



America's Doors are Open to Pakistani Students

USEFP Reaches Out

As the academic year comes around again, USEFP would like to continue its work of helping Pakistani students get admission in universities in the United States. For the last academic year we can report major success as many of our advisees got into excellent schools including Ivy League institutions with huge financial aid packages. We want to continue this work and hope to get an even higher number in to universities next year. It might interest you to know that there was a 20% increase in just this one year of students going to the U.S. As part of our continuous effort to help students, USEFP has planned a calendar of activities every month to reach out to you.

September

Advisors will visit schools in Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, Islamabad, Abbottabad, and Faisalabad. Advisors will deliver presentations to students outlining the various opportunities of studying and living in the U.S. Along with this, we will also offer a workshop for teachers on tips for "Writing Effective Letters of Recommendation". This is a vital component of your students' application package and we find that we in Pakistan do not do justice to this aspect of the application. September will also include visits from Admission Directors of Harvard and Princeton Universities. They will be making presentations in five schools in Karachi, with USEFP as their official hosts.

October

The Advisors will offer presentations to institutes in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Gujranwala, Sialkot and Bahawalpur. We are also offering workshops on "Writing Personal Statements" for students who have started applying to colleges in the U.S.

If you are interested in inviting USEFP to your institute to deliver presentations, kindly contact us at advising@usefpakistan.org to reserve a time for yourself.



Zehra Ratani with international educators in Milwaukee.

USEFP Advisor Meets International Educators from Milwaukee

Zehra Ratani, Education Advisor, USEFP, visited Marquette University, Milwaukee to attend a 6-week summer program in June 2006. During her stay, she visited universities in Milwaukee and made presentations on Pakistani education system to 12 international educators which included, four educators from Wisconsin universities, namely Marquette University, UW-Milwaukee, Alverno College and Carol College, as well as to Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE). She also met Pakistani students at these universities. They shared their exciting student life experience and were pleased to see that professional guidance and counselling is now available to Pakistani students interested in pursuing higher education in the U.S.

Issue # 10

Educational Advising

An open letter from U.S. Ambassador Ryan C. Crocker

Number of Pakistani Students in the U.S. Increases Sharply

On July 7, 2006, the U.S. Ambassador Ryan C. Crocker, wrote an open letter to students, teachers and parents of Pakistan. Some excerpts from the letter are given here:

Since Fall 2005, the issuance of student visas to Pakistanis increased by almost 20%. The U.S. Embassy in Pakistan has taken a number of steps to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the visa process:

1. Student visa applicants do not require an appointment.
2. The Embassy has improved its processing and most student visas are issued within six weeks, and often much sooner.
3. Serious students who have done their homework on selecting a U.S. University, and who follow the visa application procedures set out on the Embassy website (http://islamabad.usembassy.gov/pakistan/niv_student_visas.html), have every reason to expect that they will receive a visa.

The U.S. and the Pakistani governments have both recently increased funding for Pakistan-U.S. Student Fulbright program, giving it a budget of over \$30 million a year. This makes the program the largest Fulbright program in the world in terms of funding. Over the next five years, the two governments will spend \$157 million to enable talented young Pakistanis to pursue M.A. and Ph.D. programs at U.S. Universities.

At present, there are more than 7,000 Pakistani students studying in the U.S. When these students return, they are not only equipped with the best education in the world, but also with a unique understanding of how to excel in an increasingly globalized world. In addition, these young people have served as informal ambassadors, sharing their cultural heritage and representing Pakistan wherever they go.

The Ambassador strongly recommends that the students seek out the help of the United States Educational Foundation in Pakistan's educational advising center, where the students can get advice on the whole search and application process.

Such expert help is now available free of charge.

Attention All Students!

You are invited to attend group advising sessions on undergraduate and graduate studies in the U.S., every Wednesday and Thursday. For prior registration, please write to advising@usefpakistan.org. If you are interested in one-to-one advising, please contact us at the above email address for an appointment.

Issue # 10

Educational Advising



Shuja Malik, Education Advisor at USEFP is seen with Prof. Dr. Hayat Muhammad Khan, Vice Chancellor Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, taking him through the USEFP Outreach Center established inside the University.

Qualities of Excellence - Projecting your Traits in College Essays

A willingness to compete with yourself as well as with others. You ask more of yourself, striving to better your own performance. You wrestle with the devil in you that would persuade you to take it easy. You have balance in your life, but you push yourself and test your perceived limits.

A positive outlook on life. A jovial, extroverted manner does not necessarily reflect a positive outlook. You may be the strong, silent type. Your positive outlook embodies a healthy optimism and a confidence that reassures those around you. Your competitive spirit inspires even your opponents, who trust your honest striving. You rely for stimulus on your innate optimism, rather than on substances.

Good organization in use of time and study habits. You have learned that there is time for everything as long as you are aware of what must be done. You do the important things first, and the trivial things take care of themselves instead of eating into your study hour. You get enough sleep, you have added energy as a result, and you get things done more efficiently.

A concern for others, which often earns you the role of leader. You have been praised for your personal qualities at home and in school, and so you respond warmly and genuinely to others. Your self-confidence and capability inspire people to have confidence in you and to seek you out to fill leadership roles.

For college admissions you will be presenting a “snapshot” of your particular areas of excellence.

Ask yourself these questions and answer them below:

1. What is my most outstanding achievement outside class?
2. How can I best call attention to this in my application?
3. How would I rate this achievement: excellent, good, fair?

4. How does my excellence match with campus activities at particular colleges (to help identify institutions that will be especially appreciative of what you do)?

5. If i fail, then what will I learn from the failure?

FEEDBACK



Dear Advisor,

With all your help and guidance time to time , I got US F-1 student Visa Today .I vexed you alot during my Visa application process. Sorry for that. I would like to say United States Educational Foundation is playing major role in guiding young talented students so that they can pursue higher studies abroad . I am grateful to you and entire United States Educational Foundation team in making my dreams coming true.Thanks indeed!

Regards ,
Ayesha Jabeen.

America's 25 New Ivies

'Ivy League' a small group of private universities that enjoy a reputation for providing excellent education, and attract top students. Ivy League is the name applied to eight universities in the US (Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Pennsylvania, Princeton, and Yale) that over the years have had common interests in scholarship as well as in athletics. In Newsweek's August 21-28, 2006 issue, a list of "New Ivies" was published by Barbara Kantrowitz and Karen Springen. This list has been developed on the basis of admissions statistics as well as interviews with administrators, faculty, students and alumni.

Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Mass.
Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine.
Carnegie Mellon Pittsburgh, Pa.
Claremont Colleges: Harvey Mudd and Pomona, Claremont.
Colby College, Waterville, Maine
Colgate University, Hamilton, N.Y.
Davidson College, Davidson, N.C.
Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.
Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio
Macalester College, St. Paul, Minn.
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.
New York University, New York, N.Y.
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Notre Dame University, South Bend, Ind.
College of Engineering, Needham, Mass.
Reed College, Portland, Ore.
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N.Y.
Rice University, Houston, Texas
University of Rochester, Rochester, N.Y.
Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.
Tufts University, Medford, Mass.
University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, Calif.
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.
University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va. Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Mo.

The Second International Conference on Productive Ageing in Pakistan was held on September 19-20, 2006 at the Margalla Hotel Islamabad. The conference was jointly sponsored by the Pakistan National Centre on Ageing (PNCA) and the United States Educational Foundation in Pakistan (USEFP). One hundred and fifty-five participants from all over Pakistan, including several Fulbright alumni, attended this conference.

The conference was inaugurated by the Federal Minister for Health, Mr. Muhammad Naseer Khan, who assured the participants that the senior citizens are an important part of our society and we would benefit from their experience and expertise. He further informed that special counters has been set up in all the federal hospitals for elderly and he is going to issue instructions to the provincial health ministries to establish separate counters in the provincially administered hospitals as well. He also told the group that ageing was one of his priorities as President of WHO's Executive Committee on Health.

Col. (Ret.) S.K. Tressler, former Federal Minister and Chairman PNCA, opened the conference. Dr. Grace Clark, Executive Director USEFP, gave the key note address emphasizing that the majority of older persons in Pakistan are self supporting and support others. She also added that older persons, especially older educated persons such as Fulbright alumni, present a wonderful, mostly untapped, human resource for Pakistan. Other dignitaries, including Fulbright alumni, presented papers, highlighting health, income, and social needs of the elderly.

Fulbright/Humphrey News



United States Summer Institute for Pakistani Undergraduate Leaders 2006

In the month of July, thirty-six undergraduate students from Pakistan attended a six-week program in the U. S. from July 15 to August 26, 2006. The students were divided into two groups, with one group attending the Institute for Training and Development in Amherst, Massachusetts, and the other group attending the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. A few weeks into the program, a flood of emails were arriving from students at both institutions.



Undergraduate students at the Institute for Training and Development in Amherst, Massachusetts

clothes tonight”, Imtisal Zafar Chaudhary, a participant attending the Institute for Training and Development, Amherst.

“We’ve all settled in, and have had the first day of classes today. The accommodation is brilliant, the campus is brilliant, and everyone has been unbelievably friendly

“Well the trip is going amazing; actually it is a HUGE learning experience. Everyday in the mornings we have lectures and then each day we have activities planned. We were taken to this student-run radio station at one of the colleges and they wanted to interview us for a radio program! There was an on-air music program going on at that time called ‘World Beats’ and they interviewed us live for the show! People



Undergraduate students enjoying an evening out

Council meeting, and the way all the councilors had gathered up to discuss the local issues etc. was a great experience. Today we’re going to a ‘Pot Luck’ dinner a South Asian family has hosted for us. We will be wearing Pakistani

started calling in to ask us questions about the country and culture. Isn’t that great? At the end of the show I gifted the deejay some Pakistani music and he played it on air right away. We attended a City



Undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville

so far. The campus is flooded till Friday because UT is hosting a Christian Church event so there are 6000 people running around. It is fun though because we get to meet a lot of people. I’m off for now; we’re going to watch a movie but first lunch at burger king,” Omar Bashir Maniar, studying at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Issue # 10

five

Upcoming Test Schedule

TOEFL iBT Schedule: The upcoming iBT test dates are: **October 08, October 18, November 03, November 10, November 17 and November 20, 2006.** Venue of the test is USEFP New Building.

SAT Schedule: The upcoming SAT dates are: **October 14, November 04, December 02, 2006 and January 27, 2007.** Candidates should report to Margallah Hotel Islamabad. For further details, please visit the web address www.sat.org/splash.

TSE Examination: The upcoming TSE dates are: **October 14, November 18, and January 13, 2006.** Venue of the test is USEFP New Building.

USEFP Moves to New Premises

With an increase in the number of Fulbright scholarships, test takers and outreach activities, USEFP has moved to new premises in Islamabad. Along with housing Fulbright Programs, the new premises incorporates a dedicated Prometric Thomson Testing Center and an Advising Library where students can make use of both electronic and paper resources. Our new contact details are:

Telephone: 0092 51 2877075-6, 2201404

Fax: 0092 51 2877095

Email:

info@usefpakistan.org (Fulbright programs)

testing@usefpakistan.org (Prometric Testing Center)

advising@usefpakistan.org (Educational Advising Center)

The Official Guide to the New TOEFL iBT

The Official Guide to the New TOEFL® iBT prepares you for the new test — and success!

Published for ETS by McGraw-Hill, this guide helps the test taker to learn all about the new TOEFL® Internet-based test (iBT) and how to prepare for it. Using tasks, sample questions, tips, strategies and more, learners gradually build the skills they need to succeed in an academic setting.

The guide provides information on:

New test features, format and question types
Overview of the Reading, Listening, Writing and Speaking sections

Scores

Test registration

Test prep tips and student Frequently Asked Questions

Get targeted information about the four skills being tested.

Detailed explanations of what is being tested in each section and how each section is structured.

In-depth descriptions of the multiple-choice Listening and Reading questions with valuable tips for answering them.

Detailed information about the Speaking and Writing sections with scoring information, real student responses and actual rater's comments.

The guide also includes a companion audio CD with authentic TOEFL listening passages and students' spoken responses.

The guide costs USD 30 and can be ordered via visiting the website www.ets.org/toefl/



www.usefpakistan.org

+92-51-2877075, 2877076, 2201404

Email: advising@usefpakistan.org

Fax : +92-51-2877095

