

# **CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE**



It gives me great pleasure to present to you the third & fourth issues of the Education Department's newsletter. This issue covers the Education department's activities in the Spring and the Fall semesters of 2021. The COVID19 pandemic contributed in the department's transformative process and the faculty discovered new pedagogies and pedagogical tools which empowered them to make their teaching processes effective and efficient and achieve the departmental goal in new teaching learning environments, i.e. producing future teachers that are equipped with the knowledge and skills to plan and design educational plans and

resources to teach their student that would transform them to be part of the solution through engaging in identifying problems and finding solutions, contributing to the socialeconomic and cultural development of Pakistan. The department also focused on developing links with originations outside Pakistan and successfully conducted the planned activities in collaboration with these organizations.

# GLOBAL COLLABORATION

FORMAN **CHRISTIAN** COLLEGE

#### About the Course:

- SEL for Classrooms is a certification-based course to enable educators' practice SEL competencies of empathy, mindfulness, compassion and critical inquiry in their classrooms. It is a course for anyone
- working with young children, including All Educators, especially working with Grade K-12
- Aspiring Teachers
- Teacher Trainers
- Curriculum developers and instructional designers School leaders and administrators

#### earning Objectives:

- By the end of the course, educators will be able to
- Build SEL competencies in students in the

- managing healthy relationships. Encourage students to implement SEL in building relationships with the world.

SELF-TRAINING

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SEL FOR CLASSROOMS

SELF- PACED

Introductory Session Date: August 5, 2021

Time: 2:30 pm

For more information contact Ashar Johnson Khokhar Chairperson, Department of Education

Email: asharkhokharefccollege.edu.pk

Zoom Meeting Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/880879341532 wd-ZmN2MjZ4QjhoM0hLd1NwaUx25XdpQT09 Meeting ID: 880 8793 4153 Posscode: 51824

The department of Education collaborated with the UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP) and this collaboration made it possible for inservcie and preservice teachers in Pakistan to make use of the educational resources created by MGIEP. Social and Emotional learning and wellbeing (of students and teachers) became a buzzword, especially during the online teaching and learning environment. The Social Emotion Learning (SEL) for School is an online set of courses (comprising of three different courses, SEL for Classrooms, SEL for Teachers and SEL for Facilitators) developed and offered online by MGIEP in different countries. This set of courses were offered to inservcie and preservice teachers in Pakistan. There were

### 3 | Page

more than 200 registered participants and many of them completed all three courses and some completed two courses. Ms Neelima Chopra, PhD is UNESCO MGIEP's SEL Skills Coordinator and also the primary programme resource for training teachers in SEL using digital interactive technologies. She conducted the introductory session on August 5, 2021 to briefed the registered participants about the course and how to work on these courses using the digital platform used by MGIEP for these courses.



4 | Page

Screenshots taken during SEL for School virtual event.

Dr. Mehwish Raza was selected as the Country Researcher by Konrad Adenauer Sharing Political and Civic Engagements Spaces (KASpaces) to investigate and report the impact of COVID-19 on SDG 4: Quality Education in Pakistan. This project was housed at the Department of Education, Christian College Forman University from June to December 2021. The Department hosted 2days National Webinar in June 2021. Prominent speakers



in this event and shared innovative education solutions practiced across Pakistan during the pandemic.

The country report published by the Department was presented at the Regional Round Table Conference held in Singapore in November 2021and later shared with other significant development organizations including Asian Development Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency, Konrad Ardenauer Stiftung - Berlin, and OECD.

The Department of Education participated as a partner institution in eleven international webinars to identify the common challenges faced by countries in Asia in achieving the SDGs goals and to find a collaborative framework through addressing the sustainable development goals and other societal aspirations.



6 | Page

Screenshots taken during KASPACE virtual event.





The Education faculty has been inviting academics and experts to develop links with the educational industry. The speakers were invited to interact with students and share with them their experiences of teaching, research, innovation and about their advocacy work. The experts were invited to help students understand and develop connection with the course content and its application in classrooms and schools from the community of practitioners' perspective.



Prof. Dr. Abdul Hameed spoke about different learning disabilities and exceptionalities in Pakistan, the state policies and priorities about these students. He shared with students his advocacy experiences, working with different government and private groups to raise awareness about students with different learning disabilities and exceptionalities. He also articulated how his personal experiences shaped his work with children with exceptionalities and how his experiences of raising children with exceptionalities contributed to

7 | P a g e

his work as a teacher of Special education and expert on special education in Pakistan and his role as an advisor to different federal and provincial and governments on special education.



Dr. Ayesha Saleem chronicled her formal education journey, from school to higher education. She also spoke about her personal experiences of growing up as a visually impaired person and how she (and her other siblings) with the support of her family remained steadfast to obtain her goal of getting the highest degree in the field of Education. Dr. Ayesha Saleem listed changes that should be made in formal educational settings to make them sensitive to the needs of the visually impaired children. She also identified changes in the examination system that could open more opportunities for visually impaired people in Pakistan.



Dr. Kiran Hashmi, in an interactive session, shared her experiences of teaching Social Studies and Pakistan Studies in schools and her work with preservice and inservice teachers. She shared teaching and assessment strategies in Social Studies classrooms, different online resources that teachers could use in their Social Studies classes to make their classroom teaching and assessment practices effective.



Mr. Kashif Hameed, narrated his education journey, of finding a school for hearing impaired persons and completing his formal schooling. He recounted his experiences and recalled how society and community discriminated against him and the other hearing-impaired people in academics and at workplaces. He also suggested how different individuals, groups and organizations could support the hearing-impaired community in Pakistan to complete their education and also find jobs according to their qualifications.



Mr. Muhammad Adil Arshad spoke about the link between classroom management strategies and their impact on students' learning. He also talked about different classroom management strategies and directed students about choosing effective classroom management strategies.



Dr. Pir rationalized the importance of technology in education, its effective use and communicated the process and different steps that students should take as they select different digital tools for their classes and how to measure the effectiveness of different digital tools in classroom teaching. Mr Muhammad Zain ul Afaq spoke about his teaching experiences of teaching during covid19 and how students could make their learning effective and efficient using different digital tools. He gave tips about selecting the appropriate digital tools and how to use them to maximize their learning.

**Go Getters Guide to Education:** was a session for Freshmen students and Ms Khadija Burhan, advisor to FES, explained to students the FCCU education programme, the concepts of major, minor and add & drop.

Mr. Rajinda Jayasinghe shared his experiences as a student and how he maintained a healthy study-leisure balance. He suggested strategies that students could use to shape and live a balanced lifestyle, where all activities, study, work, leisure are given appropriate weight age in their everyday life.





# Publications

- Ahmed, M., Thomas, M., & Farooq, R. (2021). The impact of teacher feedback on students' academic performance: A mediating role of self-efficacy. *Journal of Development and Social Sciences*, 2(3), 464-480. doi:<u>10.47205/jdss.2021(2-III)39</u>.
- Ahmed, I., Thomas, M., & Hamid, S. (2020). Improving reading comprehension skill through interactive reading strategies of grade 10th students at public secondary school. *Pakistan Journal of Educational Research*, 3(2), 93-109.
- Ali, Z., Thomas, M., & Hamid, S. (2020). Teacher educators' perception regarding the effect of their technological pedagogical and content knowledge on their classroom teaching. New Horizon, 14(2), 17-38.
- Ashraf, Y., Gardezi, S. M. J. H., & Saeed F. (2021). A Comparative Analysis of Gender and Educational Leadership in Pakistan and the United Kingdom. *Pakistan Social Sciences Review*, 5(4), 484-498. doi:<u>10.35484/pssr.2021(5-IV)37</u>.

Batool, A., Afzal, A., Kazmi, H. H., & Thomas, M. (2020). Effect of technology-enabled learning environment on performance of mainstream school students. *Merit Research Journal of Education Review*, 8(1), 006-015. <u>http://meritresearchjournals.org/er/index.htm</u>.

- Dubash, C. J., Arshad, M. A., & Husnain A. H. (2020). A comparative review of national and international practices in teacher education accreditation. South Asian Research Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2(5), 438–445. doi: 10.36346/sarjhss.2020.v02i05.013.
- Dubash, C. J., & **Farooq, R.** (2021). Fail Forward: Students' Mistakes as Teachable Moments. *Universal Journal of Educational Research*, 856-861.
- Farnon, L., Thomas, M., & Gardezi, S. M. J. H. (2021). Gender discrimination through stereotype role depictions: Content analysis of a textbook used in a developing country. *Pakistan Social Sciences Review*, 5(4), 115-130.
- Hinduja, P., Thomas, M., & Saddiqui, S. (2020). The effects of assessment as learning (AaL) on ESL students academic performance and motivation: Developing selfregulating agents of learning. *FWU Journal of Social Sciences*. 4(4), 26-42.

- Jafree, S. R., Burhan, S. K., Khawar, A., Mahmood, Q. K., & Shahed, S. (2021). The Impact of Intergenerational Learning on Quality of Life in Older Populations Residing in A Public Sector Old Age Home: A Quasi-experimental Study. *Journal* of Intergenerational Relationships, 1-27.
- Kamran, M., & Thomas, M. (2021). The effect of teachers' perception of organizational justice on their job stress. *International Journal of Organizational Leadership*, 10(Special Issue), 89-98.
- Khan, A. H. (2020). Influence of international performance measurement on curriculum and assessment policy. South Asian Research Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2(5), 446–452. doi: <u>10.36346/sarjhss.2020.v02i05.014</u>.
- Khokhar, A. J. (2021). Islamic values in language textbooks published by the state textbook authorities in Pakistan. University of Chitral Journal of Religious Studies, 4(2), 120-141. doi:<u>10.33195/journal.v4i02.339</u>.
- Khokhar, A. J. (2021).'Us' and 'Them': Analysis of History Textbooks Studied in Pakistani Schools. *Revista de Educación*, 392(2), 191-202. doi: <u>10.4438/1988-</u> <u>592X-RE-2021-392-484</u>.
- Khokhar, A. J. (2021). "Nosotros" y "ellos": análisis de los libros de texto de historiaestudiados en las escuelas de Pakistán. *Revista de Educación*, 392(2), 205-228. doi:10.4438/1988-592X-RE-2021-392-484.

## 13 | P a g e

Khokhar, A. J. (2021, July 5-9). Teaching toward a culture of peace: Analysis of Islamic Education and Ethics textbook. *REA Annual Meeting 2021 Proceedings: Gender, Sexuality, and Wholeness: Religious Education for Confrontation and Healing,* (pp. 147-166). Religious Education Association (REA).

Siddiqui, S., Soomro, N.N, & Thomas, M. (2020). Blended learning sources of psychological needs: An empirical study conducted on O-levels chemistry students in a metropolis city of Pakistan. *The Association of Open Universities Journal*, 15(1), 49-67.





Syeda Airas Burhan graduated in 2020 and is working as Associate Data Scientist in a company in Lahore. She reflected her time at FCCU and called her years at FCCU filled with numerous cherished moments. She credited FCCU's Education program for developing her organizational, planning, analysis and synthesis skills that continued to support her at her workplace. She advised students to continue to study and work hard, because persistence is the key to success not only in their academic journey but also in their professional life, especially

when they will join the workforce after completing their degree from FCCU. Her also advised FCCU student body to keep their goal in sight and maintain balance between study and work, otherwise they might give up before they can ever achieve it. She believed that FCCU is the ideal place to be because it provides a mix of activities, both academic and non-academic and support students maintain a healthy balance between their academic and non-academic lives.



