

WORKSHOP BULLETIN

CLIMATE JOURNALISM WORKSHOP 2024

Chief Patron: Dr Altaf Ullah Khan

Chief Editor: Dr Syed M Saqib

Editor: Rania Hashim



Empowering Climate Communication: The 3rd Climate Journalism Workshop at FCCU

On May 21, 2024, Forman Christian College (A Chartered University) hosted its 3rd Climate Journalism Workshop organized by the Faculty of Humanities in collaboration with The Journalism and Media International Center (JMIC), OsloMet, and the Global MediaClimate Network. This workshop aimed to raise awareness about the climate crisis and demonstrate how journalism can play a pivotal role in effective climate communication. Attendees included journalists, academicians, and Mass Communication students.

Welcome Note

Prof. Altaf Ullah Khan

Dean of Humanities, FCCU

Dr. Khan, in his welcome note, emphasized the crucial need to initiate climate change discussions, recognizing it as a pressing global challenge. He further underscored the detrimental impact of the ongoing heat wave on individuals residing in South Asia. Dr. Khan concluded by advocating for the utilization of social media as a powerful tool to foster engagement and encourage sustainable living practices.



OPENING CEREMONY

Dr. Syed Muhammad Saqib

*Assistant Professor of Mass Communication, FCCU
Member and Co-editor MediaClimate Network*

Dr. Saleem warmly welcomed attendees to the Workshop and extended heartfelt greetings to the esteemed speakers and distinguished guests. He emphasized the need to address climate change by equipping journalists with essential knowledge and tools. Dr. Saleem highlighted the contributions of renowned experts, whose valuable insights enhanced the quality of climate change reporting. The workshop began with a detailed agenda discussion, introducing the speakers and trainers who covered a range of topics from investigative techniques to the latest trends in climate journalism.



Dr. Firasat Jabeen

*Chairperson Mass Communication Department,
FCCU*

Dr. Jabeen highlighted the mutually beneficial partnership between media and academia, emphasizing their role in sparking discussions on climate change and offering solutions while ensuring informed dialogue. Furthermore, she stressed the importance of collaboration between these sectors to close knowledge gaps and enable meaningful actions to tackle the issue.

Prof. Elisabeth Eide

*Co-chair Global MediaClimate Network and
Professor Emerita at Oslo Metropolitan University,
Norway*

Dr. Elisabeth Eide emphasized on adopting a solution-oriented approach while addressing climate change. She highlighted the importance of training individuals, particularly in climate journalism, to spread awareness effectively. Dr. Eide commended Forman Christian College University for their ongoing efforts in organizing the workshop series and urged continued attention and effort towards tackling the climate crisis.



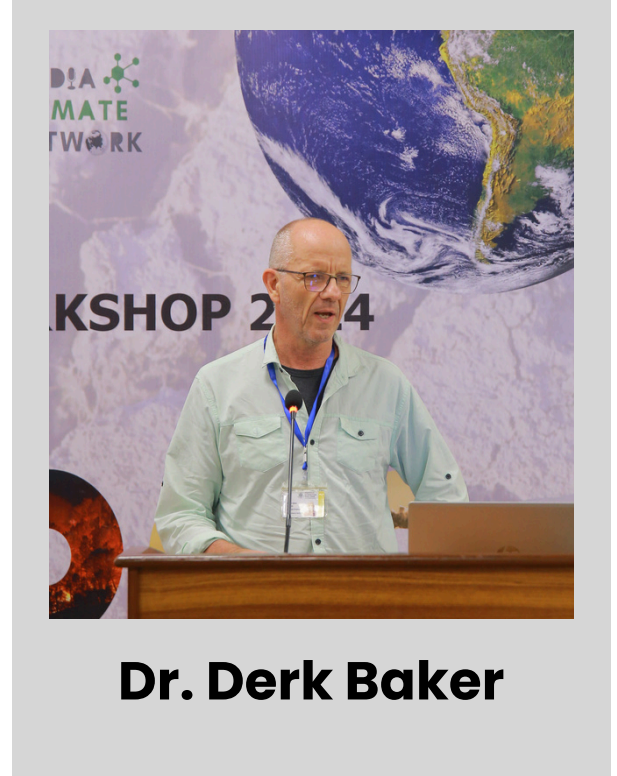
SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT:

Insights from Climate Journalism Workshop Presenters

FROM WARMING TO BOILING: NAVIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE NARRATIVES IN PAKISTAN

*Dr. Derk Baker, Associate Professor and
Chairperson at the Department of Environmental
Sciences, FCCU*

Dr. Baker introduced the audience to climate change, tracing the evolution of the narrative from global warming to the urgent reality of global boiling. Dr. Baker further explored the latest scientific findings on global climate change, trends, and signifiers, evident worldwide. He set the pace of the workshop by generating a sense of urgency among audiences to foster change.



Dr. Derk Baker



Prof. Elisabeth Eide



CAN JOURNALISM SAVE THE WORLD? CLIMATE ACTORS AND CLIMATE DISCOURSES

*Prof. Elisabeth Eide, Co-chair Global MediaClimate
Network and Professor Emerita at Oslo
Metropolitan University, Norway*

Dr. Eide addressed the paradoxes and discourses revolving around climate journalism where news remains producer-oriented, particularly targeting industries. While concluding the session, she highlighted how journalists can translate the dilemma to the masses through stories by remaining thorough in research, solution-oriented, educators of society, and possessing strong storytelling skills.

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT:

Insights from Climate Journalism Workshop Presenters

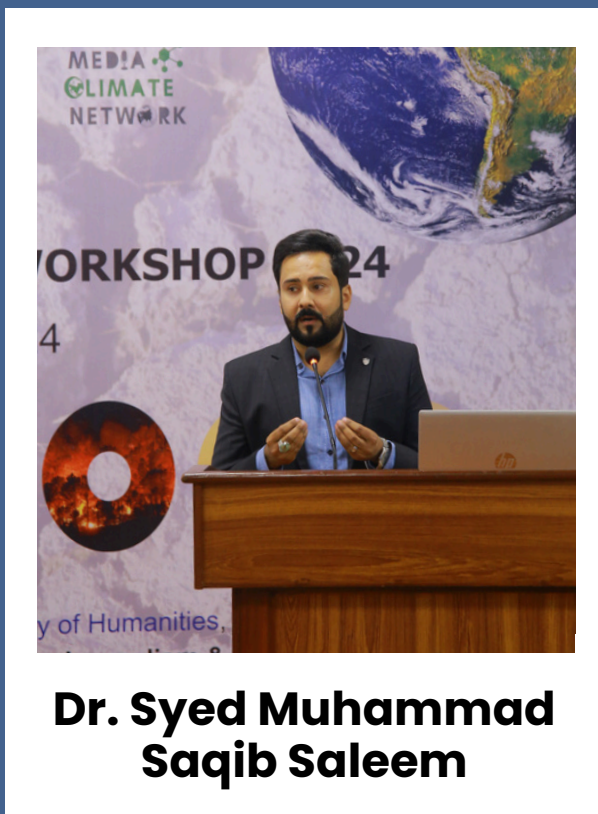
CLIMATE JUSTICE AND THE NEED FOR RESPONSIBLE CLIMATE REPORTING.

Mr. Rafay Alam, Environmental Lawyer, Activist and Op-ed Columnist on Environment

Mr. Alam started his session with recalling the grievances faced by the people during and after the 2022 Pakistan floods causing Rs 3.2 trillion worth of damage and economic losses with more than 2000 people displaced. Mr. Alam highlights how the international forums fail to prioritize the climate crisis to provide aid and support essentially to third-world countries. While concluding his session, Mr. Alam emphasized how important it is to bring back the delicacy of storytelling which compels the masses to foster solution-oriented initiatives to combat the prior stated crisis.



Mr. Rafay Alam



Dr. Syed Muhammad Saqib Saleem

FRAMING CLIMATE CHANGE STORIES IN PAKISTAN

Dr. Syed Muhammad Saqib Saleem, Assistant Professor, Mass Communication Department, FCCU

Dr. Saleem explored the multifaceted dimensions of climate change in Pakistan, including its impact on communities, ecosystems, and socio-economic dynamics. He also shared some strategies for engaging audiences with locally relevant climate narratives. Dr. Saleem shared valuable insight on how to humanize the climate crisis journalistic piece, initiating climate awareness workshops, offering climate-dedicated courses at undergraduate and graduate levels, and tracing local experience aided in navigating the ways to reach a wider audience and seek solutions.

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT:

Insights from Climate Journalism Workshop Presenters

COMBATING CLIMATE MIS/DISINFORMATION AS A JOURNALIST

Ms. Mehwish Batool, lecturer at the Mass Communication Department FCCU

Ms. Batool shared effective strategies for identifying, debunking, and countering false narratives surrounding climate science and environmental issues. While differentiating between misinformation and disinformation, the speaker also talked about the dilemmas faced by journalists including inadequate resources and policy guidelines from media organizations and lack of information among many other factors. The session remained holistically loaded with useful information and guidelines not just for journalists but also for laymen.



Ms. Mehwish Batool



ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALISM IN PAKISTAN

Syed Muhammad Abubakar, Award winning climate journalist

Mr. Abubakar, with his affable demeanor and wealth of experience, graciously imparted invaluable insights into the art of writing for both national and international English dailies, along with the intricate process of crafting a compelling pitch to editors. Through his enlightening discourse, he underscored the paramount importance of selecting a topic of utmost relevance to the current zeitgeist, meticulously gathering authentic information from credible sources, and adeptly timing the pitch to editors to garner optimal reader engagement. His wisdom not only illuminated the path to journalistic success but also served as a guiding beacon for aspiring writers navigating the dynamic landscape of contemporary media.

A GLIMPSE INTO WORKSHOP



CLOSING CEREMONY

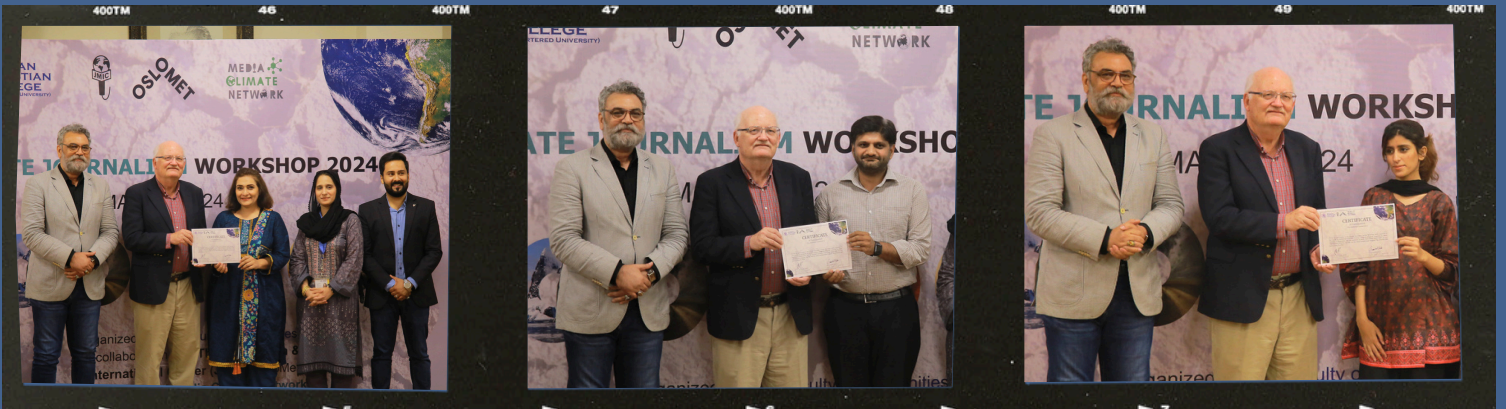
DR. JONATHAN ADDLETON

Rector, FCCU

The workshop was concluded with closing remarks by Dr. Jonathan Addleton, Rector, FCCU, sharing how climate remains relevant in every genre. He further shared his aspirations to seek a practical approach to the climate crisis and translate discussion into actions. He further thanked the speakers and participants for their engagement and contributions. The event ended with a certificate distribution ceremony, recognizing the contributions of all participants.



CERTIFICATE DISTRIBUTION



CREDITS

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