



LUMS

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ALUMNI ANNUAL







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Message from the Rector

Dear Alumni,

The world is fast creating an uncertain business environment where only those who are equipped with a distinct management education will be able to master the intricacies of the competitive market. The Suleman Dawood School of Business (SDSB) at the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) has been at the helm of providing quality management education to students who will become leaders of tomorrow.

LUMS, a leading educational institution shaping the country's future, develops intellectual capabilities that nurture aspiring talent into professionals who can contest at the world stage. This, of course, would not be possible without the outstanding and devoted faculty who together with our students push boundaries and set new standards. The SDSB's leading MBA programme consistently brings national and international recognition to the school. The exceptional and wide-ranging learning experience at the school enables students to take up challenging positions after they graduate.

The Rausing Executive Development Centre (REDC) and the Social Enterprise Development Centre (SEDC) are providing executive education and entrepreneurial training that are at par with leading management education institutions. Moreover, the demanding BSc (Accounting and Finance & Management Science), Executive MBA and PhD Management programmes are a reflection of what LUMS has to offer; igniting passion and instilling a sense of achievement in those students who undertake them. At LUMS, we challenge ourselves and look at difficulties as opportunities to soar.

Since its beginning, LUMS has appealed to the brightest minds in the country and the most competent faculty to continuously strive for excellence. Today, with the help of all our benefactors and alumni through their various contributions, LUMS remains a beacon of enlightenment for its students and alumni alike. For this, on behalf of the LUMS community, I thank you and look forward to your continued support.

Abdul Razak Dawood

Message from the Vice Chancellor

Dear Alumni,

Greetings from the top ranked university of Pakistan! 2015 has been an eventful and rewarding year for LUMS, with strategic focus on research showing dividends in the form of publication of high quality journal papers, significant increase in sponsored research funding and growth of graduate programmes. Addition of a large number of new faculty members has resulted in decrease of student / teacher ratio to almost 15, which will allow us to provide even higher quality education to the students. The academic developments have been supported by an even more vibrant student life that resulted in more than 290 events during the academic year.

LUMS has always taken pride in its merit based admission policy that provides an opportunity to the best and brightest to join LUMS, regardless of their ability to pay. We were concerned that the introduction of the SAT examination may lead to a decrease in National Outreach Programme (NOP) students and high financial need applicants, however, I am happy to report that we will have one of the largest batches of (over 100) NOP students joining us in the Fall as LUMS Freshmen. The university disbursed over PKR 519 Million in financial aid during the current academic year, while next year's PKR 650 Million has been budgeted for financial aid. It is clear that meeting these requirements will require the support of our alumni and well-wishers, without whom LUMS would not have arrived at the honoured position it occupies today. I thank all the donors' specially our valued alumni donors for their generous contributions and continued support which has enabled LUMS to allow intelligent students from all over Pakistan to realise their dreams, regardless of their financial status and disabilities.

The LUMS physical environment changed significantly during this past year with the addition of the Ali Family Hall, a new girl's hostel which was inaugurated on December 5, 2015 by Syed Babar Ali and his family. With over 750 female students currently residing on-campus, nearly 300 more female students will now be able to find a comfortable living space within the Ali Family Hall. A new boy's hostel (M7) is also under-construction, as additional accommodation for male students was required as well. The construction work for this building started in July 2015 and it is likely to be completed by August 31, 2016. This hostel has a housing capacity of 446 students with a total of 223 rooms. The building has six floors in addition to a basement and is spread over 2.5 acres.

The Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law (SAHSOL) moved into its custom built premises this Fall, new law faculty was hired and Professor Maleiha Malik joined as Research Professor. I am also



happy to report that Professor Martin Lau from The School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London (SOAS), will be joining as the Dean of Law School this Fall. We can certainly look forward to exciting times ahead for SAHSOL.

This year, the Debating and Recitations Society at LUMS (DRUMS) began a new tradition called the LUMS Quarterly Debates. Modelled on the Oxford Union Debates, the LUMS Quarterly Debates hope to propagate a much needed culture of civic discourse on some of the most pressing issues of our time. The idea, very simply, is to promote tolerance of conflicting views in our society and encourage debate and discussion instead of antagonism rooted in ideology and dogma.

Several talks were arranged by leading scholars from all over the world including lectures by Prof. Craig Calhoun, President of the London School of Economics (LSE), Prof. Mukulika Banerjee, Director of the South Asia Centre at the LSE, Prof. Joya Chatterji, Director of the Centre for South Asian Studies at Cambridge, Prof. Anil Seal, co-founder of the Cambridge School of Indian History, Prof. James Milward of Georgetown University, and Mr. Roberto Azevedo, Director General of the World Trade Organization, among several others. A number of innovative courses were also introduced this year, as were a series of research workshops. The first workshop was on Debates in Critical Theory presented by Prof. Saba Mahmood, Professor of Anthropology at UC Berkeley, while the second workshop on 'Informal Labour Markets', was presented by Prof. Barbara Harris-White, Professor of Development Economics at Oxford University.

The Suleman Dawood School of Business (SDSB) at LUMS, has established a bond with the Sabanci University (SU), Turkey to promote

and facilitate the exchange of students, faculty and researchers. The collaboration is formed in recognition of the great potential of mutual welfare and development of intelligence between LUMS and SU.

Additionally, Syed Babar Ali School of Science and Engineering (SBASSE) inaugurated a versatile physical properties measurement system housed at the Department of Physics. The device has been installed in connection with SBASSE's vision of assisting the faculty in world-class experimental research.

The 27th convocation ceremony was held on June 17, 2015 with 869 students in the graduating class of 2015 from all four schools. Career Services Office (CSO) conducted 47 recruitment drives for leading companies in Pakistan. These include drives for L'Oréal, Microsoft, Fatima Group, Packages Ltd. and Shan Foods. 98% of the 2015 graduates were successfully placed within 6 months. 180 students were inducted in universities for higher studies and 582 joined work placements. 15.5% were given full scholarships, 31% were given partial scholarships (undergrads) and 55% financed themselves while 12 students were granted Fulbright Scholarships.

We are proud of our alumni stars, Saad Ansari and Yasir Khokhar (both from BSc 2000 batch) who co-founded Connecterra, which won at Web Summit as best start-up last year and now has been covered internationally by IEEE, Fast Company as well as the Financial Times. Sana Warraich, a LUMS 2015 law alumna will be joining the Harvard Law School LL.M programme on a Fulbright Scholarship this fall. Buksh Foundation, an organisation established by LUMS Economics graduate, Fiza Farhan (BSc 2008) has received the 'Poverty Alleviation Award' by the prestigious Asian CSR Network. Azim Rizvee, a graduate of

the LUMS MBA Class of 1998, has taken a step towards a political platform. He is a candidate for the Canadian Parliament. Umar Saif is a graduate of the LUMS BSc Class of 1998 and a former LUMS faculty member. Dr. Saif was awarded the Sitara-i-Imtiaz by the government of Pakistan on March 23, 2015. He has received this prestigious award for his work in research, teaching, entrepreneurship and public service in the field of IT. Haris Aziz, BSc (Honours) Class of 2003, was recently named among 'AI's 10 to Watch' by the IEEE Intelligent Systems magazine. The list recognises 10 researchers who are rising stars in the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Wadi.com, a GCC based e-commerce platform co-founded by LUMS alumna, Kanwal Sarfraz (BSc Honours Class of 2009) raised USD 67 Million in its first investment round in February this year.

Summing it all up, these wonderful accomplishments are yours and because of you! LUMS is growing at an accelerated rate and I take the opportunity to request the wonderful alumni community to extend a helping hand towards building LUMS, providing talented students from under privileged backgrounds an equal chance to a better, brighter future, to give back to its alma mater. Your contribution is not just a donation, it is an investment for a better future for all of us. So let's not stop here! Everyday your donations allow these gates to open for the young bright minds to explore horizons. They are building a better prosperous Pakistan for all of us. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your tremendous support over the years. Please do not stop here!

Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi



Developments in Infrastructure at LUMS

The LUMS community is growing at an incredible pace as is the campus infrastructure which has expanded rapidly. Those who return to the campus after a few years often exclaim that they do not recognise the university. The increasing student population demands continuous improvements and physical developments to the campus.

A recent addition to the campus map was the construction of the Ali Family Hall, a new girls hostel which was inaugurated on December 5, 2015 by **Syed Babar Ali** Pro Chancellor, LUMS and his family. With over 750 female students currently residing on-campus, nearly 300 more will now be able to find a comfortable living space within the Ali Family Hall. A new boys hostel (M7) is also under-construction on campus, as additional accommodation for male students was required as well. The construction work for this building started in July 2015 and it is likely to be completed by October 2016. This hostel has a housing capacity of 446 students with a total of 223 rooms. The building has 6 floors in addition to a basement and is spread over 2.5

kanals. Another infrastructure development is the Coca-Cola Aquatic Centre. The groundbreaking ceremony for the centre took place on May 30, 2014, where Ahmet Bozer, President Coca-Cola International was the Chief Guest. The construction work on the Aquatic Centre continues uninterrupted and eventually LUMS students will have access to a state-of-the-art swimming pool which is 25 meters in length and in accordance with FINA specifications. This facility will be indoor, operational throughout the year and certified for national and international competitions. Presently, there is no FINA approved 25 meter swimming pool operational at any university in Pakistan. With the addition of the Aquatic Centre, LUMS will be able to develop teams for swimming, water polo and other aquatic sports.

LUMS is committed to providing an atmosphere conducive to the well-being and learning of its students, faculty and staff, through the provision of modern facilities which are at par with the best universities of the world.

Written by: **Sarah Ali**

Syed Babar Ali,
Pro Chancellor, LUMS
and **Prof. Dr. S.**
Sohail H. Naqvi,
Vice Chancellor,
LUMS have worked
extensively to
expand and match
the facilities available
at LUMS to an
international
standard.

Student News: FATE

Not a day goes by when we don't think about December 14, 2014. All those innocent lives lost. Has terrorism and violence become a norm for us?

To overcome terrorism, LUMS students started a campaign, 'From Apathy to Empathy (FATE)' which responds to the idea of terrorism and bloodshed through peace and education. This project is being led by 6 students at LUMS, **Abeera Akhtar, Mashal Imran, Basil Saeed, Usman Sarwar, Samey Noor** and **Shahroze Tariq**. Team FATE won first prize at the P2P 'Challenging Extremism Competition' in the USA. It was a proud moment for LUMS.



Dr. Taimur Rahman, Assistant Professor at the Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School of Humanities and Social Sciences, supervised and mentored the students for this competition. There were teams from 45 different countries in this competition. The aim of the competition was to enable students to develop a digital product or tool to suppress extremism in their respective countries.



FATE did some preliminary research in Pakistan and found out the main issue was not terrorism itself, but the apathy people showed. They decided that they need to focus more on apathy. They started with a campaign at LUMS; a vigil was organised on campus for the lives lost in the terror attacks in Paris and Beirut with a moment of silence to prove how something so simple can show support. FATE then started a campaign '#IChallengeExtremism' to create further awareness online. However, they did not expect their campaign to go viral, as they started receiving input from all over Pakistan.

As soon as it kicked off, FATE thought about how they could challenge apathy. They decided that the best course of action was through education, music and arts. A concert by popular band, 'Noori' was organised at LUMS where they gave a speech on terrorism and empathy. They conducted a session at Chaudhary Memorial Trust, where they targeted students from grade 6-11 and taught them about empathy, around 350-400 students attended the session. They printed pamphlets and taught

them why they should stand up against extremism and why they should sympathise with the victims. FATE aims to educate the masses on empathy as they believe they can eliminate terror and hate amongst people in Pakistan through education.



When asked how they felt after their victory, they said,

“We feel like celebrities! We feel proud that out of 45 countries, we won; after all that Pakistan has been through.”

Written by: **Erum Bhatti**

Saida Waheed Gender Initiative at LUMS

In the fall of 2015, LUMS launched the Saida Waheed Gender Initiative, which leverages research, teaching and praxis related to gender. By engaging LUMS in ongoing local and transnational conversations, the initiative seeks to critically contribute to research and praxis that deepens understanding of gender as a set of relations and processes within and beyond Pakistan. In its first year, the gender initiative has run a series of seminars and workshops, hosted film screenings, funded faculty research, connected students to opportunities and organised a Pakistan-wide student research colloquium.

Faculty members of the Steering Committee offer their insights on the importance of gender as a category of inquiry and analysis in their respective fields:

“ Significant advances towards the achievement of gender justice worldwide have been made through the mechanism of law. That formal legality in its rendering of state subjects as citizens has become the means through which groups of people have sought to ameliorate situations of inequality and to gain recognition has meant nonetheless that these struggles have landed themselves in the morass of accepting other power imbalances that the law disguises. Feminist, queer and other forms of radical legal theory have identified some of the ways in which the law divides the world into categories of formal/informal, the public and private and privileges certain human capacities as worthy of recognition and fostering. In Pakistan, the law itself embeds gender based distinctions in fields as diverse as inheritance, employment and family laws. The project of calling for redress, through a holistic legal education, is one that needs to be attentive to the material and ideological structures that undergird the formal legal system. While legal change and challenge are necessary complements for projects to close off the disadvantages that result from the hierarchical ordering of gender relations and identities, the limitations of law must necessarily be understood.”

Sadaf Aziz, Assistant Professor,
Shaikh Ahmed Hassan
School of Law (SAHSOL)

“ My research has involved working closely with members of sexual and gender minorities in the context of Pakistan’s HIV epidemic, studying their sexual behaviour, internal power structures, exposure to risk, social marginality and vulnerability to abuse. Using ethnographic research methods, I collected data and trained peer researchers from various shades of the transgender and transsexual community in Pakistan, ranging from Hijra gurus to part-time khusray to self-identified ‘gay’ men or ‘men who have sex with men’ (MSM), ‘banthay’, ‘kothi’, ‘firqay’ and so on.



There seems to have been a proliferation of identity categories around gender and sexuality sometimes intermeshing the two together and sometimes confounding sexuality, or even gender, with sex work. This trend has followed an emphasis in international health on participatory approaches to HIV prevention which has made for a surge in funding for CBOs of sexual and gender minority groups. On the one



hand, development discourse has made available previously unknown identity categories like ‘MSM’ to those young men who were in same sex relationships but who did not see themselves as part of a separate identity category. On the other hand, the existing differences of terminology which were at best transitory - situated an individual in a relation to others within the transgender community or which indicated his or her role in sexual act as ‘active’ or ‘passive’ partner - were essentialised as identity categories which could be contrasted and compared for sexual behaviour, risk and propensity to accept interventions.”

Ayaz Qureshi, Assistant Professor,
Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School
of Humanities and Social Sciences
(MGSHSS)

Learn more by visiting
lums.edu.pk/gender

LUMS Center for Entrepreneurship – Promoting Entrepreneurship at LUMS and Beyond

From its founding by Pakistan's leading entrepreneurs to its management by the country's most successful businessmen and innovators, to an impeccable track record of entrepreneurial successes led by the university alumni, LUMS enjoys a rich and celebrated entrepreneurial history.



LUMS Center for Entrepreneurship (LCE) – setup as an independent center under the LUMS umbrella – aims to formalise the institution's support for entrepreneurship. It is the nation's most comprehensive experiential development platform for budding entrepreneurs that formalises the process of scouting, grooming and facilitating passionate startup founders. LCE is building a comprehensive entrepreneurial ecosystem, with LUMS at its epicenter, that will bring together everything and everyone required to maximise the growth potential of Pakistani entrepreneurs.

The Foundation

The Foundation is a 4-month long, flagship incubation programme of the LUMS Center for Entrepreneurship that provides startups with mentoring from industry leaders, office space, utilities, marketing, PR support and modest sustenance stipends in exchange for a small equity interest in the business.

Mutually agreed upon milestones are used to gauge startup development throughout the incubation cycle and successful ventures are showcased at an investor conference upon graduation. Even though start-up founders do not have to pay for any of the services from their pocket, they are required to part with some equity/shares in the company so that LCE has a vested



interest in each of its startups. The equity ranges from 2.5% to 7.5% depending on the services availed such as Incubation with Stipend, Incubation without Stipend and Acceleration.



Selection Process

The Foundation hosts three batches of startups a year. For each batch, LCE scouts visit various nationwide events and universities to find the most talented entrepreneurs and offers them a chance to become a part of the LCE where they can hone their entrepreneurial skills and get the much needed support to develop and grow their businesses. At the point when the scout discovers a high-growth/high-impact and sustainable business driven by a team of young and passionate entrepreneurs, they are invited to meet with LCE's Foundation Council.

What is the Foundation Council

The Foundation Council is a group of successful entrepreneurs and business people who invest their valued time and expertise to assess each startup and collectively decide as to which ventures to incubate at The Foundation. These startups are rigorously assessed for both founder capabilities and potential in the business model from a commercial and social impact perspective.

Written by: **Asma Abbas (LCE)**

Foundation Programme Elements

- **Entrepreneurship Development Programme**
An intense, 2-week long boot camp to groom entrepreneurial behaviours and competencies
- **Experiential Business Development**
14 themed weeks of experiential venture development including mentoring sessions from industry leaders and monthly review of mutually agreed upon traction metrics
- **The Foundation Investors Summit**
Gathering of local and international investors interested to invest in early stage businesses



Statistics from the 4 Batches

Statistic	Count
Startups incubated	42
Startups successfully graduated	36
Startups still operational	31
Startups that shutdown	03
Startups that exited	02
Startups that raised funding	11
Number of entrepreneurs	100+
Number of mentors in our network	60+
Number of networking sessions	100+
Social Media reach	20,000+
Media mentions	130+

The Way Forward

As of April 2016, LCE has 11 incubated and 4 accelerated startups as part of its fifth cohort of startups and plans to support and empower hundreds more.

Through research and learning in entrepreneurship development in Pakistan, LCE is undertaking various new ambitious projects to further strengthen the business

environment in Pakistan and make it more conducive to new venture success. The most prominent of these is the development of LUMS Business Innovation and Acceleration Center that will provide shared infrastructure, business services and management support to young businesses alongside a best-in-class experiential entrepreneurship training.



Alumni Success Stories



Aisha Karamat

BSc 2008,
Section Officer,
Government of Pakistan

From LUMS to CSS



Everyone was very surprised when I introduced myself as a Civil Servant. It is believed that the Civil Service may not be the best place for a LUMS graduate, as the slow pace and the politics at work prohibits one from achieving their true potential.

However, when I joined the Civil Service I was quite shocked to find that this was all a misconception. In my experience, the Civil Service is one of the best platforms available to implement policy, make decisions at both regional and national levels and witness results first hand. Therefore, it is imperative that responsibility rests with the most competent people in order to maximise the effectiveness of our initiatives and policies.

The continuous emphasis on originality, analysis, and ethics at LUMS has given me a set of tools against which I measure my work irrespective of the market trend. In depth project researches, working in groups, meeting assignment deadlines, and competing with the best brains in the classroom has helped me to work under

pressure alongside teams with all sorts of dynamics. The confidence and training I received at LUMS has helped me pursue my goals and achieve the best results possible in every field.

Civil Service is an opportunity to work for the betterment of Pakistan and to help the country to move in the right direction as it struggles to achieve its true potential.

The need of the hour is not to succumb to the traditional notions associated with the bureaucracy but to believe that you yourself define your work and as an individual you set your own benchmarks for everything you believe in.



Aisha Karamat Ghumman graduated from LUMS in 2008 and is currently serving in the IMF Department at the Ministry of Finance. She also served as an officer in the Establishment Division and was the youngest member of the committee on anti-sexual harassment against women in the workplace in her Division.



Haris Aziz
BSc 2003
Computer Science

LUMS Graduate Develops Algorithm that Allocates a Fair Share of Cake!

LUMS alumnus, Dr. Haris Aziz has made a breakthrough by solving a major open problem in mathematics/computer science. The problem is that of sharing a cake in a fair manner. Cake cutting is a general model for fair allocation of divisible resource such as time or computing resources. The term 'cake' comes from the fact that divisible resources are playfully referred to as 'cake'.

The most famous problem in the field is to find an envy-free allocation of the cake in bounded number of steps so that no person envies another's allocation. In the 1960s, two mathematicians, John Selfridge and John Conway independently developed a solution for envy-free cake cutting for three people. For decades, mathematicians and computer scientists have been trying to come up with a bounded envy-free protocol for more than three people. The

only known protocols for the problem were unbounded: they can require arbitrarily, many steps and cuts of the cake to find an envy-free allocation.

This month, Dr. Aziz and his coauthor Simon Mackenzie who both work at Data61, CSIRO and UNSW Australia, have proposed a general bounded and envy-free cake-cutting protocol for any number of people. The result improves their previous result where they designed an envy-free algorithm for four people.

Professor Ariel Procaccia at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh said "I was convinced that a bounded, envy-free cake-cutting algorithm did not exist. So the breakthrough result of Aziz and Mackenzie is nothing short of amazing. It is a beautiful piece of mathematics."



Saad Ansari

BSc 2000

Yasir Khokhar

BSc 2000

Founders of Connecterra

Connecterra Covered Internationally by IEEE, Fast Company & the Financial Times

Saad Ansari and Yasir Khokhar (BSc Class of 2000) are the founders of Connecterra that has won at Web Summit as best startup last year and now has been covered internationally by IEEE, Fast Company and the Financial Times. Both Saad and Yasir have left their very senior positions at Microsoft to pursue this full time now.

Connecterra recently displayed its systems at an event organised by IEEE. Fujitsu, Japan's largest IT service provider, headquartered in Tokyo, demonstrated its support service for commercial farmers and breeders in February at the Mobile World Congress. Connecterra, a predictive analytics startup from Amsterdam, showed off its system for small dairy farms at the Web Summit in November.

Saad, a computer scientist, says his company's mission is to use data analytics to improve food production. "By 2050, food output will have to be increased by 60 percent worldwide, so we started a venture that would lay the groundwork," he says. "We really don't need more cows; we need more milk from fewer cows," continues Saad.

Dairy farming is a vital part of the economy in many countries. In order to get cows pregnant during a

breeding season, the farmers need to keep an eye on the estrus and that's a tricky business. However, the invention of instruments like the Connecterra pedometer has made life a lot easier for farmers.

Connecterra is fitting cows with pedometers. The equipment for this is free, however it charges for its insights from the data it's collecting. It was launched just over a year ago. Several farms in the Netherlands and one in Pakistan are using its cloud-based service for cows outfitted with the company's monitors.

The data collected is sent to a nearby base station that runs Linux. From there it is sent to the cloud. Connecterra doesn't swamp the farmers with unnecessary data; instead, it analyses the cows' behaviour, using advanced mathematics and provides insights. Connecterra makes its money by offering subscriptions to that information.

"The system gives information about why this insight occurred and tells farmers what action to take. Farmers don't care about all the fancy data, they just want to be told what they should do about it," says Saad. "We're excited about what we are doing and what we've achieved so far on basically a shoestring budget and our customer feedback has been strong," continues Saad.



Taha Shakoh
BS Electrical Engineering
2015

LUMS Graduate Taha Shakoh Vows to Help Pakistan's Renal Patients

LUMS alumnus, Taha Shakoh, (BS Electrical Engineering 2015) aims to curb Pakistan's increasing death rate due to chronic kidney disease with his hemodialysis mixing and delivery process.

Taha, who is a Master's researcher at the University of Sydney, shared his research at the IET Present Around the World Competition held in Perth. Taha has made a major breakthrough for Pakistan's renal patients by improving on a simple mixing and central delivery system currently used in kidney dialysis to create a hemodialysis mixing and delivering process. Taha's research is very pertinent to Pakistan as dialysis is a lifesaving process for end stage kidney disease patients and these patients undergo dialysis at least 3 times a week.

"My father, Dr. Salman Shakoh is the pioneer of hemodialysis concentrates in Pakistan, which is essentially the solution needed during dialysis. He was my motivation for this project. He always told me to aim to help save lives no matter what field I was in. 80-90% of the end stage kidney disease patients in developing countries die within the first year due to non-affordability and non-availability of dialysis facilities."

"My father had designed the overall system on paper but was looking for a company to make the mixer for him. I was studying a micro-controller and interfacing course at

LUMS at that time. I saw the diagram at home and it seemed like something I could make. It was just a bunch of valves and a motor being controlled by a controller, a relatively easy code for me. Moreover, this would mark my contribution towards saving lives since dialysis is a lifesaving procedure. I talked to my father and took this up as my course project. Thus during this course at LUMS with Dr. Muhammad Jahangir Ikram, I made the first version of the mixer (the 1.0) and this version was exported to Nepal and is still running there."

"LUMS was the first place where I touched a micro-controller so whatever feat I may achieve with this technology has its roots embedded in the corridors of the Syed Babar Ali School of Science and Engineering (SBASSE). At the time it seemed that some courses such as 'Electromagnetic Fields and Waves' and 'Data Structures' were not linked to electrical engineering however I can fully appreciate the value of these courses since I started my Masters in the same field. Apart from education, LUMS was a beautiful journey full of life long ties and mentors. Being Pakistan's premier institute, it also embodies a sense of patriotism in us which is ignited once one travels abroad. Being Luminites, we are the representatives of Pakistan and whenever we excel in any field, LUMS and Pakistan excel with us. If this in itself is not a motivation to succeed, what else is?"

Thriving Cancer Research at LUMS



Dr. Amir Faisal
Associate Professor
Department of Biology, SBASSE

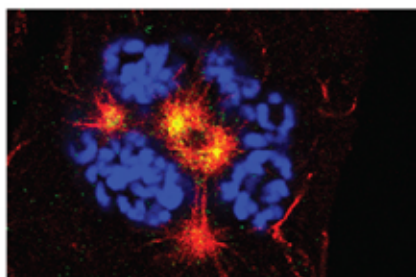


Cells in our bodies communicate with each other and the environment through a complex network of signalling pathways. These pathways regulate key cellular processes such as cell growth, differentiation, migration, survival, and death. These pathways have controlled environments and their perturbation underlies most if not all human diseases, including cancer.

My research is focused on investigating signal transduction pathways that control human disease. Recently, I have been focusing on the development of small molecule inhibitors that target key signalling proteins involved in human cancer. In time, these compounds could be used as anti-cancer medication.

When I joined LUMS in August 2014, I designed two new courses, 'Cell Signalling' and 'Cancer Biology'. They aim to teach how these signalling pathways are organised and regulated and how their deregulation leads to cancer development.

At the same time, I also took over the supervision of the Cancer Therapeutics Research Lab in the Biology Department at LUMS. Our research focuses on identifying and characterising novel synthetic and natural compounds with therapeutic potential for cancer. This involves assay-guided isolation and synthesis of compounds with anti-proliferative activities against cancer cell lines of different origins and identifying the mechanism of action. We are also interested in understanding mechanisms that cause resistance to cancer medication, evaluating combinations of medication to overcome such resistance and identifying novel drug targets through hypothesis based screening. So far, there has been no research on modern targeted cancer therapeutics in Pakistan especially one that focuses on cancers that are most prevalent in



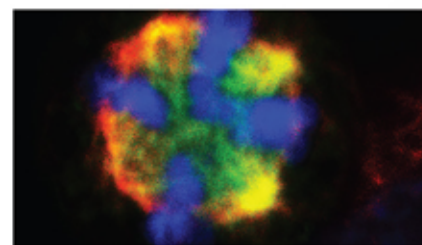
this country. Research in my lab however aims to contribute towards this, with the hope that one day our research will not only add to existing

scientific knowledge but will also lead to better patient care in Pakistan.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience at LUMS despite some teething issues setting up the research laboratory. Both the graduate and undergraduate students at LUMS are very smart, extremely hard working and enthusiastic about learning and it has been an absolute pleasure teaching them. I feel really proud that I can pass on my knowledge, experience and passion for science to them and I sincerely hope that this will contribute towards their careers in research.

I find it very fulfilling that my job at LUMS gives me the opportunity to teach and perform high-quality research in such a dynamic field.

We have a wonderful atmosphere in the research lab of the biology department where different groups



of people work together and help each other in all sorts of exciting projects. I would highly recommend the Biology courses at LUMS to anyone who is interested in learning about how our body works at the cellular and molecular levels as both an undergraduate or graduate student.



Alumni Foodies

We interviewed a few alumni who are in the food business. Let's hear what they have to say...

Salman Wassay
MBA 1990
Chaaye Khana



What's your favourite cuisine?

Thai

If you were a customer in your own cafe, what would you order from the menu?

Depends on the time of the day. In the morning, it would be French Toast and Doodh Patti. At lunch, it would be Spicy Chicken Fettuccini with Moroccan Mint Classic Green Tea and in the evening it would be fish and chips with Lapsang Souchang Black Tea.

One fun fact about your restaurant:

We have over seventy blends of tea.

What advice would you give to young people who want to start their own business?

Stop dreaming and get to work! Before everything else comes passion. But it does not stop there, you need to have a workable plan which means a sustainable revenue model, a team to implement it, a marketing strategy and cash-flow to support it.



Arsalan Ashraf
BSc 2010
Bombay Chowpatty



What's your favourite cuisine?

Indian

If you were a customer in your own cafe, what would you order from the menu?

Gujrati Puri

One fun fact about your restaurant:

Desi, zara hat ke!

What advice would you give to someone who is dreaming of starting their own business?

Get into the food industry only if you are passionate and love food. Moreover, you should be ready to gain a few extra pounds. Hahaha!



Saifullah Minhas
Ali Ahmed
Zaeem Shahid
Zain-ul-Abideen Hassan
MARO Tandoors



What's your favourite cuisine?

NAANS! (Not really, but I feel like I should show some loyalty to our business.)

What's your secret ingredient?

Love? Fun? Courage? Whatever sounds most impressive!

If you were a customer in your own cafe, what would you order from the menu?

I would definitely order the Chicken Teriyaki Naan, along with jalapeno sauce and a Spanish margarita. If I'm in the mood for dessert, I'd then go for a Snickers Naan.

One fun fact about your restaurant:

When we first started out, none of us had any experience in the restaurant industry. We didn't even have a mentor who had been in the industry and could guide us so what you see in front of you today is entirely built from experimentation and completely unique ideas.

What advice would you give to someone who is dreaming of starting their own business?

Just go for it! There's nothing like entrepreneurship. And don't spend too much money in the beginning.



Tahir Yasin Malik

MBA 1990
Chinatown,
Jade Café



What's your favourite cuisine?

Chinese

What's your secret ingredient?

My team and constant innovation

If you were a customer in your own cafe, what would you order from the menu?

At ChinaTown, I would order Chicken Chowmein with Kung Pao Chicken. At Jade Café, I would order Shakshuka for breakfast and for lunch/dinner I would order Thai Ginger Prawns or a Club Sandwich.

One fun fact about your restaurant:

This was never my core business but now it is.

What advice would you give to someone who is dreaming of starting their own business?

Before you start, prepare a business plan. Meet at least one person who is already in that business so that you are aware of the operational issues. If you are satisfied with your research, take a leap of faith. I believe luck plays an important part in it too. Always try to go for a business where giving credit to customers is not required.



Bilal Nawaz
King Kashmiri Tea



Which brew is your favourite?

Saying Kashmiri tea here would seem really convenient, I suppose. The truth is, my fascination with Kashmiri chai extends beyond the brand. While its preparation was not as convenient back in the days, the experience was always worth the wait.

What's your secret ingredient?

Ever heard of planning a day trip to Karachi (all the way from Lahore) to meet investors on a two day notice? My team does that. Being spontaneous has its pros and cons; regardless, we have been trying our best to pitch it as a core value. It has allowed us to keep our heads above water level on more than one occasion.

If you were a customer, what would you order?

Kashmiri kulcha! Enough said. In fact we were planning to package a variant of the original kulcha to go with our Kashmiri chai.

One fun fact about your product:

Our logo (a woman) and brand name (King) is an apparent contradiction. Or that is what you might think. Actually, it is exactly the way we intended it. Women are Kings!

What advice would you give to someone who is dreaming of starting their own business?

People (specifically investors) in Pakistan are quite wary of taking risks. They would rather invest in businesses where profits are guaranteed, like real estate. Hence, they don't even consider new ideas at times. This is where you should come in and take charge. Just remember one thing, ideas don't matter, execution does. Rely less on 'future data projections', bank more on what you have already achieved and your plans to add value to it in the future. Make sure your plan is as good as your idea. As long as you have a good product and/or service, your business venture will pull through.





Regional Alumni Reunions

LUMS Alumni Reunion Dinner Held in Karachi

The LUMS Office of Alumni Relations and LUMS Alumni Karachi Chapter held a reunion dinner for alumni on January 17, 2015. The dinner, held at Karachi Marriott Hotel, was a huge success. It was attended by almost two hundred alumni from the undergraduate and graduate classes. This was the largest gathering of alumni in the history of the LUMS Alumni Karachi Chapter.

The evening started with a welcome address by Mr. Abbas Sajjad, President of the LUMS Alumni Karachi Chapter. This was followed by a presentation by Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi, Vice Chancellor, LUMS, who informed the audience of the latest news and updates from the university. Abdul Razak Dawood, Rector, LUMS was also present at the occasion.

The audience included 131 undergraduate alumni, 47 MBA alumni, 6 Executive MBA graduates and 6 graduates from the MS and MSC programmes. Also accompanying the alumni were their spouses.

After networking and catching up with friends over dinner, the audience enjoyed a qawwali performance by Fareed Ayaz and Abu Muhammad.





LUMS Alumni Karachi Chapter Organises Fun Fair & Sports Day 2015

LUMS Alumni Karachi Chapter (LAKC) arranged an "Annual Fun Fair & Sports Day 2015" for Karachi based alumni, their families and friends on March 21, 2015 at DHA O & A Level School. The event was well-attended and enjoyed by all. Arrangements had been made for alumni and families to play volleyball, football, cricket and soccer.

The event was sponsored by Engro Foods, Indus Motors, Faysal Bank, ICI Pakistan, Atlas Asset Management, Elixir Securities and Dairy Land Ltd. Renowned brands like World Vision Pvt. Ltd., JAS Travels, Gul Ahmed Textiles, Unilever, Beechtree, Jan Textile Mills, Siddiq Sons, Pavillion Endclub, Levi's, DL Nash, Kolaachiites, L'Oreal, Atrium Cinemas, Nueplex Cinema, Café Zouk and Café New York participated by partnering in sponsoring lucky draw gifts and hampers.

Unilever participated by arranging free Wall's Ice Cream, Lipton Tea and Knorr Soup stalls. Tapal Tea and Coca Cola also set up stalls and offered free beverages. Joyland sponsored children's recreational activities. Food stalls from McDonalds, New York Café, Broadway Pizza and Biryani of the Seas offered food at a discounted price. The lucky draw towards the end was the most popular attraction of the event and a large number of gifts were won by the attendees including two return tickets for Dubai.

The President of the Karachi Alumni Chapter, Abbas Sajjad along with his team of volunteer alumni including Abdullah Akhtar, Babur Rais, Maliha Shahid, Irfan Khan, Alhani Khawaja Nazimuddin, Ibrahim Shamsi and Imran Saeed were instrumental in organising the whole event.





Islamabad & KPK Alumni Reconnect over Dinner

Two hundred alumni gathered at the Serena Hotel for the annual Islamabad & KPK Alumni Reunion on September 19, 2015. The Islamabad Chapter President, Saud Mukhtar (MBA '07) and KPK Chapter President, Khurram Rasheed (BSc '12), hosted the night of celebration and cheer. Chatter evolved into deep discussions as graduates from all schools and batches connected over fond memories and developments at LUMS.

To update the alumni community, LUMS faculty socialised with the graduates and spoke about recent developments and the alumni role in the future of LUMS. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi presented updates, highlighting the Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law inauguration and plans for additional student hostels.

Dr. Kamal Munir, Dean, Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School of Humanities & Social Sciences (MGSHSS) and Dr. Jamshed Khan, Professor, Suleman Dawood School of Business (SDSB), spoke to the gathering about the importance of alumni at LUMS. Finally, LUMS Rector, Abdul Razak Dawood spoke and the entire panel was opened to questions from the audience.

A formal dinner and picture session followed. Alumni connected with each other and some of their favourite faculty members and met many other LUMS graduates for the first time. The event ended with smiles, laughs and nostalgia for life at LUMS.



LUMS Alumni Reunite at Homecoming 2015

The Alumni Homecoming 2015, held on December 19, 2015 was an exciting, well-attended event. Each Dean hosted a school function that started the night off with a bang. Dr. Kamal Munir, Dean of Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School of Humanities and Social Sciences (MGSHSS), hosted Ramiz Raja, Sana Mir, Shehryar Khan and Wahab Riaz for a star-studded cricket panel moderated by Hissan ur Rehman (BSc '07). Over 40 faculty members attended the functions including Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi, Dr. Ehsan ul Haque, Dr. Turab Hussain, Dr. Shahid Masud, Dr. Zartash Uzmi and Dr. Mubashir Ali.

Themed around recognising and celebrating alumni achievements, the reunion exclusively engaged Luminites in planning the event. This meant that seven alumni-run restaurants set up food stalls for a free Alumni Food Street. As over 1200 alumni, faculty and staff reconnected, anticipation built for Ali Hamza (BSc '01) and his brother to perform and close the night in a way that only their band, Noori can.

A big thanks to all the LUMS alumni for making this event a success, especially to the event planner Jahanzaib Shafique (BSc '10) of JBnJaws, entertainer Ali Hamza (BSc '01) of Noori, restaurateurs Tahir Yasin Malik (MBA '90) of Chinatown; Ali Syed (MBA '94) and Gul Bukhari (MBA '94) of Mocca Café; Saifullah Minhas (BSc '16) of MARO Tandoors Muhammad Qasim Awan (BSc '14) of Casa Bianca; Bilal Nawaz (LCE '16) of King Kashmiri Tea; Arsalan Ashraf Sheikh (BSc '10) of Bombay Chowpatty; Ilyas Yousuf Peracha (MBA '02) of Arabian Delights; Faran Tanveer (BSc '15) of Muggay and Aimen Durrani of LUMS Graduate Diaries.





MBA Class of 1995 Meets for their 20th Year Reunion at LUMS

The MBA Class of 1995 recently celebrated their 20 year reunion on campus. The batch returned to LUMS, some for the first time since graduation.

Tafweez Ul Vakil organised the event and talked about how it felt for the batch to come together once again.

"It felt as if we had never left! New buildings had sprung up, the trees were as old as our association with the place and the grey in our hair was evident. The first laugh transported us back twenty years and old jokes and wisecracks returned in an instant. No one cared what anyone had achieved or not, the Class of '95 was back - the class that 'Gave 'em the most'. From entrepreneurs to professors, bank CEOs to senators, everyone was there. Yet all that mattered was the constant chatting and laughter. Going through the campus tour, the feeling of pride that we had contributed to making this University and campus what it is now, was overwhelming. The highlight was definitely a class session in one of the original classrooms. The initial plan of going through a case study, sent many a chill up the spines of successful corporate managers. The frantic phone calls I received the night before to inquire how serious the class session was, showed that some things never change. Luckily, Dr. Ehsan Ul Haque chose not to go through with the case, sending a sigh of relief across the classroom, which funnily still smelt the same even after 20 years. As we left the campus with our mementos, we could still hear echoes of Peera Ho Peera (our unofficial class song) in the background. To the next 20 years!"





LUMS Alumni Reunion Held in Karachi

Over 300 Alumni with their spouses joined us for a LUMS Alumni Reunion in Karachi on February 27, 2016 at the PC Hotel, despite the fact that the T20 match was being played that day.

It was the biggest attendance ever in the history of Karachi Chapter Reunions. Alumni who hadn't seen each other in years were hugging, reconnecting, and swapping stories of their recent accomplishments. Everyone was excited to see familiar faces and share about their lives.

The night started off with a welcome note by Karachi Chapter President, Alhani Khawaja (MBA 1998). Dr. Syed Mubashir Ali then gave an overview of LUMS. He updated the alumni about LUMS, the new Law School, renovation of PDC, and the Aquatic Centre. He also shared how happy he was to see alumni engagement in giving back to LUMS in terms of mentorship, placement, and helping out at information sessions.

Later Abdul Razak Dawood, Rector LUMS, spoke to the alumni. He recalled the first student, Aaliya who he interviewed for admission and how they were themselves just as nervous as she was! Whilst bringing a smile on everyone's faces, he imparted words of wisdom and highlighted the connection to LUMS that alumni will always have wherever they go. He asked them to give back to their alma mater in order to maintain its high standards of education and its need-blind policy of giving financial aid.

An award was also presented to Omer Saeed (MBA 1991) as a token of appreciation for his generous donation to the National Outreach Programme (NOP). The event continued with a comedy performance by Shehzad Ghias (BA-LL.B 2012) who filled the night with laughter with his amazing wit.

The alumni also enjoyed the live screening of the T20 Cricket match, with their batch mates. It was a fun-filled night of entertainment, catching up with old friends and creating more memories followed by a formal dinner.

Participants from LUMS included Rector, Abdul Razak Dawood and faculty members, Dr. Syed Mubashir Ali, Dr. Ali Qazilbash and Dr. Sabieh Anwar.



International Alumni Reunions

LUMS Alumni Reunion in London

LUMS alumni living in the United Kingdom, organised a reunion on May 6, 2015 in London. LUMS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi attended the dinner and met with the graduates. The alumni had the chance to network and to catch up with each other, while also learning of the latest developments taking place at their alma mater.

LUMS Alumni Get Together for a Reunion in Sunnyvale, California

LUMS alumni in the Bay Area got together for a reunion on June 7, 2015 in Sunnyvale, California. The alumni had the honour of meeting LUMS Pro Chancellor, Syed Babar Ali; LUMS Rector, Abdul Razak Dawood; former faculty, Dr. Wasim Azhar; LUMS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi and former faculty Syed Babar Ali School of Science and Engineering, Dr. Shahab Baqai.

On the occasion, Dr. Naqvi gave a presentation on the rapid growth and development at LUMS and briefed the alumni on the different schools of study. Syed Babar Ali gave a talk about how the alumni can contribute and play a major role in the future of LUMS. After dinner, the alumni gave short introductions about themselves. The evening ended with socialising and brainstorming new ideas about how to support various LUMS programmes.



LUMS Alumni Reunion in Canada

Alumni reunions are a special time to revisit memories and create new ones. The LUMS alumni reunion event held in Mississauga on August 1, 2015 was one such occasion.

In attendance was Azim Rizvee (MBA 1998), the first LUMS graduate to be nominated by the Liberal Party in Canada. He had flown back from Pakistan a day earlier, but made it a point to attend. Over 44 people attended the event. Dr. Jamshed H. Khan motivated the alumni to stay connected with the LUMS family. He stressed the importance of alumni in helping the university move forward by their guidance, feedback and engagement.

The alumni present from various degree programmes were excited to see each other. They had vibrant discussions and provided valuable feedback on ways to improve the university as well as alumni relations for the growing LUMS community. Volunteers stepped up for fundraising, guidance on entrepreneurship, coaching and mentoring. The alumni affirmed to support each other and started with a commitment to support Azim Rizvee. They discussed various future events, and a family event at African Lion Safari was planned for the end of September.

LUMS New York City Alumni Get Together

The LUMS Alumni Association in New York arranged an alumni bowling night at Lucky Strike on September 11, 2015. The event was well attended by representatives of recent undergraduate classes with a smattering of representation from older MBA graduates. In between frames, alumni bonded over snacks and drinks. While there was no clear winner in bowling, everyone enjoyed the evening and plans are underway for similar events.





LUMS Alumni Meet Syed Babar Ali in the San Francisco Bay Area

LUMS alumni got together in the San Francisco Bay Area, USA on December 26, 2015 at the residence of Sophia and Saad Khawaja, which was attended by Syed Babar Ali and several alumni. The enthusiastic alumni connected with Syed Babar Ali over a range of topics including their career journey, entrepreneurship and myriad of experiences. They shared issues about work visas faced by alumni in the past and present and discussed the presence of Pakistani individuals at influential posts in the US corporate structure.

Various ideas were exchanged on what can be done to help increase the level of education in Pakistan. The day was followed by a fun filled lunch where the alumni mingled with each other in smaller groups and reminisced about old times. Later, tea was served and casual conversations about politics, economic conditions, and Modi's surprise visit to Pakistan took place. Everyone was honoured at having an opportunity to meet and interact with Syed Babar Ali and create more memories.





LUMS Alumni and Faculty Meet Up in Dubai

A Dubai alumni reunion took place on January 15, 2016 at Conrad Hotel, Dubai. The evening started off with Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi, LUMS Vice Chancellor introducing the faculty present at the event. He then talked about new developments at LUMS, including the Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law building, the LUMS Aquatic Centre, exciting new research by faculty and students, the LUMS Centre for Entrepreneurship and NOP funding. Dr. Naqvi also attended to graduates' queries about how the alumni can contribute to their alma mater. Later at the reunion, the alumni enjoyed a game of Movie Trivia and won gifts.

The UAE Chapter President Khawaja Bashir Uddin (BSc 1999), Vice President Shahzad Bashir (MBA 1998) and their team, in collaboration with the Alumni Relations Office and SDSB, organised a successful reunion where almost 120 alumni were present. It was a fun filled night where the alumni networked, took fun pictures and created more memories together.

Participants from LUMS included Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi, Dr. Junaid Ashraf, Dr. Ehsan Ul Haque, Dr. Atif Saeed Chaudry, Dr. Kamran Ali Chatha, Dr. Saad Azmat, Dr. Syed Mubashir Ali, Dr. Syed Zahoor Hassan, Dr. Zain ul Abdin Khawaja, Mr. Ahsan Shamim, Ms. Masooma Zeeshan, Ms. Ayesha Zafar, Ms. Quratulain Babur and Mr. Ali Safdar Raja.





LUMS Alumni Get Together in Toronto

LUMS Canadian alumni hosted a get together in the Toronto region on January 22, 2016 to celebrate and re-energise the Canadian Chapter Networking Drive. The event was jam packed with over 50 alumni and their families who connected with each other and Suleman Dawood School of Business (SDSB) professor, Dr. Jamshed Khan. Everyone was honoured at having an opportunity to meet and interact with Dr. Khan and asked him questions about recent developments at LUMS and events in Pakistan.

As the night progressed, discussion occurred over a range of topics including the LUMS brand, mentoring opportunities, entrepreneurship and other topics of interest. Recent graduates shared their experiences with those who have settled in the Toronto area. Regardless of age, the entire group renewed their connection to LUMS and their dedication to increasing awareness of LUMS with prospective employees and to the Canadian network in general.

Various ideas were exchanged on what can be done to help increase the LUMS presence in North America. The Brand Development Committee, led by Saud Ahmad (EMBA '04), Fawad Farrukh (BSc '06), Shahriz Khan (BSc '07) and Mustafa Zafar (MBA '91), presented their efforts over the last six months. An infographic landing page is in the works to provide content to build credibility of the LUMS brand among Canadian employers. If you have nominations or ideas for profiles, sounds bites, or linkages, please email alumnirelations@lums.edu.pk.

After the creative juices started flowing regarding the perception of the LUMS brand abroad, discussion moved towards planning more alumni events in the area. The evening was truly enjoyable, productive and built up excitement for the opportunities to improve the 350+ and growing, alumni network in Canada.





LUMS Alumni in Singapore Get Together

LUMS Singapore alumni held a get together over drinks at Kazbar, Singapore on February 26, 2016 on account of Vice Chancellor, LUMS, Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi and LUMS MBA Programme Director and Assistant Professor, Ahsan Shamim Chaudhri's visit to Singapore. Alumni as senior as MBA 2005 were happy to catch up with fellow alumni. Everyone enjoyed and utilised the opportunity to interact with Dr. Naqvi and Mr. Chaudhri and talked about the diversity of work industries ranging from tech to banking to entrepreneurship in Singapore.

Dr. Naqvi expressed his joy over meeting so many individuals who resided in Singapore with LUMS being their alma mater in the past. He also shared ideas around how each of them could play a role in making LUMS students synonymous with meritorious for employers in Singapore. He also updated on how LUMS was making progress towards its vision of becoming one of the top universities in the region.

Such a holistic and formal get together was held for the first time in Singapore and everybody expressed the keenness to have such events on regular intervals in the future.





Alumni Reunion Held in Hong Kong

Hong Kong achieved a milestone recently of being one of the global cities that hosted an official visit by a LUMS Alumni Relations team member, on April 11, 2016. This visit proved to be a catalyst in sparking the first LUMS Alumni Hong Kong Chapter get together.

Although put together quickly, the event had a good turn out where LUMS graduates met with Masooma Zeeshan, LUMS Alumni Relations Team who was in the city to attend a conference. This reunion, hosted at the Stormies Bar and Grill at the iconic ICC Civic Square, proved to be a blessing for some of the recent graduates who had just arrived in Hong Kong and did not know other alumni living in the city. Graduates from the BSc Class of 2002 all the way to BSc 2013 connected with each other at the event.

Masooma shared ideas about her role at LUMS and how the Alumni Relations team is helping consolidate the global alumni network into a strong platform with an organised database, as well as a framework to help international and cross division business connectivity among the alumni. She asked the alumni to give feedback on new projects as well as any ideas or problems they might be facing. The alumni were pleased to hear that LUMS was finally organising this event for their alma mater which would create a strong backbone of support for upcoming graduates in mentorship and career opportunities, as well as a platform for raising capital for great projects such as the LUMS National Outreach Programme (NOP).

A promise was made to organise more meetings for the Hong Kong alumni chapter and Masooma also committed that she would endeavour to make Hong Kong part of the VC's annual travel plans.



LUMS Alumni New York Chapter Get Together

The LUMS Alumni Association - New York Chapter hosted a reunion on May 8, 2016 at Junoon, a Michelin star restaurant, which was attended by over 70 graduates, ranging from the Class of 1990 to 2015. The gathering was one of the largest reunion events held in New York and represented an alumni body ranging from CEOs to Google's HR managerial team members and from PhDs to Master's students - all united in their identity as proud Luminites.

The event was attended by Syed Babar Ali, Pro-Chancellor, LUMS; Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi, Vice Chancellor, LUMS and Osman Waheed, Board Member, LUMS. The gathering officially began with a welcome note by the Vice Chancellor. Dr. Naqvi, who shared the progress LUMS has made in recent years and the changes happening to increase research output of the university.

Syed Babar Ali addressed the gathering and said he was proud to see them emerging as leaders within their fields and emphasised that such excellence and progress cannot be isolated from financial needs and thus infused a sense of responsibility to contribute back to LUMS to help ensure that it remains the premier institution of Pakistan. Mr. Osman Waheed shared that LUMS now aims to help bolster the education system of Pakistan by forming a new Education department.

The talk concluded with several National Outreach Programme (NOP) scholars sharing their experiences and success stories. The alumni body enthusiastically signed pledge forms to donate to LUMS for NOP.

The afternoon concluded with lunch, which was sponsored and hosted by an MBA LUMS alumnus from the Class of 1990, Mr. Abid Naseem. Everyone had the chance to interact with Dr. Naqvi, Syed Babar Ali and Mr. Osman Waheed during lunch.





On Campus Alumni Events

LUMS Alumni Class of 2012 Comes to Tea

The Alumni Relations Office hosted a tea for the LUMS alumni Class of 2012 on August 29, 2015, at the university campus. Graduates from different programmes such as MBA, BSc, BS, BA-LL.B attended the reunion. Abeer Hamid (MBA, 2012) and Aleena Rashid (BSc, 2012) were selected as class representatives of the Graduate and Undergraduate classes respectively on the nominations for their batchmates.

The alumni expressed the desire to stay connected with the University and requested the Alumni Relations Office to continue organising such reunions. Masooma Zeeshan of the Alumni Relations Team appreciated all the graduates for participating in the event and for making the evening memorable.





The Alumni Office and 2011 Batch Meet Up

As part of the Alumni Office's initiative to reconnect with each LUMS batch, they welcomed the Class of 2011 back on campus for an informal tea on October 3, 2015. Alumni from different schools and disciplines gathered to reminisce over their shared time on campus. Between sharing surprise over the new Law School building and remembering many meals at the Pepsi Dining Centre (PDC), the alumni shared memories about their life at LUMS.

Although the batch of 2011 graduated four years ago, the spirit and impact of LUMS shined through in these meet-ups. In efforts to let the LUMS spirit grow, the alumni selected four batch representatives: Hassan Shahzad (BSc '11), Anum Qadri (BSc '11), Batool Bano Rizvi (BSc '11), and Zeeshan Gondal (MBA '11).

The Alumni Relations Office continues organising such reunions to meet graduates and encourage them to stay connected to their alma mater. The Alumni Team appreciates all the graduates for participating at the event and for making a memorable afternoon.





SDSB Alumni Association Reunion

The Annual Suleman Dawood School of Business (SDSB) Reunion took place on January 2, 2016 at LUMS with over 300 attendees. The theme of the event was 'Proud Pakistani'. The lunch set up reflected a garden party feel with an ethnic touch. The elementary purpose of the theme was to promote patriotism, nationalism and sense of pride of being a Pakistani. A photo booth was also set up with various props and dialogue bubbles to make it a fun and memorable afternoon.

The lunch was followed by a great musical afternoon with Hamid Ali Khan. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the lunch and musical afternoon.



Classes of 2007- 2010 Come Back for the Batch Hi-Tea

The LUMS Alumni Relations Office welcomed LUMS alumni classes of 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 on, February 20, 2016, at LUMS for their "Batch Hi-Tea." A large number of alumni turned up for the gathering and had a great time catching up with friends they hadn't seen in years.

There were several alumni from prominent positions in the corporate world who shared their experiences and amazing memories attached with LUMS. The Alumni Office Team had a question & answer session aimed at understanding the needs and expectations of the specific batches. The alumni had a vibrant discussion and provided valuable feedback on ways to improve the University as well as alumni relations for the growing LUMS community.

These reunions are organised by the LUMS Alumni Relations Office with the aim of building sustainable relationships with alumni for the development of LUMS.

Please be on the look out for your batch's tea and be sure to mark your calendars then! The Alumni Relations Office will continue organising such reunions to meet up with graduates and to encourage them to stay connected to their alma mater.





CSS Alumni Association Kick-off Tea

Many LUMS undergraduate alumni, over the years have taken the Civil Superior Service (CSS) exam and are now working in the government sector. The LUMS Alumni Office and these CSS alumni recently formed the CSS Alumni Association. The Association's organising members got together to meet fellow alumni and staff over tea at LUMS on December 6, 2015 and chalked out the plan to formally establish the CSS Alumni Association. Alumni from classes that graduated almost ten years ago attended the tea and guided the Association's vision.

Envisioned as a platform to network and learn, the CSS Alumni Association and LUMS hopes to support and facilitate alumni in their careers. The CSS Alumni Association offers multifaceted avenues for it's members. Service is a central focus of the association exemplified through the mentorship platform where seasoned alumni mentor newly inducted CSS graduates who likewise share advice and experiences with current LUMS students preparing for the CSS exam. Further along, speaker sessions and fundraising programmes will be organised.

Together, the CSS Alumni Association stands as an exciting and impactful platform for CSS alumni to build a stronger affinity with each other and LUMS.



Movie Night



Classes of 2004 to 2006 Come Back to LUMS for Movie Night

The Alumni Relations Office welcomed the classes of 2004, 2005 and 2006 on March 26, 2016 at LUMS for a movie night. The alumni that turned up for the intimate gathering had a great time catching up with friends they had not seen in years.

The Revenant (An Oscar Award Winning film, 2016) was screened after it got the most votes from alumni. The screening was arranged at an auditorium at Suleman Dawood School of Business (SDSB), LUMS. The alumni really enjoyed the movie, snacking on a constant supply of popcorn. The evening ended really soon according to the alumni and they all asked when the next reunion will be taking place.



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