

HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER



2018
SPRING EDITION

BY LOVE SERVE ONE ANOTHER



DEAN'S NOTE

'Humanities Community' is an initiative taken by the Humanities faculty. This online newsletter will be published each semester and aims to share the academic inputs, activities and achievements of our students and faculty. While our multiple professional commitments restrain us from discussing a lot of additional projects that we pursue professionally during the academic year, this forum encourages the opportunity to share your initiatives and network with the broader FCCU community. Representing a futuristic approach towards projecting the creative and liberal arts spirit embedded within the Humanities, this newsletter will be regularly providing updates about the ongoing projects while also celebrating the accomplished achievements of the Humanities faculty and students. I welcome you all to be a part of this invigorating endeavour and share your innovative thoughts, future academic plans with the aim to create a vision for establishing the Humanities at Forman Christian College (A Chartered University).



DR. NUKHBAH TAJ LANGAH
DEAN OF HUMANITIES

ARTS AT FCCU

Faculty of Humanities introduced art courses for the first time in Fall 2016. Art courses quickly became popular among students. Since the courses have been offered, Intro to Theatre students have prepared and performed 7 plays which include two musicals an English and a Punjabi. In 2016, the musical “Mirza Sahibaan” and Bumb Wala Natak were performed in FCC. These plays were later performed at Alhamra, Books and Beans Café at UCA Café Theatre Festival. A Solo “Upperli Manzil” has been performed at FCCU twice and at Alhamra on March 7th 2018. Apart from that some really interesting performances including an English musical “Are We There Yet” a postmodern experiment of text designed to challenge the existing narrative and aesthetic of theatre in Pakistan and a play “Hattamala K Us Paar” by a Bengali playwright Badal Sircar are lined up for 2018. These performances are being hosted by Olomopolo Media, Books and Beans, Alhamra and NAPA in Karachi. They will also be performed at FCCU soon.

Bumb Wala Natak, Written and directed by Sobia Zaidi, UCA Café Theatre Festival, 2017



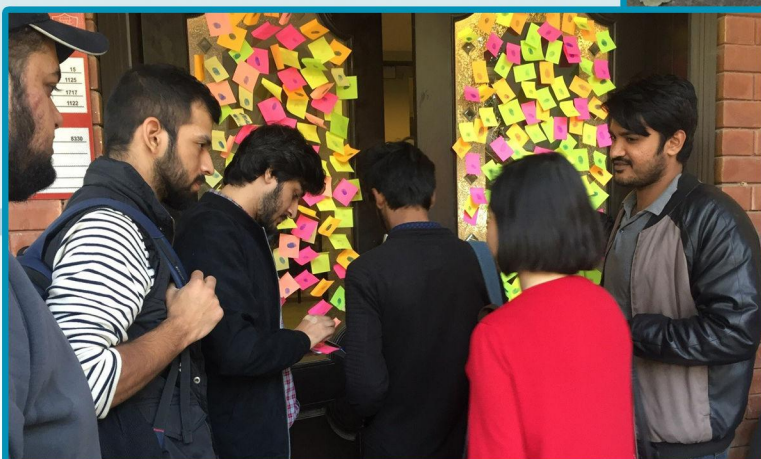
Apart from Theatre, Humanities is offering other courses in Art including Drawing, Intro to Art and History of Art and students from Intro to Art have had two art exhibitions at the end of the course at FCCU and several displays of installations, videos, paintings, performances and drawings as part of their weekly assignments.



Intro to Art, learning to paint



Mid Term exam display, a participatory/text art installation in ground by Intro to Art students



A participatory performance/ installation at the café by the students of Intro to Art.

Mirza Sahibaan, at Alhamra



Mirza Sahibaan, FCCU 2016



Our super energetic theatre class ready to perform

SOBIA ZAIDI
COORDINATOR
ARTS



LOCATING THE TRANSCULTURAL HUMANITIES IN PAKISTAN/SOUTH ASIA

The Humanities Conference was held at FCCU on 13th-15th October, 2017. The focus was to locate the Humanities in the South Asian context and move beyond the battle of binaries into the transcultural. It was an attempt to look into the possibilities of reorienting the production of local knowledge in South Asia that may ensure the supremacy of its civilization's cultural products.



The keynote speakers, Dr. Robert JC Young (NYU, USA & NYU, AD) and Professor Amritjit Singh (Langston Hughes Professor of English and African American Studies, Ohio University) talked on the importance of Humanities. Amongst our National speakers, Dr. Syed Noman ul Haq (IBA, Karachi), Dr. Tariq Rahman (BNU, Lahore), Dr. Abdul Wahab Suri (Karachi University), Justice ® Nasira Iqbal and Mr. Altaf Ullah Khan (Peshawar University) were worthy scholars. The conference was a huge success that benchmarked a scale for others. Around 300 attendees were present who gave positive feedback.



SOME
GLIMPSES
OF THE EVENT



PAPER PRESENTATION BY MS RABIA WASIF @ IWAHS SEPT. 2017

Ms. Rabia Wasif presented a paper on, "*Utopic Borders: Liminal Zones of Transition and Cultural Creation in Jamil Ahmed's The Wandering Falcon*" at the International Workshop on Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences a 2-day seminar held on 9 th -10 th September, 2017, in Istanbul, Turkey. The workshop focused on multiple areas of research, therefore, bringing together people from different expertise. The aim was to connect every field with significant connectors in the subject.



The paper focused on the point that borders are only national utopias that marginalize tribal people. Physical borders created by governments only resurrect cultural and psychological differences among people who can harmoniously live together. The paper was met with applause and interest. On the 3rd day, the presenters were taken on a city tour by the workshop administration. Luckily, that was a success too.

ENGLISH FACULTY PARTICIPATED IN FEMINIST THEORY WORKSHOP @ DUKE UNIVERSITY

Mr. Muhammad Abdullah, Assistant Professor, from Department of English participated in the 12th Feminist Theory Workshop (22-23 March, 2018) at Gender, Sexuality & Feminist Studies department, Duke University. He won a competitive travel grant to attend the event. Here is how he reflects on the event:



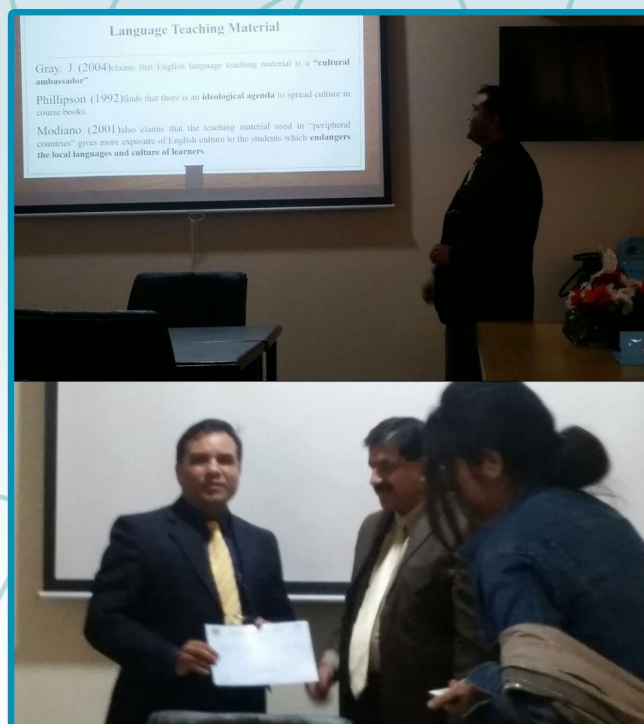
“I was a first time attendee of Feminist Theory Workshop. For me it was broadly a social theory workshop covering a variety of issues including sociology of death in Japan to materiality to intersectionality which framed gender/feminism in a wider context than limited understanding of the concept. The diversity of speakers and participants was commendable. Round table discussions, enriching key notes, informed questions, well-structured sessions, all added to a great learning experience.



If I were to prepare a list of key lexicons that I will develop further and expand they will be: pedagogical cruelty, masculine restoration, queer critical critique, temporality, sex and agriculture intersectionality, category of blackness, formalisation of modern thought, feminist geopolitics, critical typography, institutionalising margin etc. On the whole, it gave me ideas and language to talk about and have conversations on themes that are pertinent to gender and women studies to develop a smooth and synthetic discourse.”

PAPER PRESENTATION BY ENGLISH FACULTY MEMBER

Mr. Azeem Alphonc Assistant Professor of English presented a research paper on Language and Culture Teaching in a conference organized by the University of Education, Lahore on December 14th 2017.



LAURELS BY ENGLISH FACULTY MEMBER

Ms. Fatima Syeda made number of publications and chaired international conferences.

PUBLICATIONS:

A Paper entitled “Body, Power and Gendered Identity: Inscribed Bodies of Men in Partition Fiction” published in *Journal of Research (Humanities)*: University of the Punjab, Lahore. March 2018. ISSN- Print: 1812-1128. (Online): 2522-6851.

A chapter “Fear of Pollution: A Study of Humiliation in *Untouchables* by Mulk Raj Anand” published in the book entitled *Multicultural and Marginalised Voices in Postcolonial Literature* by Lexington Books (An imprint of Rowman & Littlefield). May 2017. ISBN 1498547443, 9781498547444.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES:

Chaired a session entitled “Gendered Literary Readings” at 2017 International Conference on Gender Studies “Identity, Alterity and Gender Normativity”. 1-2 December 2017 – Cambridge, UK.

Presented a paper entitled “Ideals of Masculinity and the Entrapped Men in Partition Fiction” at 2017 International Conference on Gender Studies “Identity, Alterity and Gender Normativity”. 1-2 December 2017 – Cambridge, UK



SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS BY DR. WASEEM ANWAR

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION & PARTICIPATION

2018 May 5

Chaired a Session at the 1st National Conference at Department of English, University of the Punjab, Lahore: "Counter Balancing Politics and Aesthetics in Pakistani Literature".

2018 April 12

Presented "Teaching Lit.-Crit. Theory to a Precariat Generation: An Inquisition & Survey of the Women, [Trans]-Gender & Queer Studies in Pakistan" for the Panel topic: "Narratives of Queer Space: An Inquisition in South Asian Literature" at 18th NeMLA (Northeast Modern Language Association) Convention – 12-15 April 2018 @ the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA (Convention Theme: "Global Spaces, Local Landscapes and Imagined Worlds").

2018 Mar 16 & Feb 28

Chief Guest Speaker and Panelist for the book inaugural of Rizwan Akhtar's published poetry Lahore, *I am Coming* at Lahore College for Women University (LCWU) and FCCU.

2018 Feb 15-16

Presented "Mysteriously Poltergeist-ic: Representation of Violence in Pakistani Contemporary Fiction," at the 2nd International Conference on Pakistani Writing in English: "Pakistani Writing in English – Yesterday & Today," organized by the International Center for Pakistani Writing in English (ICPWE), Kinnaird College, Lahore.

2018 Jan 24

Presented at the GSO (Graduate Students Organization) of English Department on "Postcolonial or Ghost-Colonial: Meaning Making in South Asia by Moving Beyond the Inertia of the 'Post'" at the SUNY, Binghamton, NY, USA.

2018 Jan 19

Attended on Invitation the “Author Talk and Book Signing” of Professor K. D. Verma’s *Understanding Mulk Raj Anand: His Mind and Art* at the Indian Embassy, Washington DC, USA. A scholar in English Romanticism and South Asian Literature, the author is Professor Emeritus of English at the U of Pittsburgh, Johnstown Campus, and the founding member of SALA (South Asian Literary Association).

2018 Jan 7-9

Presided a session (1C, “Identity/ Resistance Precarities”) at the SALA (South Asian Literary Association) Conference on Jan 8 with the theme “Precarity, Resistance and Care Communities in South Asia.” Presented my own paper on Jan 9 (session 8A: Pedagogical Precarities), “Pedagogical Precarity: Teaching the Precariats of Lit. Crit. Theory ‘Queerly’ (in Pakistan)”.

2018 Jan 4-7

Presided the Roundtable session (464: “Drone Warfare and Post 9/11 Cultural Practices”) on Saturday, Jan 6, 8:30 AM at the MLA (Modern Language Association) Convention 2018 (Theme: “States of Insecurity”).



THESIS SUPERVISION (GRADUATE):

“From Racial Binaries to a Transracial Reality: Representation of Miscegenation in Susan Williams’ *Colour Bar* and Zadie Smith’s *On Beauty*” [Ms. Nosheen Yousaf, 2015-17 @ FCCU].

SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS BY DR. NUKHBAH TAJ LANGAH

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Nukhbah Taj Langah, *Literary and non-Literary Responses towards 9/11: South Asia and beyond*. Routledge, 2018, forthcoming publication.

Nukhbah Taj Langah, 'The Disintegration of PONM (Pakistan Oppressed Nations Movement) and its Impact on the Siraiqi Movement', page 209-237 in "Ethno-Federalism in Pakistan at 70: Local, National, and Comparative Perspectives", Ryan Brasher (ed.), Oxford University Press, 2018, forthcoming publication.

Nukhbah Taj Langah & Roshni Sengupta (eds.), *Film Media and Representation in Postcolonial South Asia* (Routledge).

✦ Co-convener for the Humanities Conference at FCCU in October 2017.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Pakistani Anglophone Literature: Of the Desi & Diaspora.
Second International Conference of ICPWE 2018.



GUEST TALK

Punjab mein adab ehad ba ehad (1947-2017). Presentation on Contemporary Siraiki Literature, 5 March 2018 at Government MAO College, Lahore.

FELLOWSHIP

Dr. Nukhbah Taj Langah was also selected as Charles Wallace Fellow (2018) at School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, UK.

DEPARTMENT OF URDU

ایف سی کالج یونیورسٹی میں ایم فل اردو کا آغاز

ایف سی کالج یونیورسٹی میں سمسٹر فال 2018 سے ایم فل اردو کی کلاسز کا اجرا ہو رہا ہے۔ ہائر ایجوکیشن کمیشن سے N.O.C جاری ہوتے ہی سمسٹر فال 2018 میں کلاسز شروع کر دی جائیں گی۔ قبل ازیں یونیورسٹی کی سطح پر ایم فل کی منظوری کے تمام مراحل اور مدارج کامیابی سے طے کر لیے گئے ہیں۔ ٹائم ٹیبل وضع کر لیا گیا ہے۔ ہماری یونیورسٹی کی ایم فل اردو میں جدید عصری تقاضوں سے ہم آہنگ کورسز متعارف کرائے جا رہے ہیں جو ایف سی کالج یونیورسٹی کے اعلیٰ تعلیمی معیارات اور اکیسویں صدی کے تقاضوں کے عین مطابق ہیں۔ اس ضمن میں شعبہ اردو کے سربراہ ڈاکٹر اختر شمار، کورس کوآرڈینیٹر ڈاکٹر نجیب جمال اور ان کے معاون ڈاکٹر غفور شاہ قاسم کی مساعی کو شعبہ اردو کے تمام اساتذہ نے سراہا ہے اور اسے شعبے کے مستقبل کے لیے خوش آئند قرار دیا ہے۔

FORMAN LANGUAGE CENTER

Around 1937-38 there was a Department of Languages at FCC which offered Arabic, Hindi, Persian and many languages other than English and Urdu. It was unfortunate that FCC could keep its prestige for a while in aspects of language education. Yet many decades later in today's modern society, FCC again acknowledged a huge demand of students in learning a foreign language for their brighter future and expanding their knowledge about global cultures and societies. Based on awareness of the necessity of foreign languages program, FCC has made a fresh start in language courses at 2017 Fall. This is truly a revival of FCC's rich tradition & valuable asset to the status of FCC as a Liberal Arts University and to students who will be benefited through languages program. FLC (Forman Language Center) at FCC is unique, comprehensive and aims to meet standard benchmarks in the field. Under FLC French & German courses have been offered so far. From the Fall 2018 FLC will offer Chinese and Korean courses as well to meet a rapidly rising need of those languages. FLC will do its utmost effort to offer the exemplary language courses for FC students who are aware of the importance of language acquisition for their brighter future.

RUTH PARK
COORDINATOR
FORMAN LANGUAGE CENTER



WRITING CENTER AT FCCU

Writing is an essential skill if one wants to claim any sort of success in academia. Writing well is not an easy task; it takes practice and a lot of reading to become an effective writer. A writing center is a student resource center on university campuses that usually provides support in writing and researching academic papers. It was part of the strategic vision of Forman Christian College to set up a writing center, so it materialized as a Pilot Program in Spring 2017.

Forman Christian College is one of the few universities in Pakistan to boast a functional writing center. The demands of writing at a university level are highly specialized and usually require coaching outside of the classroom as well. This is where the role of a writing center comes in.

The Writing Center at FCCU is based on a model of a Liberal Arts College in the United States. This facility provides students one-to-one tutoring for their specified writing needs with trained tutors. Students have an option of walk-in appointments; they can also sign up for an appointment to come in later as well. The Writing Center also arranges workshops run by experts on different aspects of writing and research at the university level.



The Writing Center at FCCU is following a peer-tutoring model of a writing center. We believe in cooperative learning. This model has proven to be quite successful at our institution as the tutor-student working relationship becomes so important that mostly students prefer working with the same tutor over the course of the semester. Our philosophy is holistic learning as research shows that skills concerned with language can not be improved in isolation.



NEELAM HANIF
COORDINATOR
WRITING CENTER



ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM AT FCC

The English Language Program is a department which provides English language support to the FCC community at large. The department was created in 2013 and is now part of the Humanities faculty. The ELP's first program was Intensive English for Academic Preparation (IEAP). The IEAP helps applicants who are unable to pass the English component of the Forman Entrance Admission Test (FEAT) to improve their language skills through a well-designed, multilevel program which covers reading, writing, listening and speaking. After completing the fifth level of the IEAP program, students retake the FEAT to enter Baccalaureate.

Current Baccalaureate students are catered for through specialised short-term workshops in academic writing, public speaking and making presentations. In exceptional cases, Baccalaureate students who feel unable to cope with the English requirements of their studies, can freeze their university semester and join the IEAP program for remedial English.

Staff professional development is done through semester-long English Conversation courses, as well as short workshops on topics such as writing professional emails and telephone etiquette. Some of these workshops are also open for faculty.

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

The ELP also runs classes for FCC college and university faculty to help them pass the Versant English Test (VET) at the level required by their discipline. In the past the ELP has conducted short workshops for faculty on using stories for teaching, on presentation skills and on formatting handouts for students.



MS. UZMA KHAN
CHAIRPERSON
ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION

The **Department of Mass Communication** has progressed in leaps and bounds in the last three years, in every aspect. Be it academics, faculty development, or even equipment development, a lot of progressive changes have been made. The Department has also had the most number of students declare Mass Communication as their Major, and the number of Graduates has also been very high. This has been a result of effective advising by the department advisors and strategic planning of the Mass Communication course offerings.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT:

Most of the faculty at the Department of Mass communication has been enrolled in PhD programs, in various universities of Lahore; some are nearing completion and others working on their research. All faculty members have presented their research papers at various conferences, nationally as well as internationally. Some have also been part of GLAA connect courses and have taught courses connecting with international universities. Collaboration by the University was also made with US State Department's funded program on Watershed Partnership Program, in which a Mass Communication faculty member assisted in research and in the launch of Impact Projects.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT:

The courses taught at the Department of Mass Communication are of practical as well as theoretical nature, employing diverse teaching methodologies. All the courses were revamped in the entire content, keeping in mind the changing local as well as global scenario. The practice based courses require students to be more proactive and do more field work, than just take lectures. Students have produced various documentaries as well as short films and also worked

on many advertising and public relations campaigns. New courses have also been introduced by the Department, keeping in view the changing media trends. The students are engaged in projects and assignments that require critical thinking employing analytical skills. An international link has been developed with Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, in which course materials have been introduced in one of our courses. The department is looking at developing more connections with international universities for connect teaching or faculty exchanges.

MEDIA – ACADEMIA LINKS:

Media and academic links have been developed to keep up to date with the changing trends and the market. This has also helped in restructuring the courses' contents. Guest speakers are invited for interactive sessions, talking about media trends, media laws, news reporting and many relevant areas.

AUDIO VISUAL LAB:

The Audio Visual Lab (A/V Lab) has been upgraded with new cameras, lights and microphones. Students use these for their various projects and assignments. They have also been provided with the editing facility for their films etc as new computers with latest software were purchased and installed. This has helped the students to get hands-on training about the equipment as well as its functions. The Media Lab course was specifically designed and introduced to keep the growing demand for practical courses.

FORMAN JOURNALISM SOCIETY:

The Department's society, Forman Journalism Society (FJS), has been very active in the last three years. Many events, interactive talk sessions and guest lectures have been arranged by the society. FJS also initiated its Facebook page and all the events covered are posted on a very regular base. The society also organized an Inter-University as well as Intra University film festival, which gave the students a chance to showcase their documentaries and short films. Forman Journalism Society connects regularly with various television channels and facilitates in recruitment drive for anchor persons and reporters.



RACHEL ARUNA HASAN
CHAIRPERSON
MASS COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

Mr. Syed Muhammad Saqib Saleem is a PhD Scholar of Media Studies at University of the Punjab. Syed M. Saqib is associated with Forman Christian College, University since 2014 as a faculty member in the Department of Mass Communication. He has presented his research work at various national and international platforms. His scientific contribution titled, “Role of Social Media in Imparting Climate Change through Diffusion of Innovation”, was presented and published in the 14th International Conference on Social Sciences, arranged by the European Science, Education and Research Center, held from 2nd and 3rd March 2018 at Frankfurt, Germany.

Mr Saqib also presented his research paper titled ‘Youth and Mobile Advertisements: An Analysis of Consumer Buying Behavior in Pakistan’ at the 4th World Conference on Media and Mass Communication (MEDCOM '18) held from 5th to 7th April, 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand under the theme “Power of Media : Shaping the Future.” Mr Saqib, in his presentation, talked about the rapid increase Pakistan has seen in cellular subscribers; going from 88 to 139 million in the last 10 years.



He also talked about the increasing competition that has led mobile companies to invest humongous amounts of money into creating beguiling mobile ads. The focus of his research was to study the impact of mobile phone advertisements on consumers' buying behavior.

The Conference was co-hosted by The University of Rome Tor Vergata and Universiti Teknologi Mara. The academic partner of the conference was Dhurakij Pundit University, Thailand and was organized by The International Institute of Knowledge Management (TIKM). MEDCOM '18 witnessed the participation of academicians, universities, professionals and industry experts from all over the world who gathered on a single platform.

Mr Saqib is also representing Pakistan on an international platform and is a part of the campaign #Create2030 led by Story Shifters. Story Shifter is an initiative by Lisa Russel, an Emmy-winning Filmmaker, UN Storyteller, TEDx Speaker and founder of Story Shifter. Story Shifter is celebrating World Creativity and Innovation Week with the World Premiere of #Create2030, a new film and creative campaign to engage artists in meeting the SDGs.



SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS BY MS. QURRATULAEN

She authored a book chapter titled “ An Expose of Absurd Contemporary Conflicts in the play Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo by Rajiv Joseph” in the volume “ B /Orders Unbound- Marginality, Ethnicity and Identity in Literatures” New York: Peter Lang Publishers, 2017.

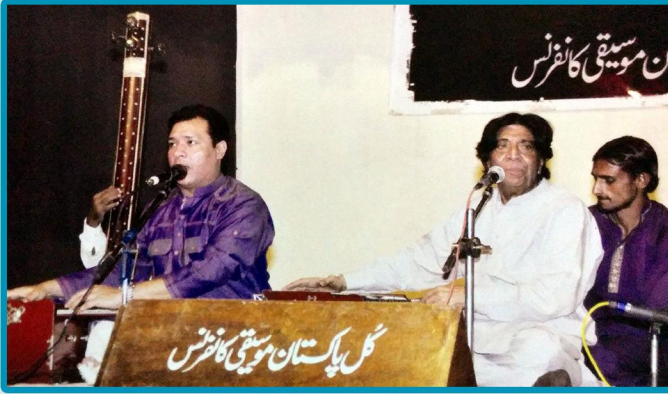
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

1. Conference presentation on the title “Re-return of the Native: Urdu poetic images, Metaphor and Expressions in Nadeem Aslam’s Novel The Golden Legend” at International Conference, Kinnaird College Lahore (15th-16th February, 2018)
2. Conference presentation on the topic “ Contemporary Mediascapes: Political Economy of Pakistani Media” at Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad (22-23 Dec, 2017)
3. Poster presentation on the topic “ Foucauldian Discourse Analysis of Power Structures in the novel A God in Every Stone by Kamila Shamsie” at Warwick University, (11-13th September, 2018) UK.



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

- The Department organized a talk on plagiarism by Ms. Hadeel Naeem.
- Dr. Ghazala participated in policy dialogue on 'Public Financing of Women Development in Punjab' organized by institute of Social & Policy Sciences and Oxfam. She was also a panellist in the Old Ravians Literary Festival on 'Pakistan Mein Sur Ka Safar', as well as one of the panellists of PILAC cultural festival Punjabi session on 'Culture tay Musiqui', the other panellist was Faheem Mazhar of the Music Department. As Secretary General of The All Pakistan Music Conference she arranged concerts on the first of January, February, March and April 2018. All these events were well covered by the print media.



DR. GHAZALA IRFAN
CHAIRPERSON
PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS ST.

The Department of Religious Studies arranged a wide range of seminars including Role of Religion in Peace Making; Intellectual Challenges for Religious Studies Teachers; Issues in Religious Education, Monks, Magi and Mosque: Religion along the Silk Road; Modern Religious Perspective of the Salvation where renowned religious scholars and academics were invited to create a constructive dialogue.



SOME
GLIMPSES
OF THE EVENTS



Mr. Atiq ur Rehman also participated as panellist in NACADA Annual International Conference, at St. Louis Missouri, USA. on Oct 11-14, 2017.



ATIQ-UR-REHMAN
CHAIRPERSON
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

EDITOR



MUHAMMAD ABDULLAH
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

CO-EDITOR
SYED MUHAMMAD SAQIB
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION



DESIGNING TEAM



M.MOEZ JAUDAT
DIRECTOR GRAPHICS
FORMAN JOURNALISM SOCIETY

TAIMUR AKMAL
PRESIDENT
FORMAN COMPUTING SOCIETY



