeting of the board of studies, Department of Agricultural Engineering was held with Prof. Dr. Zahid Mahmood in chair on 29th November, 2008. The Board unanimously recommended the scheme of studies of the session 2008-09 Research and Development.
- Prof. Dr. Taj Ali Khan and Prof. Dr. Dulat Khan successfully completed a consultancy project of CIP, CDMD Peshawar. The project was aimed to evaluate environmental impact and analyze performance of the completed project units in different districts of NWFP.
- A three member team of Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) visited the Department of Agricultural Engineering on 13 and 14th October, 2008. The department was granted three-year accreditation.
- Student of 5th semester, Industrial Engineering Department arranged a farewell party, in honour of Asstt. Prof. Shahid Maqsood as he left for PhD to Bradford University UK. The party was attended by the chairman Dr Iftikhar Hussian along with other faculty members of the department. They all expressed their views and greeted him with best wishes for his bright future.
- A group of faculty members comprising Engr. Iftikhar Ahmad, Dr. Rizwan Gul and Engr. Feroz Shah from Mechanical Engineering Department, along with visiting faculty Prof Dr. Tahir Khan, visited the Mardan Sugar Mills to discuss improvement of rollers used for crushing sugarcane. The delegation was received by the Resident Director, Abdul Qadir Khattak, who briefed the delegation about various aspects of sugar processing.
- Regular classes of undergraduate engineering program in Mechatronics Engineering and Industrial Engineering have started from November 10, 2008 at the newly built Institute of Mechatronics at Hayatabad.
- ASME arranged a field trip to Pakistan Tobacco Company, Akora Khattak, on September 13, 2008 for student members of ASME UET Peshawar. The purpose of the trip was to give exposure to industrial operations.
- The UET teams will participate in the HEC, annual university games 2008-09, to be held during January-March. The championship will be held in different cities under the auspices of Pakistan Universities Sports Board, in which all universities will participate. UET teams will participate in Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Athletics, Volley Ball and Table Tennis.