



FCCU EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 • SEPTEMBER 2020



DEAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the Department of Education Newsletter. The collaboration of innovative talent and skills of the faculty members has finally brought the Newsletter to the fruition. Each semester, this Newsletter will feature news about the achievements of faculty members and students, details of events held in the Department, and much more! 2020 has been a year of change in ways we had not foreseen until the beginning of Spring Semester which turned out to be the black swan moment for Higher Education. The Faculty of Education has risen to the challenges posed by COVID-19 to fulfill our mission of provision of uninterrupted education for FCCU students. In a matter of days with inspiring teamwork, dedication and alacrity to carry out our educational mission we dramatically altered all operations - from instructional delivery, to creating remote internship opportunities for graduating students. Our commitment to serve the wider FCCU community continues even during these unprecedented times of a global pandemic. I'd like to extend my gratitude to all who are associated with the Department for their tireless efforts and positive engagement throughout the Spring Semester 2020. Please enjoy reading this installment of our e-newsletter.

DR. MEHWISH RAZA



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**FCCU EDUCATION
NEWSLETTER**

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FACULTY'S CORNER

The academic year 2019-20 proved to be very fruitful and rewarding for Jaffer as he got selected for two training programs – both funded by the U.S Department of State. The first one was a training program based on teaching Entrepreneurship and English language skills to the vulnerable and undeserved communities. It was a one-week extensive training program in Islamabad and a total of 65 candidates were selected from Pakistan. The other one was a teacher training and a cultural exchange program where 25 academics were sent to the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. Jaffer was fortunate enough to be awarded this opportunity and it was a rewarding experience for him. In addition to this, he also presented at a symposium titled “Connecting Teachers, Innovating Learners” at the same university. Currently, he is working on two research projects based on languages and education in the Pakistani context.



SYED JAFFER GARDEZI
LECTURER



MAIDA ALI
LECTURER

Maida was awarded with funding by AMICAL Consortium to attend a professional development course “Inclusive Design” at Digital Pedagogy Lab which was organized at University of Mary Washington, USA in August, 2019. Later on, she was nominated by the chairperson of the department in October 2019 as a board member of the Faculty of Education. In addition to the teaching responsibilities at FCCU, Maida is also an online Trainer/Instructor with a consultancy company for the in-service teachers and serves as a facilitator at Center for Learning and Teaching at FCCU. Currently, Maida along with her colleague Ammar Khan is working on a research project under the title of “Online Courses and Student’s Device Preferences during COVID-19”.

The academic year has been great for Ammar as he got funding by FCCU to attend a professional development workshop 'Play Make Learn' which was held at the University of Wisconsin - Madison, USA in August 2019. It was a two-day workshop where with activities, collaborative work and sessions about innovating your classrooms. Apart from teaching responsibilities, Ammar is an advisor to the Art Junction Society and a board member of Department of Education at FCCU. Ammar is also a student advisor with a consultancy company and guides students for studying abroad. He has a publication in process this year with two co-authors, titled 'A Comparative Review of National and International Practices in Teacher Education Accreditation' and is also working with his colleague Maida Ali on a research project under the title of 'Online Courses and Student's Device Preferences during COVID-19'.



AMMAR H. KHAN
LECTURER



SYEDA KHADIJA BURHAN
ASSIST. PROFESSOR

This year, the focus of Khadija's work was around special needs children and the challenges faced by their mothers. She worked on two research projects in collaboration with Dr. Sara Jaffree from the Sociology Department. Her article, 'Health Challenges of Mothers with Special Needs Children in Pakistan and the Importance of Integrating Health Social Workers' was published in the Social Work in Health Care Journal Volume 59 Issue 6. Another article along the same lines titled 'Special Needs Parents of Pakistan: Identifying Policy to Reduce Risks of Sexual Abuse in Special Needs Children' was presented at the 'Safer Society For Children Conference On Child Sexual Abuse Prevention' held on February 28th to February 29th. She taught a course 'Working with Stories' during the winter semester where students visited bookshops, prepared teaching resources and later donated the books and materials to different schools. The course 'Teaching Reading' also revolved around a similar focus.

Dr. Sumaira completed a Higher Education Commission (HEC) funded project as COPI, titled "Incidence, Psychological Screening and Management of Learning Disabilities in Government Schools of five districts of Punjab" in 2019. Moreover, she published three research papers in HEC recognized journals. Her research revolves around the development of critical thinking among the various segments of learners. She was promoted from an Assistant Professor to an Associate Professor in 2020 due to her exceptional achievements as an educator, trainer and researcher. Dr. Sumaira also served as a faculty trainer with the PHEC and was rigorously involved with serving the community both on and off campus.



DR. SUMAIRA RASHID
ASSOC. PROFESSOR



ASHAR J. KHOKHAR
CHAIRPERSON & ASSIST.
PROFESSOR

Ashar J. Khokhar took over the responsibility as Chairperson of the Department of Education in 2019. He successfully submitted his PhD thesis titled, "Exploration of National Identity: Analysis of Textbooks published by the State Textbook Boards in Pakistan" for evaluation at University of Management and Technology, Lahore. Being an adaptive leader during the COVID-19 lockdown, Ashar along with the Department took over a number of responsibilities. One of the most challenging tasks under his supervision was to re-design the teaching practice which is a teaching internship for our student-teachers. Ashar initiated a 7 part series of webinars to assist the student-teachers to learn how to teach in an online setting. He published a journal article titled "Islamic Habitus in English Language Textbooks Produced by Boards in Pakistan" and has a chapter contribution in a book titled "Radicalization in Pakistan: A Critical Perspective" by M. S. Pervez which is currently in press.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Jafree, S. R., & **Burhan, S. K.** (2020). Special Needs Parents of Pakistan: Identifying Policy to Reduce Risks of Sexual Abuse in Special Needs Children. *Child Sexual Abuse Prevention* (pp. 8-15). Lahore: Safer Society for Children.

Jafree, S. R., & **Burhan, S. K.** (2020) Health challenges of mothers with special needs children in Pakistan and the importance of integrating health social workers, *Social Work in Health Care*, 59:6, 408-429.

Khokhar, A. J. & Muhammad, Y. D. (2020). Islamic Habitus in English Language Textbooks Produced by Boards in Pakistan. *Journal of Islamic Thought and Civilization (JITC)*, 10(1).

Khokhar, A. J. (in press). Teaching Toward a Culture of Peace: Analysis of Islamiyat and Ethics Textbook. In M. S. Pervez, *Radicalization in Pakistan: A Critical Perspective*. New York: Routledge.

Rashid, S., Qaisar, S., Dogar, H. A. (2019) Social Context as a Significant Factor in Developing Critical Thinking among Elementary Students. *Pakistan Journal of social sciences (PJSS) BZU Multan*. Vol. 39, 4, pp. 1265-1274.

Rashid, S. & Masood, I. (2019) Teacher as a role model in developing critical thinking in foreign language classroom. *Pakistan Journal of Languages and Translation Studies*, Issue 2019.

Raza, M., Gilani, N., Waheed, S. A., & Hussain, B. (in press). School Leaders' Perspectives on Successful Leadership: A Mixed Methods Case Study of a Private School Network in Pakistan. *Humanities and Social Science Review*, 8(5).

Shahzada, Q., **Rashid, S.**, Dogar, H. A. (2019) Exploring attitude towards plagiarism of undergraduate students in public and private institutions. *Global Regional Review*.

Waheed, S. A., Gilani, N., **Raza, M.**, & Sharif, S. (2020). Understanding Students' Experience of Lived Space In Schools: A Phenomenological Perspective. *Hamdard Islamicus*, 43(1), 211-220.

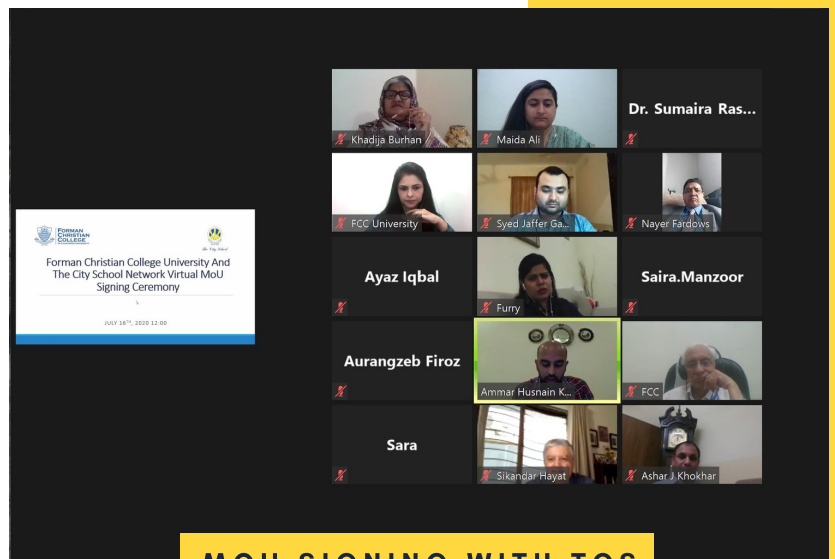
THERE IS NO 'I' IN TEAM

Where on one hand the COVID-19 Pandemic brought life to a standstill, at the same time, it also brought serious challenges for the educational sector around the world. It became extremely important for teachers to equip themselves with the skills required to teach in remote and online settings.

Subsequently, the department of education signed three memorandums of understanding with The City School Network, The Cornerstone School and Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi for virtual internships. The ceremony was organized by the department of Education, FCCU virtually. One of the purposes of these partnerships is to prepare our student-teachers for the new-normal. Three separate ceremonies were held where dignitaries from both sides attended the occasion. We are thankful to all three organizations and we hope to strengthen our partnership in the future.



MOU SIGNING WITH CSS



MOU SIGNING WITH TCS

PROFILES OF OUR PARTNERS



The aim of Cornerstone School is to build a high spirited and supportive community of pupils, staff and parents to develop a conducive learning environment. They work on to build and foster the future young leaders by shaping their intellect with the desired knowledge, skills, abilities, and character enabling them to briskly fit into the society to help create a great and happy world.

Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA) works on actively to pursue universal access and standard setting in education as a comprehensive learning experience by creating contemporary education systems for all children without discrimination due to gender, class, age, religion, colour and ethnicity and, endeavouring to address educational bottlenecks through timely resource mobilization and influencing of public policy. ITA is also a research partner of Asia Pacific chapter for UNESCO.



The City School

The City School is today one of the largest private school networks in Pakistan. Their curriculum encourages a student-centered approach where learners have an active role in their learning process and develop the skills and ability to make a significant contribution to society. Its particular strength lies in the integration of digital media and ICTs in an array of learning programmes. The school has a Special Education Needs (SEN) facility too and in future it is likely to provide a platform to explore inclusive education practices.

THERE IS NO 'I' IN TEAM

Under the supervision of, Ashar J. Khokhar, the Department of Education offered seven webinars from June 30 – July 24, 2020 to our student-teachers who were preparing for their virtual teaching internships. These webinars focused on different themes and most specifically on how to teach online. Following is the list of webinars. If you would like to get access to any of the webinars, please contact us at maida@fccollege.edu.pk and we will be happy to share.

1- Teaching of Social Studies: Teaching Strategies and Resource
Ms. Maida Ali, Faculty, Department of Education, FCCU

2- Teaching of English: Teaching Strategies and Resources
Mrs. Khadija Burhan, Faculty, Department of Education, FCCU

3- Teaching of Science: Teaching Strategies and Resource
Dr. Sumaira Rashid and **Ms Maida Ali**, Faculty, Department of Education, FCCU

4- Teaching of Mathematics: Teaching Strategies and Resource
Ms. Maida Ali, Department of Education, FCCU

5- Teaching of Social Studies: Teaching Strategies and Resource
Dr. Kiran Hashmi, Faculty of Education, Ziaud Din University, Karachi

6- Teaching of Science: Teaching Strategies and Resource
Ms. Fouzia Nawaz, Associate Teaching and Learning, PDC, The Aga Khan University

7- Student Wellbeing: Online Teaching and Learning
Ashar J. Khokhar, Chairperson, Department of Education, FCCU

National Standards of Social Studies

• The National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) developed new standards for teaching the social studies. Through ten themes, social studies are taught in an integrated approach.

1. Culture
2. Time, Continuity, and Change
3. People, Places, and Environment
4. Individual Development and Identity
5. Individuals, Groups, and Institutions
6. Power, Authority, and Governance
7. Production, Distribution, and Consumption
8. Science, Technology, and Society
9. Global Connections
10. Civic Ideals and Practices

WEBINAR BY DR. KIRAN HASHMI

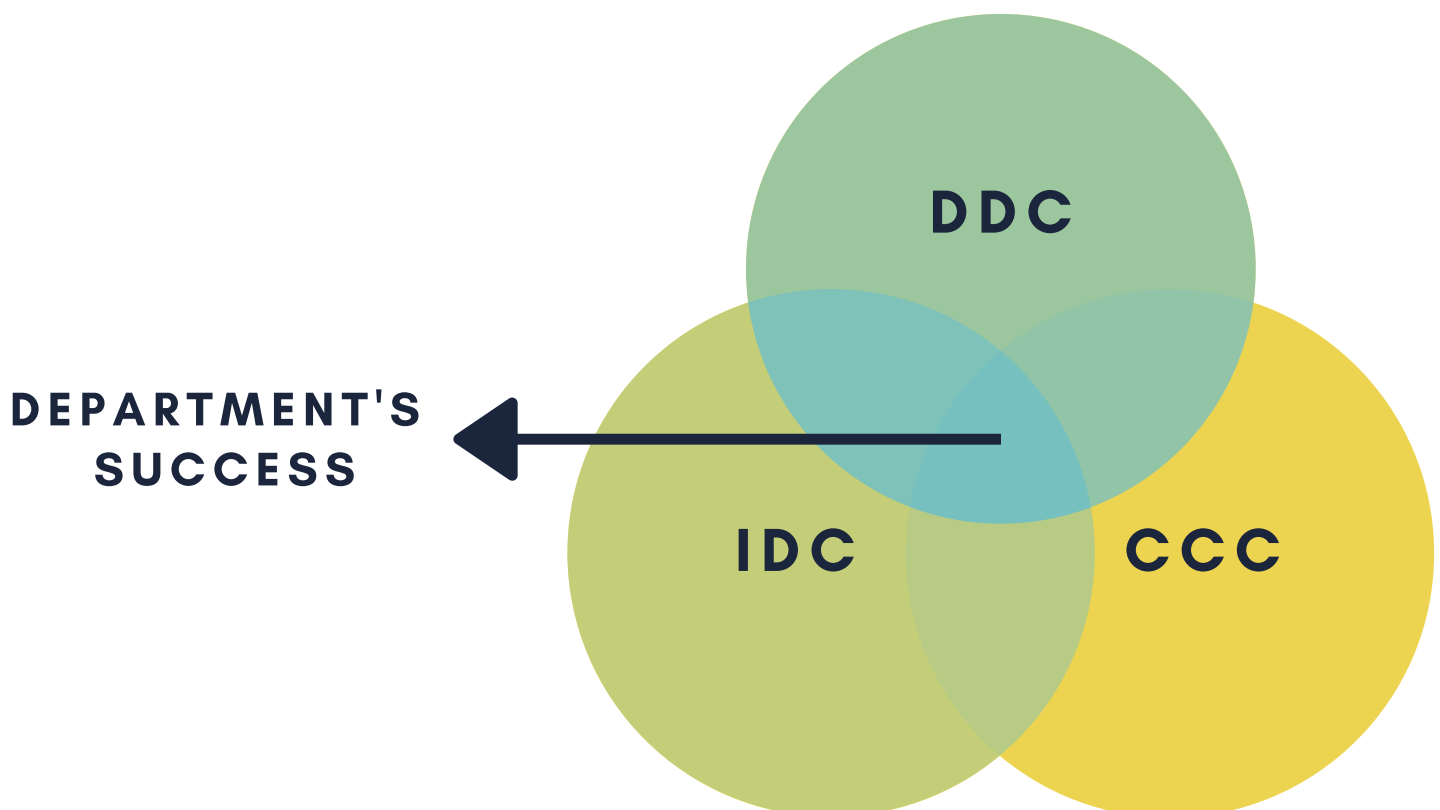
THERE IS NO 'I' IN TEAM

To be more effective, the department is working under three committees;

Department's Development Committee (DDC) generates ideas and resources needed for outlining the future course of the department. We conducted a SWOC Analysis to collect the base-line information. After finalizing key areas of focus for improving the quality of the existing programs, the document is serving as a guide to help inform future curriculum discussions and decisions.

Core Competence Committee (CCC) works on analysing the programme (different courses offered by the education department) and on core competencies. By fall 2020 we will have a document prepared and our team will continue to collaborate to implement and focus on the core competencies

Internship/Teaching Practice Document Committee (IDC) works on maintaining and updating the internship manual. This will help our students and us to follow proper guidelines and go through necessary information required to continue the teaching practice which is mandatory for our major students



OUR LEGACY

Faisal graduated from FCCU as a double major in Physics and Education in 2019. He works as an Assistant Manager, Volunteer Program for The Citizens Foundation. Recently, he started his graduate studies under the program of Education Leadership and Management with LUMS. We wish him all the best.

Here is what Faisal has to say about his journey:



MUHAMMAD FAISAL
BATCH: 2015-19

"I started working with TCF when I was a student. During my time there, I had the chance to travel all across Pakistan to closely observe both TCF and its partnership with K-12 schools. The volunteer programs and office internship aims to give grass-root level experience to a diverse cohort of volunteers. The notion is to get them accustomed to the on-ground realities of the deprived, and inculcate in them a substance of empathy and an all-inclusive view of the society we live in. As I delve deeper, I am becoming increasingly conscious of the status quo of the Pakistani education system, and wish to be an active member of the society instead of looking from afar."

Fida graduated from FCCU as a double major in Biotechnology and Education in 2017. After his graduation, Fida started to work at the Amal Academy in June 2017 as a Program Associate where he co-facilitated a batch of career prep-fellows at University of Education, Lahore. For pursuing his passion of working for the development of under-served communities through education, he joined Alif Ailaan as Regional Campaign Organizer in January 2018 for Bahawalpur Region. His campaign focused on building science and computer labs, provision of basic facilities, and quality education in general elections 2018. While working with Alif Ailaan he started working on his startup Centre for Academic Innovations and Research (CAIR). The aim of this startup is to promote the culture of action research among k-12 educators. This startup was incubated at National Incubation Centre (NIC) Lahore in 2018. It also remained part of the education innovation startups mentored by IIm Ideas 2.

Here is what Fida has to say about his journey:

"In August 2018 when Alif Ailaan was officially closed, I started working at Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi - Centre for Education and Consciousness (ITA - CEC) as Academic Coordinator. I was involved in diverse activities, but my core work was around academics and teacher training. My expertise is in creating equitable learning opportunities for all,

inquiry and problem-based science education, project-based learning (PBL), technology in education, arts and drama in the classroom, and play-based learning.



**M. FIDA HUSSAIN FIDA
BATCH: 2013-17**

I was also part of a team from Punjab who was consulted for the development of Single National Curriculum (SNC). Recently, I started working on another startup called 'Teachers' Academy' with the mission to build a platform that provides comprehensive pre-service and in-service teacher education programs for new & existing teachers across all tiers of the Pakistani education system; in order to equip them with the pedagogical knowledge, skills and dispositions needed to transform learning outcomes in schools in an equitable and inclusive manner. And, by doing so, empowering the children of today to become skilled professionals, problem solvers, innovators, leaders and teachers of tomorrow so that they are contributing members of an economically, socially and morally harmonious and humane society. I strongly believe that teachers are nation builders, and a nation can only be transformed through education which prepares them for the future."

HALL
OF
FAME



Sir Sheikh Abdul Qadir (1874-1951); an FCCU alumnus, served as the Chief editor of the Indian journal Observer, the first Muslim newspaper published in English, and Al-Makhzan, an Urdu language magazine from 1895 to 1904 which published the early works of the poet Allama Iqbal. He also served as the Minister of Education in Punjab, British India in 1925. Each year Department of Education honors a student securing the highest CGPA with a Sir Sheikh Abdul Qadir Medal

We would like to thank our faculty members and students who contributed in this newsletter. Our special appreciation to the Communication Office, FCCU for assisting with the e-publication of this newsletter.

Regards,

Maida and Ammar (Editors)



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