The second annual South Asia Tour came through Pakistan April 9-14. Four senior U.S. admissions and recruitment representatives visited Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad. They met students and visited schools and colleges to answer questions about higher education opportunities in the United States. The Tour also traveled to Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Afghanistan, but the participants were especially impressed with the welcoming environment and student interest they encountered in Pakistan.

With the Fulbright Masters and PhD Program deadline of May 16 fast approaching, USEFP was busy in outreach to universities all over Pakistan throughout March and April. A new strategy this year was to address applicants' fears about the GRE requirement for Fulbright by taking a GRE workshop on the road. Workshops were held in Hazara and Faisalabad, with more planned in May for Peshawar and AJK. In addition to introducing potential applicants to the contents and format of the exam, a diagnostic GRE is offered as part of the workshop at no cost to help applicants assess the amount of preparation they will need to be competitive. USEFP testing staff traveled to the universities and administered the computer-based exam on site. In March and April, 335 students and faculty members took advantage of this opportunity. USEFP will continue to offer this service year round, especially to public universities.

USEFP warmly welcomes five new Pakistani members to the USEFP Board and looks forward to benefiting from their experience and expertise. We also want to thank the outgoing members for the valuable guidance and support they gave USEFP over the past two years.

USEFP mourns the tragic loss of Fulbright Senior Specialist to Pakistan, Dr. James Eldin Reed. Professor Reed was making his third visit to Pakistan as a Specialist, working on improving American Studies in Pakistan, when he passed away on April 5, 2012. Dr. Reed was a great friend of Pakistan and USEFP and he will be deeply missed.
ALUMNI

- Fulbright Alumnus, Dr. Shaikh, becomes the first VC of Sindh Madressatul Islam University
- HEC honors USEFP Alumni
- Lahore alumni get together at the Bistro 201 Café
- Fulbright PhD grantee shares her research with Islamabad Chapter
- Faisalabad Chapter helps extend outreach

TESTING

- GRE Mock Test facilities now available at local universities
- USEFP offers APICS exams in Pakistan
- Mark your calendar for the next API Exam in Pakistan
- Professional Examination Service
- Dates to remember – upcoming test schedules

Disclaimer: Ed-USA News also contains third party content from cited sources, therefore, these are not the views of USEFP. Please note that the items have been edited for purpose of brevity. To unsubscribe, please send an e-mail with Subject 'Unsubscribe' to usefp@usefpakistan.org
USEFP welcomes new Board Members

USEFP welcomes new board members and looks forward to benefiting from their guidance and expertise.

1. Dr. Muhammad Ali Shaikh  
   Vice Chancellor  
   Sindh Madressatul Islam University, Karachi

2. Dr. Nasir Jamal Khattak  
   Vice Chancellor  
   Kohat University of Science and Technology, Kohat

3. Mr. Masood-ul-Mulk  
   Chief Executive Officer  
   Sarhad Rural Support Program, Peshawar

4. Ms. Sadia Malik  
   HR Manager  
   Fauji Fertilizer Limited, Rawalpindi

5. Dr. Syed Iqbal Raza  
   Joint Executive Director  
   Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences, Islamabad

We would also like to thank the outgoing members for their valuable contribution towards the promotion of Fulbright and other USEFP programs in Pakistan.

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**PROGRAMS**

**Fulbright outreach in full swing**

To promote the Fulbright Program, USEFP staff reach out to more than 4000 students and faculty of educational institutions across Pakistan. They visited Mehran University of Engineering & Technology (MUET), Jamshoro; University of Sindh & University of Sindh (old campus), Hyderabad; Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam; Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur; Z.A. Bhutto Agriculture College, Dokri; Aga Khan Foundation, Karachi; Karachi University, Karachi; Punjab University, Lahore; Forman Christian College, Lahore; Beaconhouse National University, Lahore; University of Central Punjab, Lahore and Government College University, Lahore.

If you are interested in having USEFP visit to talk about Fulbright Program at your institution, please contact info@usefpakistan.org.
Fulbrighters make the most of their study experience abroad

Here are some highlights:

**Bilal Sami**, a student of Ohio University, shoots his full length feature film as part of his MFA thesis, which will be the first thesis feature film to be produced out of this school. Here is the link to the trailer: [http://vimeo.com/36838658](http://vimeo.com/36838658)

**Mahwish Humayun**, a graduate student at Fordham University has been nominated to attend the St. Gallen Symposium in Switzerland winning ‘Wings of Excellence’ award, covering full cost of her attendance. This symposium brings together over 600 leaders and 200 students across the globe for an interactive conference, with this year’s topic being ‘facing risk’.
Suleman Qazi, a PhD student at the Arizona State University is elected as the President of the Fulbright Students Association at Arizona State University.

Mustafa Naseem, A graduate student at the University of Colorado has been recently awarded with a fellowship to supplement his summer internship with the United States Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in Washington, D.C. He will work on a project to increase the amount of products available to people with disabilities and will be eligible to attend a special lecture series as part of the fellowship.

Umair Jangda, an Master of Fin Arts student at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, had his photo series featured in ‘Life’ Magazine in their October 2011 edition. He created a remarkable series of images based on a simple, sneakily powerful concept photographing Muslims of different ages and backgrounds to alter the perception of Islam in the West.

Global UGRAD-Pakistan Updates

Ihtesham ul Haq participated this spring in the National Model Arab League (NMAL) in Washington, DC. As part of the NMAL team from Kennesaw State University, Ihtesham served as a justice on the ‘Arab Court of Justice’ and participated as an advocate to present a case. Ihtesham reported that the case was difficult to prepare, as he and his teammate needed to represent Libya's bid to reform the intervention policies of the League, citing the case of Libya’s revolution. Ihtesham earned his participation in the national league after participating in the regional MAL conference in South Carolina, where his team won an Honorable Mention. "The major thing which I have learned from my own experience," Ihtesham says, “is I became more confident and I got more courage to express my views.” Ihtesham, a Political Science student, would like to organize a similar session at his home institution, the University of Peshawar.

Komal Gopi, studying at American University, offered her services to the Kitchen Project this semester, an initiative that helps to feed the poor at the Regency House, a senior public housing establishment in Washington, DC. In addition to serving food to the residents, Komal has enjoyed her experience talking to senior citizens and listening to their experiences. “Giving someone a listening ear is in itself a big service, I believe, and that is what we all did,” Komal remarked. “It was also the best opportunity for me to promote Pakistani culture and fulfill the core reason of me being here on the Global UGRAD-Pakistan Program.” While Komal has had former experience with community service in Pakistan, she expressed herself feeling a new sense of accomplishment with this project. “The Kitchen Project is successful; the success in my case was measured by the peace which I got after I came back home and pondered over my whole day.”

Yasmeen, studying at Southeast Community College, has been regularly volunteering at The Kensington, a senior resident facility in Beatrice, Nebraska. In addition to helping residents with daily activities such as shopping, social hour, and personal care, she has also helped organize larger events. She worked with a local non-profit, called Merry Makers, to bring different performers each month to The Kensington. In addition, she’s worked with the Foster A Grandparent program, which brings approximately 45 middle school children to spend time with their “adopted grandparents” every two weeks. Yasmeen feels she has learned a lot of things through her community service at The Kensington. “It has enhanced my leadership skills, interpersonal relations, team work, and critical thinking,” notes Yasmeen. “This was largely because I was working with people from different age groups – the residents, my supervisor, as well as school kids.” Yasmeen especially enjoys her time working with Merry Makers. “I enjoyed the musical program they organized after Valentine’s Day. Everybody was wearing fancy dresses. It was very interesting.”
Azeema Batool, studying at Old Dominion University (ODU), volunteered this semester at the Global Student Friendship organization in Norfolk, VA. As a lead volunteer, she helped coordinate the food delivery program in which food is prepared and delivered to local food banks and homeless shelters. Azeema’s duties included posting delivery needs on the organization’s Facebook page, recruiting volunteers, and assisting with food delivery logistics. Azeema has volunteered in the past, but reports that her multifaceted role has allowed her to grow as a volunteer. “Since I had an authoritative position, I think I have acquired management and leadership skills. I am also more confident to talk to people and engage them in conversation,” she reports.

Azeema shared that all of her hard work, left her with a rewarding experience and was not gone unnoticed. “It is due to the community service I did and contacts I made by virtue of it, that I was able to meet the ODU president and was invited to a reception at his house as an international leader.”

Muhammad Umar Farooq, studying at the University of Idaho, learned new skills quickly this semester, by virtue of his community services work, which was to paint the house of a less fortunate resident in his host community. Although he had no prior experience with painting, he ended up facilitating parts of the project. Umar reports that his most fruitful gain from this experience was through the community members he worked alongside with. “I learned how to communicate better and work with people of every age,” he explained. Umar says that he looks forward to taking the skills he gained back home with him to Pakistan and applying them in reconstructing homes that were devastated by natural disasters.

Nadir Khan, Abdur Razaq and M. Irshad, studying at Dillard University, visited the University of New Orleans recently, where they met several Pakistani and Indian students. Upon Nadir’s introduction, he was invited to join a cricket match the students were playing. “I played very well, making 20 runs in just 10 balls. Everyone was very impressed!” he reported. Infact they were so impressed, that Nadir was invited to be part of their Kenner Cricket Club and was given an official team uniform. Nadir, Abdur and Irshad also recently celebrated the Hindu religious festival, Holi with their Indian friends, along with the Pakistani spring kite festival i.e. Basant. “I really enjoyed my time with both communities,” noted Nadir, “especially the part where I had a delicious dinner with the Pakistani community!”
Since his arrival at Eastern Michigan University, Muhammad Yasir Nawaz has taken advantage of a variety of opportunities for a cultural exchange, from playing Uno to trying karaoke and teaching Pakistani dances to his American friends. He has also shared about his culture by carrying out a presentation on his country. Pursuant to his presentation, Yasir reported that his geography professor “liked my presentation so much that he requested me to present [it] in another class as well on the same day. I really spoke my heart out and discussed each and every aspect about Pakistan.” Yasir not only educated the US students about Pakistan, but had a few surprises himself. “I really liked one comment when a guy said ‘I have studied Islam a bit and I am sure it’s a peaceful religion and all the terrorism stuff going on is not by Islam’ reported Yasir.

“I have become the first international student chosen as Mr. Rattler.”

~Asmat Ulah

Asmat Ullah, studying at Otero Junior College, was crowned “Mr. Rattler” at the spring formal dance! Asmat reported that, “I have become the first international student chosen as Mr. Rattler...and I received the award while wearing my Global UGRAD-Pakistan shirt.” The story was reported in the campus newspaper: http://www.ojc.edu/pressReleaseDetail.aspx?prID=1695.

The alumni continue to stay active by productively utilizing their skills and passions acquired through their Global UGRAD-Pakistan experiences.

Fahad Mushtaq and a team of ten volunteers organized a series of fun activities at the Dar-UI-Atfal Orphanage House and Special Education Center in Hayatabad, Peshawar for his Project Smile. The two fun-filled days comprised of team-building activities which helped develop confidence and public-speaking skills amongst the children. Nearly 70 children at the Dar-UI-Atfal Orphanage and 80 children from the Special Education Center benefited from his hard work. “It was a wonderful experience to conduct this project with a positive response from both the children and management,” says Fahad. Following the event, Fahad has continued to meet with the management of both places to check the progress of the children and plans to do a similar project in other orphanages in the area.

In Rawalpindi, Afza Asif organized a two-part event for her Project Smile, entitled “Moving Towards a Reading Society.” The first part of her Project was to organize a book drive at her home institution, Fatima Jinnah Women University, benefiting a low-income public school for girls in the city. In order to collect as many books as possible, Afza collaborated with Pakistan’s first female cartoonist and Fulbright alumna Nigar Nazar of Gogi studios, to give an interactive cartoon show. Afza and Nigar Nazar then visited the girls school with 25 volunteers from Afza’s university to donate the books and provide the students with a free cartoon show. More than 350 books were donated to the school, students and library.

Video Competition: A Day in the life of a Global UGRAD-Pakistan fellow

The winners of the Global UGRAD-Pakistan Spring 2012 Video Competition have been announced! There were many impressive videos to choose from, but the grand prize went to Hadia Akbar, Abdul Basit, and Zahra Mahmood. IREX extends its congratulations to the winners of the Spring 2012 Global UGRAD-Pakistan program video competition, "A Day in the Life of a Global UGRAD-Pakistan Fellow." Hadia, studying at the University of Wyoming; Abdul, studying at the College of Southern Idaho; and Zahra, studying at Minnesota State University-Moorhead, won due to their outstanding videos showcasing their experiences at a U.S. college or university and what they have learned about American culture and values.

Their videos, each shown above, were selected for their creativity and clarity in demonstrating their unique and diverse American experiences. Many other participants submitted excellent videos for the contest. Hadia, Abdul, and Zahra, along with their fellow participants, will return to Pakistan this spring to share their videos with their communities and continue to serve as cultural ambassadors.

The Global Undergraduate Exchange Program in Pakistan is a program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State. To find out more visit [http://www.usefpakistan.org/2012UGradExchange.html](http://www.usefpakistan.org/2012UGradExchange.html)


The United States (U.S.) and Us: Greetings from Pittsburgh

Desiree Francis

I’m currently in the United States of America on a professional exchange program for journalists from Pakistan and the US. Do we need it? You bet we do.

Everywhere I go, I just understand better how the American people love their country. The good thing about that is, that it keeps them united and definitely works to their advantage. The flip side to this is; that they won’t bother to know more about other countries in the world, simply because they don’t need to. Ever since I have arrived in the U.S., I am constantly at work acquainting Americans with Pakistan beyond what they know of it through media. Having said that, I’d like to say that I do not deny the truth about our country that serves as the cause of embarrassment for us. But well, that’s how it is!

Just like all Pakistanis don’t hate American people, in the same way all Americans don’t hate Pakistanis. I spoke people about Pakistan over a session at the newsroom where I’m working and was surprised to see my colleagues faces as they saw pictures of Pakistani life and culture.

I was thronged with questions during the session as people wanted to know, and to my surprise, these are American journalists who know very little of our country other than what appears in the news.
During the session, we discussed issues prevailing in Pakistan, the drone attacks, etc. I also mentioned the killing of 16-year-old Tariq Aziz, who died just days after he attended an anti-drone meeting where he saw heads going down.

I'm here, conveying to people, the plight of a common man in Pakistan, where he stands and what he feels, trying to sensitize opinion makers here of the issues we face.

The American media does very little to balance out the strained ties between the two countries. Tags like 'Islamic' terrorism and using the word Pakistani’s (the people) instead of Pakistani government, army, political party, etc, is not really a fair representation. The former, because correlating religion to violence because of a 'specific' group of people doesn't define Islam and the latter for 'we' are a half-failed democracy.

I happened to meet with John R Schmidt, author of The Unraveling: Pakistan in the Age of Jihad, professorial lecturer at the Elliott School, and the senior US political analyst in Pakistan in the years before 9/11. His book discusses how Pakistan, a nation founded as a homeland for South Asian Muslims, most of whom follow a tolerant, non-threatening form of Islam, has become a haven for al-Qaeda and domestic Jihadist and sectarian groups. I’m reading Schmidt’s book now and even earlier on, when I met Stephen Cohen, an American expert on Pakistan, India, and South Asian security, it just made me realize how clear the American understanding of Pakistani politics is. Their political agendas are absolutely long-term and for national interest, while ours are on the contrary.

I’ve also learnt many things here that inspire me. I have been around and met quite a lot of people and you would be fascinated to see the number of people who have the American flag up on their houses. I’m amazed at how many people are more than willing to help others here. I’m amazed at how well everything is planned out here before jumping into it. I’m amazed at how many people exercise patience here.

I pass these on to you. Think, plan, act, help, love and be tolerant. Last, but not the least, as a teacher once told me "Yeh na dekho kaun keh raha he, yeh dekho kya keh raha hai" (Literally: ‘don’t see who is saying it, see what he is saying’).

The writer is a sub-editor on the National Desk. She was selected for training in the US in a professional exchange program.


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Obituary: Dr. James Reed

REED, James Eldin Of Brookline, MA died April 5, 2012 in Pakistan while serving as a Fulbright Senior Specialist to promote educational and cultural exchange programs. Dr. Reed was the loving husband of Deborah Addis for 29 years. President of the Massachusetts Fulbright Assoc., Dr. Reed’s career combined being a Historian, Consultant and Educator. He was a widely published authority on America’s role in world affairs. Born in Walla Walla, WA, he received a Ph.D. in American and international history from Harvard in 1976. At Harvard he studied with the legendary John King Fairbank, one of the great scholar-teachers of that generation. He also took a degree in religious studies at the Harvard Divinity School. He worked extensively as a consultant and was a scholar on Northwest cultural and intellectual history.

He has held appointments at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, the Center for International Governance Innovation, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, and for many years as a Visiting Fellow at the Harvard Divinity School.

Dr. Reed was an avid promoter of the Fulbright Program, having held appointments in Canada, Albania and repeatedly in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Quaid-i-Azam University in Islamabad intends to...
dedicate an international exchange program in Dr. Reed’s name. He is also survived by two brothers: Daniel Reed of OR and Jay Dodge of VT. Donations in Dr. Reed’s memory may be made to the Pearl Buck Center, a nonprofit dedicated to serving needs of people with developmental disabilities, 3690 W. 1st Ave, Eugene, OR97402 and [www.pearlbuckcenter.com](http://www.pearlbuckcenter.com)
ADVISING

South Asia Tour 2012 in Pakistan

USEFP was proud to host the second annual South Asia Tour from April 9 - 14, 2012. As part of this year’s tour, four senior U.S. admissions and recruitment representatives visited Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad to meet students and visit educational institutions to talk about higher education opportunities in the United States. The visitors, who also visited Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Afghanistan on this tour, were pleased by the welcoming environment and student interest they encountered in the country.

This year’s delegation included Mr. Holly Singh from Valparaiso University, Ms. Kristi Marchesani from University of Northern Iowa, Mr. Raymond Lew from SUNY Buffalo, and Ms. Amy Ullrich, a representative of Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE). The tour was organized by USEFP’s EducationUSA Advising Centers and was made possible with the funding and support of the U.S. Embassy in Pakistan.

For the U.S. representatives, the Tour provided an excellent platform to promote their programs to interested audiences in the country. They also had a chance to learn more about higher education in Pakistan and discuss possible summer exchange programs and 2+2 programs with institutions in Pakistan. For local audiences, the Tour addressed concerns and misconceptions related to U.S. admissions, financial aid, and visas.

The tour featured school visits in each city. In Karachi, delegates visited the Karachi American School, City School, Beaconhouse, and Karachi University. School counselors from various Beaconhouse branches across the Karachi region also welcomed the U.S. visitors for a working lunch to discuss U.S. admission challenges, strategies, and concerns. A mini-college fair organized at the USEFP Karachi Office that offered students an opportunity to meet with representatives from the U.S. Consulate and the Information, Research and Communication (IRC) unit, in addition to the U.S. admissions representatives. The Tour participants also had a chance to discuss the educational scene in Karachi with Cultural Affairs Officer Mr. Tony Jones.

Students and faculty meet with U.S. admissions representatives in Karachi.
The delegates were exceptionally pleased with their Lahore visit which included a walking tour of the scenic Aitchison campus and a mini-college fair hosted at the International School of Choueifat. A special viewing of the Wagah Border flag lowering ceremony at sunset was one of the highlights of their multi-country tour. The Tour participants were able to visit the Beaconhouse School System, Lahore Grammar School, The City School, Punjab University, and LUMS. Visitors were pleased to discuss the Pakistan educational environment over a working lunch with the Lahore Public Affairs Officer Ms. Brinille E. Ellis, Information Officer Ms. Leslie N. Goodman, Consular Officer Mr. Christopher D. Vogt and other key representatives from the U.S. Consulate in Lahore. An outdoor college fair held at the Lahore Office drew more than 200 participants, including undergraduate applicants, graduate applicants, school representatives, and working professionals.
In Islamabad, representatives visited the International School of Islamabad (ISOI), City School, Beaconhouse, Khaldunia High School, Roots School System, and Islamabad College of Arts and Sciences (ICAS) prior to assembling at USEFP Islamabad for an afternoon college fair. The USEFP fair featured U.S. Embassy and Consular Service representatives Mr. Michael Guinan and Mr. Brandon Nugent.

The South Asia Tour ended on a high note with our guests being graciously invited to a closing ceremony dinner hosted by the U.S. Embassy. Mr. Mitchell Moss, Country Public Affairs Officer, shared words of thanks with the guests, appreciating the delegates’ visit to Pakistan and commending their efforts in international recruitment. Mr. Moss addressed an audience of over fifty local school directors, principals and counselors, and stated “America has a long tradition of embracing foreign students. We want more Pakistani students to benefit from our world-class universities. Our governments may not always see eye to eye on everything, but we have always agreed on the importance of education and let me be clear, our doors are wide open to Pakistani students to study in the U.S.”

USEFP’s Executive Director Ms. Rita Akhtar expressed her gratitude to the guests for visiting Pakistan and stated, “Participation of university representatives shows that U.S. universities are very interested in playing host to Pakistani students. This tour furthers our mission of promoting mutual understanding between the people of Pakistan and the United States through educational and cultural exchange.” Personalized commemorative gifts were presented to the South Asia Tour visitors and they were invited to visit Pakistan again next year.

USEFP’s EducationUSA Advisers aim to help you get connected to U.S. colleges and universities. The South Asia Tour is one such platform; to learn more about our upcoming programs or to register for our free advising services, please contact shirin@usefpakistan.org.
June 5 brings in changes in the GMAT Exam
Business is evolving, the classroom is evolving, and so is the GMAT® exam

Today’s business world is rich in data. To succeed, you’ll need to analyze information from a variety of sources, and develop strategies and make decisions based on that information. It’s called Integrated Reasoning and it’s something you do every day. Beginning on June 5, 2012, the GMAT exam will measure your ability to problem solve in this area. The 30-minute IR section is designed to measure a test taker’s ability to convert data from multiple sources and in different formats into relevant information to solve problems; skills faculty identified as critical for success in the classroom and beyond. To ensure that you are informed of any changes in the exam and how these changes may affect you, please read the following: New GMAT exam changes FAQ (A4 paper) or visit http://www.mba.com/the-gmat/nex-gen.aspx.

To learn more about USEFP’s standardized test prep and guidance services, please contact testprep@usefpakistan.org.

University of Idaho visits Karach

An information session was held at USEFP Karachi on Thursday, March 15, 2012 with University of Idaho Representatives Mary Ellen Brewick, International Marketing and Recruitment Coordinator, and Robert J. Haggerty, Adjunct Professor and Director of International Programs, to inform prospective undergraduate and graduate students about opportunities for higher studies at University of Idaho.

In partnership with the Information Resource Center (IRC) and the U.S. Consulate Karachi, USEFP participated in a Career Fair organized by Agha Khan Education Service. Approximately 3000 people visited the USEFP booth, among them were students, teachers, parents and professionals eager to inquire about the opportunities available for Pakistani students to study in the U.S.

University of Idaho Representatives meet prospective students.

Students visit USEFP’s booth at the Career Fair organized by Agha Khan Foundation in Karachi.
During March and April, USEFP educational advisers visited Bahawalpur, Sargodha, Multan, Rahim Yar Khan, and Faisalabad in Punjab and Mansehra and Topi (district Swabi) in KP. Enthusiastic students learned about the U.S. college application and admission process including funding sources, standardized test preparation, college search and selection, essay writing, and effective letters of recommendation.

In KP, a visit to Hazara University included mock GRE exams for faculty and students to help them assess their exam readiness. A condensed 6-hour workshop conducted over two days helped participants begin their GRE preparation.

USEFP advisers visited a variety of local institutions in Bahawalpur ranging from private schools such as Bloomfield Hall, where the active A-Level student body was most concerned with career counseling, to Islamia University, where the graduate students were most keen to learn about the Fulbright Scholarship Program. A visit to Sadiq Public School in Bahawalpur featured a presentation about the Next Scholarship Program for female students and a candid talk about being a student in America by the Cultural Affairs Officer for Lahore, Ms. Katie Kiser. Students at government-run Dubai Mahal College, had a lot of questions about studying in the U.S.

The visit to Sargodha included Beaconhouse Public School and City School, where students discussed the importance of extracurricular interests and their unique academic interests. Advisers also visited Suffa Girls College in Sargodha for the first time; this dynamic two-year all girls BA conferring institution was keen to schedule follow up visits and workshops.
In Multan, advisers visited National Fertilizer College of Engineering, Bahauddin Zakariya University, and Beaconhouse School System. A-Level students were most interested in career counseling whereas graduate students sought detailed information on the Fulbright scholarship and other opportunities for Master’s/PhD study in the U.S.

Visits in Rahim Yar Khan featured an interactive session at Superior College, where more than a hundred students asked questions ranging from details about eligibility for exchange programs to the Next Scholarship for female science students. At Al Huda Grammar School, advisers met with younger students keen on starting their SAT/ACT preparations and provided them with resources and tips.

The University of Faisalabad, Government College University, and University of Agriculture in Faisalabad were also visited. Adviser Zafar Baig presented orientations on the GRE and offered students strategies for success with their standardized test preparation. The majority of students had questions related to the upcoming Fulbright deadline and requirements and were thankful for the presence of a USEFP representative to tackle these concerns.

USEFP also sponsored an educational event at GIKI campus in district Swabi (KP). This platform provided engineering students with an opportunity to display their skills with projects related to energy solutions and human power vehicles. The competition brought in student audiences of more than 200 from institutions across Pakistan as well as visiting teams from foreign countries including Turkey and Germany. Advisers were available to address student concerns about related opportunities and areas of study in the United States.
Fulbright Alumnus, Dr. Muhammad Ali Shaikh becomes the first VC of Sindh Madressatul Islam University

Dr. Muhammad Ali Shaikh, a 2009-2010 Fulbright Scholar/Faculty-Fellow at American University, Washington, has recently been appointed Vice-Chancellor of Sindh Madressatul Islam University, Karachi. As a Fulbright Scholar, he conducted post-doctoral research on ‘Citizens’ Right to Information’. He has also attended Fulbright Institute at the College of Journalism and Communication, University of Florida, Gainesville. He holds his PhD in Mass Communication from University of Karachi. His academic background is in engineering from Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Jamshoro in 1985.

Dr. Shaikh has served in various public and private sector positions. He has served as Director, SZABIST Center for Information & Research, Karachi, Director-General, Sind Ombudsman Secretariat, Director-General, Sind Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Director-General, Sind Coastal Development Authority and Director-General (Colleges) Sind. He has also served as Assistant Professor and Deputy Provost at Mehran University of Engineering and Technology Jamshoro, as well as, Executive District Officer (Higher Education) in Karachi City District Government. He also held the additional charge of being Chairman, Sind Textbook Board, Jamshoro and Administrator, Sheikh Sultan Trust, Karachi, along with teaching Print Media at the Institute of Business Management, Karachi.

The Governor of Sindh, also chancellor of SMI University, hands over the charter of the University and appointment order at a ceremony held at the Governor’s House on Feb 12.
Dr. Shaikh has authored several books on subjects related to education and communication. In addition, he has written biographies of leading personalities of South Asian origin. Dr Shaikh is leading the historic institution of Sind Madressatul Islam (SMI) College, as their Principal, to attain the status of a public-sector university, under the decision of the federal cabinet. He has been nominated as the first vice chancellor of the SMI University by the President of Pakistan in 2012.

HEC honors USEFP Alumni

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) has conferred ‘Distinguished National Professor Award’ on four academics including two USEFP Fulbright Scholars for their outstanding performance.

Dr. Saleem Asghar, a 1991-92 Fulbright Scholar at the University of Rhode Island, has been bestowed with this award for his contribution in the field of Mathematics, while Dr. M. Asif Khan, a 1993-94 Fulbright Scholar at the University of Texas, has been honored for his work in the field of Geology. This award is presented to those academics, who have shown exceptional performance in their respective fields, and have set a benchmark for others, while playing a vital role in raising the standard of research, as well as, academic status of higher education in the country. HEC’s Selection Committee in its annual meeting selected four professors out of 63 applicants for the year 2011

Prof. Dr. Saleem Asghar, ‘Tamgha-i-Imtiaz’ and ‘Sitara-i-Imtiaz’, from Department of Mathematics, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology has a PhD in Mathematics. He has a diverse experience of 39 years of teaching and research. He has won 13 national and six international awards and is a fellow of nine professional societies. He has 253 International research publications with 242.2 impact factor and has supervised 15 PhDs.

Dr. M. Asif Khan, ‘Tamgha-i- Imtiaz’, is working as a Director at the National Centre of Excellence in Geology University of Peshawar. He completed his PhD in Geology (Earth Sciences) from Imperial College, London in 1988. Having 30 years of experience in teaching and research, Mr. Khan has won three national awards and is a fellow of two professional societies. He has 38 international research publications with 92.4 impact factor and 707 citation indexes. In addition, he has supervised 12 PhD graduates.

Lahore chapter alumni get together at the Bistro 201 Café

Ms. Wajiha Rizvi, President Lahore Chapter organized a get together at a local cafe, Bistro 201, on March 31. The meeting was attended by a mix of recent returnees and senior scholars. The primary agenda of this gathering was to discuss ideas for future events as well as galvanize Lahore based Fulbright alumni. Mr. Talal Ahmed Shahid, a Fulbright Alumnus, discussed work opportunities to returnees at recent returnees still waiting employment opportunities. Dr. Inam-ul-Haq resolved to assist alumni returning shortly after completing their Fulbright grants. It was decided that the Lahore Chapter will actively arrange such meetings in the future and will use alumni network to help fellow alumni find appropriate jobs.
The participants also discussed institutional reform issues including Pakistan Railways and other state institutions. The highlight of this meeting was a guitar performance by Fulbright Alumnus, Mr. Harris Bin Munawar. Mr. Harris went to New York University for a degree in Media, Culture and Communications and currently works at The Friday Times.

**Fulbright PhD grantee shares her research with Islamabad Chapter**

The Fulbright/Humphrey Alumni Association in collaboration with USEFP Alumni Department arranged a lecture/talk by Fulbright Alumna Ms. Sadia Mahmood at the USEFP Office in Islamabad on April 6. Ms. Mahmood gave her presentation on a fascinating social issue: “The Nation-State And Citizen: Re-Imagining Hindu People In Pakistan”. She is currently a PhD Candidate at Arizona State University and is working on her dissertation in Pakistan. The talk was attended by alumni from various backgrounds who really appreciated her effort in shedding light on this social issue. At the end of this session, the forum was opened for a very candid Q & A session.

Ms. Sadia Mahmood describes her doctoral research work to Islamabad alumni.
Faisalabad Chapter helps extend outreach

As part of their outreach efforts, a USEFP team comprising of Director Alumni, Mr. Mazhar Awan, Manager Programs, Mr. Salim Razaq, and Educational Advisor, Mr. Zafar Baig visited Faisalabad on March 8-10, 2012.

The USEFP team visited the campuses of the University of Faisalabad, Government College University (GCU), and University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and met their Vice Chancellors. They conducted presentations on Fulbright Scholarship Programs, Advising Services, and GRE Test format and preparations. Information booths were also setup there.

The Vice Chancellor at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad urged the local Fulbright Chapter to actively engage students in informative sessions and encourage them to take GRE tests and apply for Fulbright scholarships. After these presentations, a Fulbright Alumni (Faisalabad Chapter) meeting was held, chaired by Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, President Pakistan National Association of Fulbright Alumni (Pak-NAFA).
GRE Mock Test facilities now available in local universities

To help candidates prepare for the GRE test, USEFP now initiative of offers GRE mock exams facility at the doorsteps of public universities. In the months of March and April, USEFP visited Hazara University at Mansehra, Agriculture University and Government College University in Faisalabad and conducted GRE mock exams for approximately 335 students and faculty members.

USEFP’s testing department managed to use computer labs at the university premises for the delivery of computer-based GRE General mock tests. This new services enables students to assess their knowledge, skills and preparation required before they decided to sit for the actual exam. This initiative has been well-received and we expect to expand this effort to public universities throughout Pakistan.

In the future, we are also planning to visit various universities in Pakistan, to acquaint students with the GRE General exam, which will motivate them to pursue their higher education in the United States through self finance or through scholarship programs like Fulbright.

To appear for the GRE Mock test at the USEFP offices in Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi, see the guidelines below or contact us at testing@usefpakistan.org

- Revised GRE General mock tests are conducted five days a week, Monday through Thursday.
- For the mock test, take an appointment, and on the specified day, bring an NIC or Passport with you. To make an appointment, please call us on the telephone numbers listed at the end of this page.
- The charge for the test is PKR 250/- only.

USEFP offers APICS exams in Pakistan

USEFP introduces the APICS exams for the first time in Pakistan. APICS offers professionals certifications in the fields of Operations Management, Supply Chain Management etc. APICS exams are available four times a year on fixed dates. On March 17, 44 professionals appeared for their certifications, and were grateful to USEFP for making these certifications for them within their home country.

APICS is the Association for Operations Management for the global leader and premier source of the body of knowledge in supply chain and operations management, including production, inventory, materials management, purchasing, and logistics. Since 1957, individuals and companies have relied on APICS for its superior training, internationally recognized certifications, comprehensive resources, and worldwide network of accomplished industry professionals.

The next APICS administration program is scheduled on June 23, 2012 at Regent Plaza Hotel, Karachi.
Mark your calendar for the next API Exam in Pakistan

Subsequent to the successful introduction of the American Petroleum Institute exams by USEFP Lahore center, on candidates’ request, a special administration was conducted at the Lahore center on March 28, 2012. Now Pakistani candidates are no longer required to travel abroad to take API certifications. The next API examination will be administered on June 12 at USEFP Lahore center.

Since 1924, The American Petroleum Institute (API) has been a leader in developing equipment and operating standards for the oil and natural gas industry. Each year API works with leading industry subject-matter experts to maintain our inventory of over 600 standards and recommended practices. API distributes over 250,000 documents annually worldwide, and continues to strive to enhance safety operations, improve quality assurance, and promote the global acceptance of petroleum products and best practices.

Professional Examination Service

USEFP added ISACA certifications to its wide range of examinations like CISA-(Certified Information Security Auditor) , CISM-(Certified Information Security Manager) and CGEIT-(Certified in Governance of Enterprise IT) last year. These exams have been offered worldwide previously for IT professionals working in the field of Information security. Now Pakistani students have the opportunity to compete with International Information Technology standards with the help of these professional certifications. Many aspirants have shown interest in the exams this year which is directing towards higher number of candidates for this year.

The upcoming date for the PES certifications is June 06, 2012.
Dates to remember – upcoming test schedules

The upcoming dates for TOEFL-iBT are:
- May 12, 2012
- May 20, 2012
- May 26, 2012
- June 09, 2012
- June 17, 2012
- June 30, 2012

The upcoming dates for SAT are:
- June 02, 2012

The upcoming dates for ACT are:
- June 09, 2012

For appointments and general queries, please contact USEFP Testing Centers as follows:

Islamabad Testing Department: 051-2272708, testing@usefpakistan.org
Karachi Testing Department: 021-35879760-59, testing.khi@usefpakistan.org
Lahore Testing Department: 042-35762466, testing.lhr@usefpakistan.org

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