



FORMAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
(A CHARTERED UNIVERSITY)

Rector's Update

The latest news and announcements from Dr. Jonathan Addleton

In This Issue

Campus Updates

Faculty & Staff Achievements

Recent activities



This year Ramadan and Lent occur during the same month, highlighting important themes that are shared among both Muslims and Christians around the world. These themes include the importance of prayer, compassion, gratitude, sacrifice, concern for others, spiritual reflection, and self-discipline.

Recent violence across the region underscores the broken world in which we live, making these ideals more important than ever. While tension between Pakistan and Afghanistan are cause for concern, events in neighboring Iran that have since spilled over into the Gulf states where many from Pakistan live and work have also had an impact on our institution.

Despite these concerns, Forman remains a dynamic and resilient place, providing reason for hope as well as points of light in a world that otherwise seems dark. Above all, my prayer for this month as this Rector's Update is being finalized is for peace in a world that desperately needs it.



FACULTY ACTIVITIES

Assistant Professor Dr. Ayra Indrias Patras, a member of Pakistan's National Commission on the Status of Women and author of *Swept Aside: A Story of Christian Sweepers in Lahore*, served as visiting scholar at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris in January. During her one-month stay, she delivered five seminars/lectures/presentations on issues related to marginalization in Pakistan at *Maison Suger Research Centre*, CESAH, CESOR, EHESS Campus Condorcet Aubervilliers, *Science Po*, and University Paris Cite.



As she describes it, "It was a meaningful exchange of conversations and academic reflections with students and academics in Paris on the issues of identity marginalization in the Global South . . . several parallels were drawn while focusing on the stories of domination and suppression in various countries across the globe . . . In my last seminar, I also introduced the French audience to Pakistani sweets and samosas as a goodwill gesture to strengthen connections between Pakistan and France".



Dr. Noel Khokhar, Director of Forman's Center for Public Policy and Governance (CPPG), delivered a lecture on *Developing a Policy Paper* to participants of a mid-career management course organized by the Pakistan Administrative Service on January 26. Following the lecture, participants visited Forman, further expanding CPPG's continuing support to civil service officers.



Separately, Dr. Khokhar was invited to speak at the Karachi Literary Festival on his most recent book *Voices of Valour*, highlighting contributions that Pakistani Christians have made to the armed forces of Pakistan. In addition, Dr. Khokhar traveled to Islamabad on February 17 to participate in the biennial meeting of the National Defense University Advisory Board, chaired by the President of Pakistan.



Dr. Abdullah Khoso led a 10-person delegation involving three CPPG Executive MA alumni and seven CPPG MPhil students to the Pakistan Naval War College for a January 28 seminar on *Emerging Technologies and the Future of Warfare*. The event brought together academics, senior military leaders and industry experts, providing a platform for dialogue across disciplines on the changing face of war.



Four members of Forman's Mass Communication's Department (Dr. Firasat Jabeen, Dr. Saleem Abbas, Dr. Anam Muzamill, and Dr. Syed Saqib Saleem) were among the 30 media studies educators selected to participate in an intensive Training of Trainers workshop on *Media and Information Literacy: Countering Disinformation and Online Harms*, organized by UNDP and held at Faletti's Hotel in Lahore.

Sarah Ephraim from CPPG and the School of Management represented Forman at the *International Winter School on Public Policy* (Doha Edition 2026) in late January. Bringing together more than 45 PhD students, researchers, postdoctoral fellows and assistant professors from 21 countries, participants met in Qatar to discuss issues ranging from methodology to crisis management, political leadership to foreign policy.



Associate English Professor and Postgraduate Studies Coordinator Dr. Qurratulaen Liaquat delivered a guest lecture at the University of Management and Technology (UMT) on *The Posthuman Turn in Literature, Language and Ecology*. Among other things, the discussion included references to an emerging youth-driven "digital vocabulary," resulting in new terms such as "doom scrolling" and "brain rot" entering into the English language while also providing linguistic evidence for an emerging "posthuman consciousness".

Congratulations to Assistant English Professor Azeem Alphonse who has been selected to participate in a regional training program on *Mental Health, Spiritual Development, and Ministry as Calling* in May 2026 in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Sponsored by the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, he was one of only 25 individuals selected among a pool of 125 candidates from 12 Asian countries to receive an invitation to attend the program.



FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Zamurrad Awan reports that her article on "[The Impact of Ethnic Violence on Shia Hazaras of Pakistan](#)" is now available in *South Asia Research* (SAGE Publishing) following a rigorous two-year peer review process.

This is the second and final article stemming from a two-year Mellon Foundation Research Grant, the first having been published in the *Journal of Social Sciences* (Summer 2025) under the title "The Plight of Shia Hazaras in Balochistan, Pakistan: From Persecution to Resilience".



Dr. Sara Rizvi Jafree published an article on "The Relationship Between Religious Text, Religious Tolerance, and Mental Health in Different Religious Groups of Pakistan" in the *Journal of Religion and Health* (Springer).

Dr. Nukhbah Langah who has been teaching in Malaysia but plans to rejoin Forman in the Fall published an article on "Cultural Representations as Subversive Discourses in Pakistan: Literary Festivals in Seraiki Cultural Context" in *Society and Culture in South Asia* (January 2026).



Dr. Sadia Kamran, Chair of FCCU's Department of Visual and Performing Arts, was invited as a panelist for the launch of the book *An Eye for the Familiar & the Exquisite -- Ijaz ul Hassan's Sketchbook*, edited by her, at Beaconhouse National University.

Dr. Shahida Dilawar Shah first novel *Zindagi: Aik Naraz Matan* ("Life is an Anguished Text") is receiving increasing recognition in literary and scholarship circles, having been the subject of at least sixteen BS and MPhil research thesis as well as at least one post-doctoral study at universities across Pakistan. In addition, *Zindagi* has been translated into English and published by Matterlink Publishers, an Indian publisher recognized for promoting the works of Pakistani writers.





Dr. Mariam Rao, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Forman's School of Management, is soliciting original research, review papers and case studies for the second volume of the peer-reviewed *Forman Journal of Business Innovation*. The editorial board welcomes articles on a wide range of topics including accounting, finance, management, marketing, economics, public policy, innovation, entrepreneurship, and corporate governance. The submission deadline is March 31. For further information, contact marriamrao@fccollege.edu.pk

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS



Forman's English Department sponsored a *Writer's Lounge Series* session on February 4 in partnership with the AnneMarie Schimmel Haus at the German Cultural Center in Lahore. Panelists included two Berlin-based writers, novelist, psychologist and freelance journalist Rainer Merkel who has reported on Kosovo, Afghanistan, Liberia and Lebanon and novelist and essayist David Wagner who authored *Leben, Der vergessliche Riese* and *Verkin*. Writer, translator and educator Naurin Ahmed-Zaki who was born and raised in Germany but moved to Pakistan as a teenager moderated the session.



Six days later, our English Department hosted a follow-on *Writer's Lounge Series* session, this one featuring Hassan Bin Shahzad (professionally known as Hassan Siddiqui) and titled *Creative Writing Workshop: Motivating Young Authors to Write for Social Change*. Described as a creative young writer and storyteller from Lahore, Hassan Siddique's publications include *Twenty Bright Paths: Stories of Growth and Learning*.

English Assistant Professor Dr. Adeel Khalid reports that Professor Kate Roy from Franklin University in Switzerland visited Forman in February, engaging with students in two of his English classes. During her sessions, Professor Roy who specializes in postcolonial literature, diasporic writing, translation and narrative studies addressed critical questions about the power of personal narratives in understanding history and identity. She also highlighted the ethical responsibilities that inevitably emerge when academics represent the lives of others while seeking to place those lives in their broader cultural and historical contexts.



English MPhil graduate Tabir Amjad's paper "Clones as Scapegoats: Slow Violence in Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go*" has been published in *Entanglements: Journal of Posthumanities* (Volume 2, Issue 1), an internationally recognized journal in the emerging field of posthumanism. The article is adapted from Tabir's MPhil thesis, written under the supervision of Dr. Qurratulaen Liaqat, founder of the Pakistan Posthuman Network.

Working with Forman's Chemistry Department under the guidance of Chair and Chapter Advisor Dr. Shazma Massey Azeem, the FCCU Student Chapter of the American Chemical Society organized a program on February 17 titled *Chemistry is the Spice of Life*. Among other things, the program demonstrated how everyday spices that we often take for granted are linked to chemical principles including reactions, compounds, flavors, colors, and aromas.

In addition, the Chemistry Department worked with the FCCU Chapter of the American Chemical Society to launch a hands-on Chemistry outreach program focused on underprivileged students. Conducted at Rukhsana Foundation School, supervised by Dr. Hina Abid, and supported by Dr. Shazma Massey Azeem and Dr. Muhammad Tariq Qamar, the event aimed to bring chemistry education to bright students from marginalized backgrounds, inspiring them to gain practical insights through hands-on experiments.



Finally, Shayan Shaukat, a Masters student in the CPPG Executive Program, published an essay titled "Hindutva as a Global Far-Right Project: Fascism, Neoliberalism and Transnational Networks in Twenty-first Century India" in the *Transnational Institute's State of Power Report 2026*.

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND LECTURES

Forman's Education Department hosted its *Fourth International Conference on Education Re(imagining) and Re(forming) Education: Navigating the New Educational Frontier* on February 13-14.

Keynote speakers included Dr. Faisal Bari from the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) and Ms. Carolyn White from Scotland who previously served as principal of a school in Waziristan. Minister of State for Federal Education H.E. Wajiha Qamar travelled from Islamabad to attend as Chief Guest. When meeting her for the first time, I was delighted to learn that her daughter is a Forman graduate!



Forman's Population Research Center under the leadership of Dr. Mohammad Vaqas Ali sponsored a seminar on *The Legal Rights of Persons with Disabilities* on February 26. Keynote speakers included Ms. Sana Khurshid (Lawyer and Disability Advocate) and M. Aslam Bajwa (Provincial Lead for Greenstar Social Marketing), and and Mr. Fahad Aftab (Assistant Professor, English Department, FCCU).



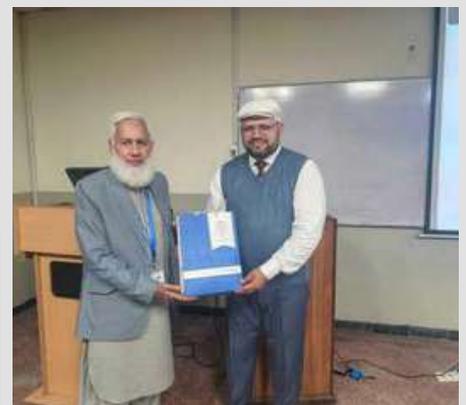
Forman's School of Management organized a research-focused workshop on February 9 on *Designing and Managing Multi-Time and Multi-Source Survey-Based Research with Mindbyte Surveys*, conducted by Dr. Ghulam Ali Arian from LUMS.



FCCU partnered with Government College University (GCU) and the Pakistan Physics Society to organize an *International Conference on Frontiers in Physics*, held on the GCU campus on January 28-30.



Forman's Economics Department implemented a workshop on *Spatial Analysis and Mapping Using QGIS* on February 13, providing hands-on training on acquiring, managing and analyzing spatial datasets. Graduate students and faculty (including several faculty from the University of Lahore) attended the event which was facilitated by Dr. Muhammad Jamil from the University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir.



Forman's Sociology Department hosted a guest lecture on *The Meaning of Home*, moderated by Sociology Lecturer Ammar Yasir and delivered by Dr. Craig Gurney, Director for Learning and Teaching in Urban Studies and Social Policy at the University of Glasgow. As noted in the initial announcement, the program invited reflection on a number of key themes including housing, belonging, memory and the politics that shape contemporary urban life.



Forman's Mass Communication Department hosted a guest lecture on the *Role of the Sub Editor in Modern Journalism*. Invited by course instructor Shahid Ali Naeem, the session featured journalist Zia Ur Rahman from Voice of America's Urdu Service who shared insights based on his 17 years in the media industry as well as his tenure as a Fellow at the East-West Center in Hawaii.



Looking further ahead, Forman's English Department will hold its Third International Conference on Connecting Voices: Equitable Experiences in Linguistics, Language and Literature in early November 2026. Abstract submissions are due by April 15. Questions should be directed to Dr. Adeel Khalid (english.conferences@fccollege.edu.pk); for further details, [click here to access](#); to submit abstracts, [click here to access](#); and to register, [click here to access](#).

COLLEGE NEWS

This month the College further enhanced the already formidable reputation of its theatre program by producing two outstanding plays, one in Urdu and the other in English. This year's selection for the *Sixth Annual English Drama*, held on February 4 in Sinclair Hall, was Moliere's *The Doctor in Spite of Himself*, setting the stage for an entertaining evening of laughter and applause. Not surprisingly, the Urdu drama was equally impressive, evoking a similar response.



In addition, the College's *Second Annual Musical Recital* titled *Dreaming with Eyes Open* was exceptional in every respect, reflecting yet again the wonderful contributions that Ms. Joy has made to developing music talent among our College students. Both the vocals and the guitar performance were spectacular and lingered in my mind long after the concert ended!



Four Forman College teams participated in the *Kinnaird College Science Fest* in late January, competing against FAST, Punjab University, University of Central Punjab, Government College, and Lahore College for Women University, among others.

Team 1 (Ibrahim bin Usman, Abdul Ahad and Shehroz Wajid) secured second position while Team 2 (Joshua Rang, Sohaib Ramazan, Usman Ali, and Abdul Rehman) secured third position in the Maths, Computer, and Statistics category.

Meanwhile, Team 3 (Suleman Farooq, Muhammad Zain Ali and Haider Ali) secured third position in the Physics, Chemistry and Engineering Category while Team 4 (Ahad bin Nouman and Hamza Naseer) earned second position in the Environmental Science, Sustainability and Entrepreneurship category.



Dr. Naila Noreen, a member of the Forman College faculty who earned FCCU's first Physics PhD, published a book titled *Linear and Quasilinear Analysis in Plasma Instabilities* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing).

Dr. Haroon Iftikhar from the College Chemistry Department completed his PhD from Government College University, successfully defending his dissertation titled *Deep Eutectic Solvent-Based Extraction of Seed Phytoconstituents of Strychnos nux-vomica and Strychnos potatorum and their Biological Activities*. His research also resulted in five international journal articles including in *Talanta*, *Microchemical Journal*, *Scientific Reports*, *Journal of Molecular Structure*, and *RADS Journal of Biological Research and Applied Science*.



LIGHT OF HOPE SCHOOL UPDATE

It was a pleasure to attend the Farewell Party for Grade 10 Light of Hope students, hosted by the ninth grade students. I am always inspired by our Light of Hope graduating classes and this year was no exception. The fact that a number of this year's graduates have attended Light of Hope since its inception a decade ago also made this year's program which featured both music and speeches special.



A special thanks to Major Kanwal and his Health and Safety team for conducting an emergency evacuation drill at Light of Hope School on February 17. Nearly 500 people participated including 434 students, 38 teachers, 11 service staff and 3 administrative staff. As part of the drill, the alarm was activated at 9:36 AM; security staff cleared the building within four minutes; and a full evacuation to the designated Assembly Area was completed in just over six minutes.

In reviewing the exercise, it was determined that all staff performed their assigned roles effectively including Light of Hope staff who raised the alarm and helped clear the building; Security personnel who manned the main gate and secured the Assembly area; and Mercy Center Health staff who ensured that ambulance support was available.



NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION



Forman's Office of Student Activities organized a musical evening at the Lucas Center for first-year students featuring Malik Muhammad Ahil and his band. Our new students responded with enthusiasm, welcoming the opportunity to relax, connect with peers and have an initial experience with Forman's varied and vibrant campus life!





More than 30 FCCU Student Societies organized individual Freshmen Week stalls on January 19-20, providing new students with details on potential co-curricular activities that might interest them.

Also during Freshmen Week, the Student Discipline and Support Office sponsored a program on ways to promote a respectful, responsible and drug-free campus culture.



Finally, Forman's Residential Life Office organized a series of activities to welcome new students to the male hostel at House #38 and the female hostel at TSA. With support from Assistant Guardian Muhammad Talal, the celebrations at House #38 began with a cake-cutting ceremony followed by an orientation session focused on hostel life, community expectations and Forman culture. Meanwhile, Guardian Dr. Uzma and Assistant Guardian Ms. Umul organized a series of welcome sessions for new residents at the TSA female hostel that included a health and wellness segment led by Ms. Mahnoor.



STUDENT SOCIETIES

The Forman Photography Society participated in a photo competition held at LUMS on January 13-15, returning to Forman with the Best Delegation Award. In addition, the five-member FCCU team (Sameed Farhan, M. Muddasir Khan, Mirza Fahad Khalil, M. Saad Hashim, and M. Ahmed Riaz) received awards in several other categories including Best Cinemotion, Best Reel, Best Short Film, and Best Poster.



The Forman Islamic Society participated in LRF 3.0 hosted by the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), achieving success in several notable areas, ranking First in the Entrepreneurship Category and as Runners Up in both the Quiz and Best Delegation category.

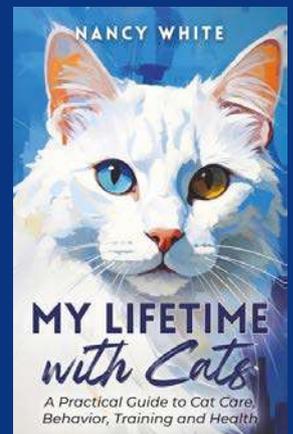


The Forman Earth Watch Society headed by Khadija Akbar organized its annual Pet Show on February 16, an all-day event held on our Main Field. One of my favorite annual initiatives, participants this year included many dogs and cats as well as several hamsters and even a Blackbuck Deer, otherwise known as an Indian Antelope.



Although I was unable to stay for the trophy presentation ceremony, I did donate a book written by my sister Nancy White titled *My Lifetime with Cats: A Practical Guide to Cat Care, Behavior, Training & Health* to the winner of the "Best Cat" competition. In that book, she recalls the names that she has given to her cats over the years including Albert, Charlie, Ivan, Jeremy, Kate, Leo, Lucy, Pierre, Priscilla, Snowshoes, Trudeau, Will, and Shehzadi!

Reflecting on the day, I also recalled a couple of the quotes used at the start of each of the short chapters in my sister Nancy's book. "*The greatness of a nation can be judged by the way its animals are treated,*" reads one, attributed to Gandhi; "*The smallest feline is a masterpiece,*" reads another, attributed to Leonardo da Vinci.



HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

Mercy Health Center organized a Dermatology Medical Camp on our campus on February 10. A special thanks to Dr. Masood Sohail and Dr. Junaid Mirza for volunteering their services to this cause.



Forman's Campus Counseling Center organized a workshop on February 16 on *Pathways to Wellness: Substance Use Awareness and Skill Building*, delivered by part-time Campus counselor Fizzah Irfan.



Also, the Campus Counseling Center joined with our Human Resources Office to organize a workshop on February 17 on *Thriving at Work: Building Resilience and Enhancing Well-Being for Administrative Staff*. Campus Counselor and Clinical Psychologist Malik Muhammad Omer facilitated the program which focused on skills related to stress management, time management, and work-life balance.



Finally, the Campus Counseling Center partnered with Student Discipline & Support and the Institute of Legal Studies to hold a three-hour program on *Conflict Resolution & De-escalation*, using interactive discussion, role-play and a structured de-escalation framework to practice communications strategies aimed at managing tense situations and redirecting student behavior in a more constructive direction.



Forman's Center for Learning and Teaching organized a session on February 15 led by Vice Rector Dr. Douglas Trimble on *Creating a Safe and Supportive Campus: Gender Policy and Student Well-being*.



A team from the Forman Psychological Services Center headed by Dr. Nashi Khan and including Kanza Fatima and Zahid Sheikh visited the National University of Modern Languages (NUML) Lahore Campus on February 16. In addition to information-sharing, discussions focused on potential cooperation between FCCU and NUML with respect to community-based projects and workshops.



The Punjab Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officially certified Forman's Korea-supported Water Analysis Center headed by Associate Professor Dr. Shinho Chung, authorizing it to provide quality drinking water testing across the province.

Marking this important milestone, the Center also organized a Water Analysis Open House, introducing participants to our testing facility featuring state-of-the-art technology and providing environmental testing services to members of the Forman community as well as external organizations including both businesses and researchers.

In addition, the event showcased Aqua Bliss, Forman's own bottled water brand, produced by the FCCU Water Treatment Plant and complying with all relevant World Health Organization (WHO) and Punjab Environmental Quality Standards (PEQS) standards. Also, the same clean high-quality drinking water is available for free at the taps installed at our on-campus water treatment plant.

For more information, please contact wateranalysiscenter@fccollege.edu.pk (for details on the water analysis center) or watertreatmentplant@fccollege.edu.pk (for more information on water collection or to sign up to the Aqua Bliss delivery service).



ALUMNI UPDATE

Forman's Advancement and Alumni Office hosted an Alumni Open Day on February 12, bringing nearly 140 alumni and their families to campus. Chief Marketing and Outreach Officer Badia Raza opened the event, sharing news about recent developments at Forman including growing international connections, expanded scholarship opportunities, and our continuing journey toward NECHE accreditation. Participants expressed special appreciation for the Jim Tebbe Campus Center, Friends Digital Library, and newly-opened Campus Store.

The program included a campus tour, campus video, and sharing session during which graduates recalled memories of their time at Forman. For their part, participants reflected a variety of personal and professional journeys and backgrounds including medicine, law, banking, business and military service. Thanks also to Muhammad Talal (Assistant Manager for Alumni Relations) and Adnan Ilyas (Head of Advancement and Alumni) for their role in arranging another wonderful Alumni program.



In addition, the Advancement and Alumni Office organized an impressive FCCU Alumni event focused on women on February 11. Titled *Women in Power: Celebrating Forman Women*, the program was moderated by Sarah Ephraim from Forman's School of Management, herself a Forman graduate.

This memorable evening commenced with a display of innovative female-designed products displayed at entrepreneurial stalls setup by FCCU graduates on E-Square and concluded with a "Drum Circle" celebrating unity, shared strength, and collective rhythm, lending a sense of connection, energy and solidarity to the occasion.

Finally the program brought together several distinguished female Forman graduates including Mary Gill (Former Member of the Punjab Assembly and Executive Director, Center for Law & Justice); Areen Shahid (Chief Strategy Officer, Compass Training & Consultancy); Fatima Arif (Corporate Communications and Public Affairs Manager, CCL Pharmaceuticals); Amna Chaudhary (Head of Digital and Marketing, Samson Group of Companies); and Fatima Nasir (CEO, Beauty Lounge), collectively highlighting the many accomplishments of Forman's female graduates as well as the leadership journeys and professional challenges that they have faced along the way.

Dr. Arif Hussain, featured in last year's profile of *Formanite Doctors*, visited the Forman campus with his son on February 4. Recalling his days at Forman, he also mentioned that several siblings including Dr. Riaz Hussain had attended Forman, making it a family tradition.



Forman graduate Suleman Khairullah who previously headed our Admissions Office also dropped by during a recent brief visit to Lahore; he is enrolled in a PhD program at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia (USA) where he continues to thrive.



Also, recent Forman graduate Muhammad Tayeeb Saleem reports that he has been offered admission in the Commerce graduate program at the University of Sydney, a top-ranked Australian University; in addition, he received an International Merit Scholarship in recognition of his academic performance.

MEDIA MENTIONS

The Wire recently featured Sociology Associate Professor Dr Shahid Rasheed's work on the revival of Sanskrit studies in Pakistan, including references to Forman as part of this pioneering effort, referring among other things to the small collection of books in Sanskrit at FCCU.



Associate Vice Rector Dr. Gloria Calib shared insights in Urdu on Forman's journey toward NECHE accreditation as part of "*Formanites*" podcast organized by Forman's Department of Mass Communication.



Dr. Farid Malik continues to publish regularly in the *Minute Mirror* on various topics such as: *Let Kashmiris Lead* and *Farewell to Zaeem Qadri – A Good Man in Wrong Party*.





Associate Professor Mass Communication Department, Dr. Adeel Ahmad Aamir wrote an oped for *Minute Mirror* that now seems prescient, describing the fall-out from the Epstein files as extending to the Duke of York, "once a symbol of naval courage and royal dignity" but now facing the prospects of being "methodically dismantled by depositions that read like a surrealist horror show".

Finally, Usama Malick published an interesting article on Lahore in *News International*.



OTHER NEWS

Lahore's Faiz Festival included a memorial session held on Valentine's Day (February 14) in honor of Forman legend Dr. Arfa Sayed Zehra. Speakers included Dr. Sara Rizvi Jafree from our Sociology Department.



Dr. Sadiya P. Kamran, Chair of FCCU's Department of Visual and Performing Arts, has been awarded the prestigious Nigah Award, recognizing her as "Best Art Critic 2026" (www.sadiapashakamran.com)

Representatives from several US universities visited Forman as part of a Mini Education Expo held on February 13, providing a forum for students to explore various academic programs and research opportunities.



Forman's Career Services & Internships Office organized its annual *Mega Job Fair* on February 11, bringing together students, faculty, and organizations from the public and private sectors under one big tent. Possibly the largest such event ever held on the Forman campus, it involved more than 110 companies from various sectors offering internship and employment information to the more than 2,600 Forman students who participated.

Prominent companies represented at the Job Fair included Jazz, McDonald's, Sapphire Mills, Lawrencepur, State Bank of Pakistan, Netsol, Cure MD, Vivo Pakistan, Cheezious, Dunya Media Group, and Neo TV Network.



Head of Faculty Advising Dr. Atiq-ur-Rehman (<https://www.facebook.com/fccufacultyadvisingoffice/>) notes that FCCU's 14th Annual Advising Fair will be held on March 26 in the Jim Campus Center. Among other things, the program will include updated academic plans, road maps and other handouts, all of which are designed to help guide students along their chosen academic pathway as well as inform them about the career opportunities to follow.



Forman's Writing Center held its fourth Annual Ink-It Writing Competition in the Jim Tebbe Campus Center in February, providing an opportunity for Forman undergraduates to test their creativity, imagination and literary skills. Genres covered included both fiction and dramatic readings.

Punjab's Extended Program on Immunization (EPI) Cell in partnership with the Director of Immunization, UNICEF and VIAMO organized a three-day Immunization Orientation Workshop in early February involving 25 Media Studies students including several from Forman. Focused on public health communication issues, the workshop aimed at strengthening ties among public health institutions, academia, and future media professionals.



Thanks to the University Sports Office for launching the Forman Women Sports Fest 2025-2026 on February 12. Participants from 15 other universities joined in, using the opportunity to promote female empowerment through sports.



The Center for Public Policy and Governance (CPPG) headed by Dr. Noel Khokhar presented an updated Annual Plan to its Advisory Board followed by a memorable dinner on the front lawn of the Fulbright Building, situated on the Forman campus. A number of CPPG graduates expressed appreciation for their time at Forman. In addition, there were several musical items including singing as well as a demonstration dance provided by Forman alumni from Gilgit/Baltistan.



Visitors this month included Friends of Forman Executive Director Roger Dermody, accompanied by three pastors from Georgia, Kentucky, and California. Their visit coincided with several events on campus including the College Recital and CPPG Advisory Board Dinner, ensuring that they were given memorable glimpses of Forman at its best.



In the February issue of the *Rector's Update* I mentioned a successful four-day trip to Jeddah as Chair of the NECHE accreditation team visiting Effat University; this month I can report on a successful four-day trip to Islamabad, prompted initially by a Board meeting involving the US Educational Foundation (USEF). Among other things, I was happy to learn that the Fulbright program remains intact. Also, I expressed appreciation for the 12,000 square foot building on the USEF site in Lahore that formerly served as the Prometrics Center and is now available for our academic use.

Later Dr. Trimble and Dr. Nayer joined me for a much appreciated meeting with the Higher Education Commission (HEC) to review potential ways to promote a liberal arts education in Pakistan. I also met with two US Embassy Education Officers who expressed keen interest in the accreditation process. In addition, I welcomed the opportunity to attend a wonderful Iftar dinner hosted by Supreme Court Advocate Akram Sheikh, a proud Formanite whose extended family also has a number of connections with our institution.

Prior to this productive trip to Islamabad in mid February, I also joined with Dr. Nayer and Dr. Trimble in a separate, earlier trip to Islamabad to meet with Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar (Sitara-i-Imtiaz) and to congratulate him on his new position as Chair of Pakistan's Higher Education Commission (HEC).



Finally, I am pleased to note that after a hiatus of nearly two decades Basant returned to both Lahore and the Forman campus on February 6! Thanks especially to Eileen Dass and Sheeza James from the Rector's Office and the entire Campus Operations team including Hanook Walter and Suneel Chohan for taking the lead in planning a wonderful celebration of Spring, kites, and Punjabi culture at its best.

US Consul-General Stetson Sanders formally opened the proceedings as Chief Guest, joined by Forman Board Chair Dr. Rukhsana David and Board Members Bishop Irfan Jamil and Dr. Mariam Richards for the cake-cutting ceremony; countless colorful kites were then launched to the sky. Adhering to the safety standards set by the Punjab Government, the occasion showcased traditional decor, festive attire, and community engagement while also helping to revive an age-old cultural tradition.







DR. JONATHAN ADDLETON
RECTOR