



FORMAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
(A CHARTERED UNIVERSITY)

Rector's Update

The latest news and announcements from Dr. Jonathan Addleton

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August 14 marked the 79th Anniversary of Pakistan's Independence, an event celebrated across both Forman and Pakistan, transforming some neighborhoods into a sea of green and white accompanied by some of my favorite patriotic songs including Junaid Jamshed's joyous *Dil Dil Pakistan* and Mehdi Hassan's evocative *Yeh Watan Tumhara Hai*.

Notable Independence Day events taking place at Forman included a student-led celebration held on August 13 in the Armacost Science Building and Forman's traditional flag-raising celebration held on August 14 in Sinclair Hall.



The student-led Independence Day Celebration included a thought-provoking speech on Freedom to Responsibility as well as skits, mimes, and patriotic songs, all emphasizing pride, patriotism, national unity, and responsible citizenship.



As for the traditional flag-raising ceremony, it was led by a team that included Security and the Registrar's Office and featured a Guard of Honor; the sounding of the siren; Dr. Muhammad Younus's reflection on the life of Quaid-i-Azam; Dr. Shahida Shah's Azadi poem; and songs by the Light of Hope, Intermediate, and Chapel choirs, among others.





In conjunction with those ceremonies and in keeping with the spirit of August 14, readers of this month's *Rector Update* might also want to read FCCU's Distinguished History Professor Dr. Sikandar Hayat's article "Two Nations Theory Revisited", published in the August 2026 issue of *Hilal*.

Meanwhile, Chief of Staff Eileen Dass represented Forman at the Prime Minister's Minority Day celebration in Islamabad on August 11, purposefully scheduled to take place just before the national Independence Day celebrations. As part of her trip, she also participated in a series of meetings organized by Mary Gill, Asif Angelo Aqeel and the Center for Law and Justice related in part to Ewing Hall, Gordon College, and other minority concerns involving Ambassadors and other representatives from the German, Dutch, Swedish, Canadian, and US Embassies.



As regards Minority Day celebrations at Forman, one very special event attended by members of the Forman Executive team included graduates from the four-week summer enrichment program organized by Financial Aid Head Phool Shahzad for minority students from places ranging from the deserts of Tharparkar in the far south to the Kalash Valley in Chitral in the far north. Of the initial 45 students who took the course, 11 successfully secured admission to Forman's Bachelor's program while an additional 16 were eligible to join our Intensive English Advancement Program (IEAP).



FACULTY UPDATE

Congratulations to Forman Psychology Professors Dr. Sarah Shahed and Dr. Nashi Khan who received Distinction Awards for their outstanding service from the Pakistan Psychological Association.

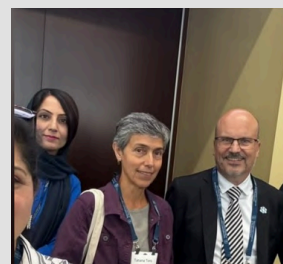


I am pleased to note that Dr. Sumaira Akram, Lecturer in FCCU's Department of Environmental Sciences, was awarded her doctorate from Bahria University in Islamabad, based on her dissertation titled *Biomonitoring of Hazardous Substance in Workers Associated with Electronic Waste Processing Facilities in Selected Cities of Pakistan*.



Dr. Nazish Shahid, Chair of FCCU's Mathematics Department, recently returned to Forman, having taught courses in Data Science, Machine Learning, and Statistics for a year as part of the dual Bachelor's degree program offered by the University of Arizona in Tucson and the Capital University of Economics and Business (CUEB) in Beijing.

Forman Mathematics Professor Dr. Shabnam was awarded an International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM) Travel Grant, funded by the Simons Foundation in partnership with the International Mathematical Union (IMU); this grant in turn facilitated her participation at the prestigious ICM Conference held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia where she delivered a research talk and served as a session moderator.



English Department Chair Professor Dr. Fatima Syeda participated as a book panelist at the Quaid-e-Azam Library in Lahore on August 12 to mark the launch of Dr. Amjad Saqib's latest book *Moloo Musalli: In Search of Lost Humanity*, focusing on the reflective, intellectual and philosophical value of the book while also noting the journey set forth by the author from misery to hope.



Geography Department Chair Dr. Khadija Shakrullah has just been selected by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) for a fully funded nine-month Postdoctoral Fellowship at Peking University in Beijing.

Congratulations also to Statistics Professor Dr. Shakila Bashir on being selected by the HEC International Research Support Initiative Program to evaluate short-listed applications for six-month PhD research visits abroad.



Although not currently teaching at FCCU, former Center for Public Policy and Governance (CPPG) faculty member and current MIT Fellow Dr. Imdad Hussain forwarded link elaborating on some of the research that he noted had largely been conducted at Forman: [How Can We Make Lahore a Better City? | Dr. Imdad Hussain on Public Policy & Lahore](#).

In addition, Dr. Imdad shared some of his [digital lectures](#), further noting that "I owe these to FCCU. Thousands of students have benefitted from these introductory lecture recordings on public policy as an academic discipline".

Finally, one of the biggest thrills a faculty member anywhere can receive is a letter of appreciation from a former student -- with that in mind I was delighted when Dr. Altaf Ullah Khan, Dean of Humanities, shared with me one such letter that he had received:

"I genuinely enjoyed your courses and I enjoyed the research process under your supervision even more . . . I wanted to sit with you, not as a student with a research question or an academic discussion, but simply as a reader and a curious person to talk about poetry, philosophy, literature, spirituality, and perhaps how all these things find their way into one's life and work . . . thank you for your time, your guidance, and for making learning feel like something much larger than a classroom".

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS



Sociology Professor Dr. Sara Rizvi Jafree's latest book *Twelver Shia Beliefs and Religious Financing for Social Welfare* has just been published by [Routledge \(2026\)](#).

This pioneering book comes with endorsements from international scholars in France, Germany, Scotland, Iran, Pakistan, the US and elsewhere who praise her insights as well as her academic rigor, describing it as "wonderful" and "groundbreaking" while also anticipating that it will become "a key reference in Islamic Studies and the Social Sciences".

Dr. Sara Rizvi Jafree's previous books, published by Oxford University Press, Palgrave MacMillan, and Springer Nature, include [Social Policy for Women in Pakistan](#); [The Sociology of South Asian Women's Health](#); and [Women, Healthcare, and Violence in Pakistan](#).



Dr. Samina Mehnaz, Dean of Forman's Faculty of Natural Sciences published her third edited book, *Frontiers in Rhizoengineering: Genomics, Metablomics and Beyond* (Springer), co-edited with Dr. Izzah Shahid, a Forman graduate (and Dr. Samina's first PhD student!) who just completed three years as a Sklowdowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at the Public University of Navarra in Spain.



School of Management Assistant Professor Dr. Afaf Khalid reports that her paper on "Facilitating Workplace Integration for Individuals with Schizophrenia: A Salutogenic Perspective" has been published in *Equality, Diversity and Inclusion*, an internationally peer-reviewed journal.

Also, she has published a second article titled "An Agency, Resilience, and Emotional Regulation Perspective of Intersectional Identity and Coping Strategies of Working Mothers" in *Gender, Work and Organization*, another internationally peer-reviewed journal.



Dr. Rukhsana Zia who heads Forman's Center for Learning and Teaching (CLT) recently had one of her co-authored research papers ("Global, Islamic and Decolonial Ethics in National Curriculum Framework of Pakistan (2017): A Critical Textual Analysis)" published in Davids, N. and Menonca, S. eds., *Teaching Ethically in the Global South* (Palgrave MacMillan).

MEDIA OUTREACH

Visual & Performing Arts Department Chair Dr. Sadia P. Kamran published an insightful reflection on Forman's recent Faculty Retreat in The Tribune, focusing especially on issues related to Artificial Intelligence (AI).



Urdu Department Head Dr. Aneel Samuel was featured in an interview on *Neo News*.



Two Computer Science students -- Haider Imran and Abdul Hanan -- were interviewed on *Lahore Rang* where they discussed their various projects, one focused on AI-powered indoor service robot design and the other related to an AI-powered plant disease app.

Several Forman students participated in Episode IV of *Discover Islam* on *Discover Pakistan*, engaging in a discussion on generosity and moderation in Islam.





Dr. Farid Malik's prolific perspectives on a wide range of issues continue to be published regularly as op-eds in the *Minute Mirror*: [Buying Time Not Future](#); [When Ambition Meets Reality](#); [Where Innovation Counts](#); [Devolution Without Governance Reform](#); [Celebrating Freedom Through Zero Poverty](#); [Change We Must](#); [Deletion Or Death For Automobile Assemblers](#); and [Investment In Technology Is Lacking](#).

Also, he occasionally amplifies these further in various other media appearances including on YouTube: [Pakistan Found Gas in 1952—Why Are We Still Facing an Energy Crisis?](#); [Where Innovation Counts: Why Pakistan Struggles to Turn Research into Real-World Technology](#); [Deletion or Death: Why Pakistan's Auto Industry Still Depends on Imported Parts](#); and [From Steel to Semiconductors and Back: Can Pakistan Turn Its Minerals into Technology?](#)

Finally, Dr. Farid Malik travelled to Islamabad on August 6 to launch his memoir *My Struggles -- Journey of a Technologist*, attracting a number of eminent scientists, academics, former public sector officials, engineers, and others including members of the Pakistan Science Foundation.

MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING

My travels this month included a trip to Islamabad to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS), further deepening our relationship. Also, I attended the US Educational Foundation (USEF) Board meeting in Islamabad, noting that prospects seem promising for continuing the Fulbright program as well as other initiatives supporting scholarly interchange between the US and Pakistan.

I was delighted to sign an MOU on August 10 with the Monnoo Welfare Foundation, providing support for at least one fully funded undergraduate scholarship at Forman. As always, special thanks to Jaweria Iqbal (Head of Corporate & Foundation Relations) and Adnan Ilyas (Head of Advancement & Alumni Relations) for their work in helping to make this scholarship possible.

Forman's Environmental Science Department headed by Dr. Shazia Ilyas signed an MOU on August 11 with the Al-Jazari Water and Sanitation Academy (AJWA), attended by AJWA head Dr. Souman Khalid who also serves as Deputy Secretary for the Government of Punjab's Housing, Urban Development & Public Health Engineering Department.

Established by the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in 2014, AJWA serves as Punjab's official training and research wing, opening up an important connection for FCCU's own Water Analysis Center established with Korean funding; the MOU should also expand internship and research opportunities for Forman faculty and staff.





Finally, we renewed for another year the MOU signed with the Goethe Institute last year to facilitate German language competency exams in Forman, ensuring that FCCU continues to contribute as an approved testing center for those aspiring to study in Germany; thanks especially to Ruth Park who heads Forman's Language Development Center for her work in expanding Forman's involvement in German as well as other languages.

NEWS FROM RESEARCH AND OTHER CENTERS

FCCU's Population Research Center (PRC) in partnership with the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and Dastak Society, hosted the Quarterly Meeting of the Punjab Forum of Women with Disabilities (PFWWD) on July 27. Serving as the Secretariat for PFWWD, the PRC used the occasion to bring together individuals and organizations focused on disability issues to establish a governance structure as well as set strategic directions.

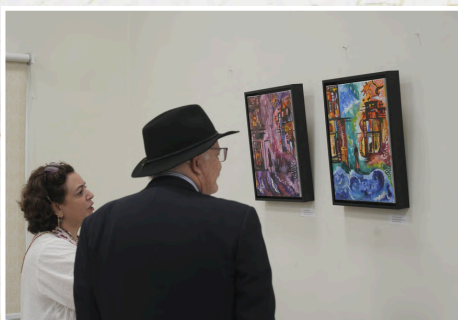
PRC Director Dr. Vaqas Ali, UNFPA Provincial Coordinator Tania Durrani, and Dastak Society Executive Director Saba Shaikh spoke on the occasion, highlighting the importance of creating an inclusive forum to amplify the voices of women with disabilities. A special session was also organized to mark World Intellectual Disability Day 2026, with a special focus on women and girls.



Forman's Center for Learning and Teaching (CLT) headed by Dr. Rukhsana Zia continues to organize and implement a number of activities including **Research Methodology Course, 2026**, launched over the summer as part of a strategic partnership with the HEC's **National Academy of Higher Education (NAHE)**.

Statistics from that course tell an impressive story: 16,971 live participants engaged, including more than 14,000 from Pakistan. Also, **25 expert speakers** (including nine from Pakistan and sixteen from abroad) volunteered their time and expertise on a pro bono basis, delivering a total of 22 sessions.

Joining with Dr. Trimble, Dr. Gloria, and Dr. Song from the Office of the Vice Rector for Academic Affairs, the CLT once again played a key role in organizing this year's *Faculty Retreat*. Focused largely on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its role in higher education, the event included an address by Dr. Amjad Saqib, founder and CEO of the Akhuwat Foundation; several international speakers via Zoom; and a taped message from Syed Babar Ali who recently turned one hundred years old, paying tribute to Forman and its continuing contributions to education in Pakistan.



The Forman Psychological Services Center (FPSC) organized a three-day Certification Course during August 18-20 on *Hands on Training on Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis*, led both online and in-person by Usman Arshad, a researcher at the University of Manchester in the UK.



Also, an FPSC team visited the Bali Memorial Trust Old Home as part of its ongoing commitment to community outreach and the promotion of mental wellbeing among older adults. During the visit, an FPSC Clinical Psychologist conducted counseling and mental health awareness sessions among elderly women in the home, focusing especially on emotional well-being, practical coping strategies, and challenges associated with aging.



In addition, on August 7 the FPSC welcomed undergraduate Psychology students to a *Community Mental Health Orientation* session led by Syeda Kana, Consultant Clinical Psychologist.



Partnering with German Cooperation, Green Club, Punjab Climate Action Network, and the Pak Mission Society, Forman's Center for Public Policy and Governance (CPPG) headed by Dr. Noel Khokhar convened an Advocacy Dialogue on August 12 centered on youth as part of the Child-Driven Climate Action Project.



Dr. Asher Ramish who leads Forman's micro-credentialing SKILL program, reports that the very first such course -- *Digital Economics: E-Commerce, Freelancing, and FinTech Foundations* -- was successfully completed, led by Dr. Abdul Jalil Khan from Forman's Economics Department. As Dr. Asher describes it, "Thanks to Dr. Khan's dynamic, activity-based approach, our pioneer cohort of seven students didn't just learn -- they thrived".

As an aside, in my view Forman's SKILL Center initiative, as it is more usually referred to, has one of the best acronyms ever: "Success, Knowledge, Innovation and Lifelong Learning"!



Forman's Center for Biblical Teaching and Research (CBTR) headed by Dr. Kenneth Pervaiz hosted *Zer-e-Behas*, a Q&A panel discussion led by four distinguished educators and theologians and designed to engage on questions related to the Christian faith.



In addition, CBTR organized an academic symposium titled *The Theological Significance of Honor in the Gospel of John*, led by MIK Publishing House Director Dr. Peter Calvin and involving 34 participants including students, alumni, and others.



Also, CBTR organized a workshop involving 22 participants titled *Faith at Work: The Heart of Professional Excellence*, led by Dr. Keneth and Aruna Pervaiz, providing an opportunity to share insights on integrating Christian faith with professional life and pursuing excellence in the work place.

Finally, Vice Rector Dr. Douglas Trimble attended the final certificate ceremony on August 21 marking the end of a three-week course on *Interpreting the Bible*, led by Dr Keneth Pervaiz and involving more than 40 participants including one from Balochistan and another who was seventy years old.



CAMPUS VISITORS

It was a delight to host German Ambassador HE Ina Lepel to Forman on August 20; this is her second time as Germany's Ambassador to Pakistan, having also served as Germany's Ambassador to Japan and Indonesia, among other assignments. Thanks especially to Dean of Faculty of Natural Sciences Dr. Samina Mehnaz and her team who organized the visit.



The Ambassador's visit also provided a convenient opportunity to reflect on Forman's German connections including Dr. Daniel Lanz who teaches in our Religious Studies Department and is a German citizen; a number of Humboldt Fellows among our faculty who have studied or conducted research in Germany; and others with strong German connections among both our faculty (such as Dean of Humanities Dr. Altaf Ullah Khan) and staff (such as Ms. Badia Raza, Chief Marketing and Outreach Officer).

Other connections that strengthen Forman's ties with Germany include the annual Falling Walls competition, encouraging entrepreneurship among students; the equipping of Forman's state-of-the-art Media Center; our connections with the Goethe Institute, helping to facilitate German language instruction as well as the establishment of a German language testing center; and the donation of an impressive list of German equipment to our various science labs.



It was also an honor to welcome Forman graduate Imran Ashraf back to our campus during his recent return visit to Pakistan. While I reported earlier in the *Rector's Update* that he had been elected Deputy Mayor of Crawley near London's Gatwick Airport, it was a delight to meet him in person and show him around our campus. Adnan Ilyas (Head of Advancement & Alumni Office) and Dr. Aneel Samuel (Urdu Department Head and a former classmate) also joined in our meeting as well as the campus tour that followed, which included a visit to Imran Ashraf's former Hostel, Griswold Hall.

FCCU Board member and business leader Iftikhar Shirazi dropped by during the month as well, in part to discuss contributions that the Atlas Endowment continues to make to Forman dating back to at least 2010, leading to the establishment of an endowed scholarship fund now exceeding 20 million rupees that has already benefitted a number of our students.

In addition, I welcomed Forman graduate Najeeb Ullah Ghauri, Chairman and CEO of Netsol and another contributor to endowed scholarships at Forman, providing an opportunity to catch up on both his Nasdaq-listed company and his recent visit to Islamabad as part of a delegation involving more than 60 US and Pakistani business leaders that included meetings with the Prime Minister and his entire cabinet.



I also welcomed the opportunity to meet Dr. Arif Hussain, a proud Formanite and Trustee of two FCCU endowed scholarships established by his brother Dr. Riaz Hussain, a Forman graduate and former Forman faculty member who later taught at the University of Scranton.

Known as Sagheer-e-Manzil scholarships, one endowment is named after his parents and the other after his wife Atiya's parents, together combining to provide fully funded scholarships to students from five Gujranwala schools, attended by either he or his wife: Government Islamia College; Government AD Model High School; Government MA Islamic High School; Government AM Islamic High School Number 1; and FD Girls Islamia High School.

I also met with Pink Ribbon Pakistan Founder and CEO Omer Aftab, joined by Pink Ribbon Youth Program Officer Faiqa Ahmer as well as Dr. Sarah Bashir and Lynn Asaph Din from Mercy Health Center. Among other things, we talked about Forman's participation in the Pink Ribbon campaign planned for October to raise awareness about breast cancer; very possibly, this partnership will support diagnostic screening on the Forman campus later this year as well.

Other visitors during August included Old Formanite Samuel Kamran, arriving from Norway; his father, the late Urdu Professor and Assistant Warden (Kennedy Hall) Emmanuel Siraj, served at FCCU from 1970 until 1985. Throughout that time and beyond, Samuel Kamran and other members of his family lived in one of our Assistant Warden residences, essentially meaning that Samuel and his sister grew up with their parents on the Forman campus!



STUDENT NEWS



Forman Bachelor's student Angel Fayyaz Raza provided a gratifying readout following her participation in a seminar in Morocco as part of the the Global Liberal Arts Alliance's (GLAA) one-year Leadership in action program. Expressing appreciation to Forman's International Education Office, she also used her time to build bridges between Morocco, Forman, and Pakistan.



As Angel describes it *"The week in Morocco was an unforgettable experience. I had the privilege of connecting with students from different countries and cultures, learning from diverse perspectives, and building friendships that I will always cherish. Every session and every interaction challenged me to think more deeply and gave me the opportunity to reflect on the various themes that I will continue to explore through my project over the coming year"*.

Fourth semester Business major Muhammad Bodla from Okara contacted me with a reflection on his personal journey at Forman, starting with his time as an Intermediate student and continuing into the Bachelor's program; among other things, that journey has included serving as a volunteer photographer for our Marketing and Communication Office where he has covered more than 75 events and produced more than 20 videos.

Beyond this impressive volunteer work, his time at Forman has involved participation in Debating, Dramatic, History, and Character Building societies while also engaging during the summer in community service visits to various orphanages. Finally, I note that he was part of the Punjab Police Volunteer Internship Program, producing more than ten official videos for them.

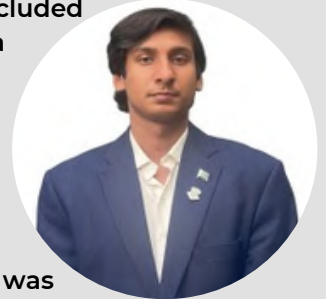
Some of Muhammad's work can be viewed [here](#) and [here](#). And, apart from everything else, he also found time to complete an 18-month AI Diploma Course offered by the Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC)!





I appreciated hearing from Fatima Aziz, a PhD student in Biotechnology in Forman's Kausar Abdullah Malik School of Life Sciences who received a Certificate and Digital Badge from NASA following completion of virtual training via NASA's Open Science Essentials program; as she describes it, *"My long-term goal is to combine biotechnology with computational and open-science approaches to explore biological data and identify hidden patterns in genes and biological systems"*.

Undergraduate Syed Hassan Abbas Bukhari is once again included in this month's *Rector's Update*, this time for participating in a research project conducted by *Real Me Pakistan* that included a visit to their corporate office where he met two fellow Formanites, Suhaib Hameed and Ms. Shanzeh (Class of '16). He also briefed student Aaroz Aslam as he departs for the next stage of his academic journey, having received a scholarship to study at Lingnan University in Hong Kong where Syed Bukhari studied last year.



While many departments produce newsletters, this month I was especially impressed with one issued recently by our Population Research Center (PRC) which included an article on FCCU final year student (and PRC research assistant) Yalmaz Alam who served as an intern at Pakistan's Human Rights Commission; received a US State Department award to study Public Policy at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst; was an Exchange Student at Lingnan University in Hong Kong; and will soon present his undergraduate thesis at the University of Edinburgh!

As I am reminded all the time by these and many other examples, Forman students are truly amazing!

ALUMNI UPDATE



Formanite Tassaduq Hussain Jillani, former Chief Justice of Pakistan, shared a truly unique link that will fascinate anyone who watches it. Click [here](#) to watch.

Class of '24 Forman MPhil Political Science graduate Arooba Younus was admitted to the Public Health PhD program at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, accompanied by a full tuition waiver and generous living stipend provided under Hong Kong's PhD Fellowship Scheme, the Chinese University of Hong Kong's Vice-Chancellors PhD Scholarship Scheme, and the Belt and Road Scholarship Scheme.

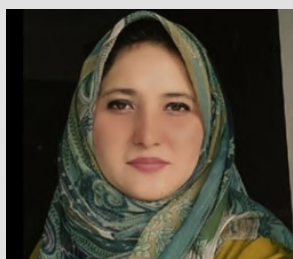


Paying tribute to her mentor Associate Professor Dr. Abeeda Qureshi, Arooba praised the Political Science Department for providing *"a stimulating and supportive academic environment that nurtured my intellectual growth and research capabilities"*. Social Science Dean Dr. Sikandar Hayat also congratulated Arooba on her "remarkable success," noting her achievement in "securing prestigious scholarships" to pursue her higher education abroad.



I welcomed the opportunity to meet with Naade Ali who completed his Intermediate at Forman in 2011; a Research Assistant to Dr. Marvin Weinbaum at the [Middle East Institute](#), he also serves as a Senior Policy Fellow at the [US-Pakistan Policy Forum](#).

During our meeting he mentioned that Mudassir Riaz, the new Air Attache at the Pakistan Embassy in Washington, DC is a Forman graduate. As part of our ongoing conversation, he also commented that *"I have found that Formanites are truly a family of their own, always ready to lend a helping hand to one another"*!



Meanwhile, Ms. Gul-e-Zahra (BS Chemistry, Class of '19), Dr. Robert F. Tebbe Gold Medal awardee and "topper" in her Forman Chemistry department, has continued her entrepreneurial journey by founding the Lahore Candle Company, a start-up specializing in scented candles.

Forman graduate Dr. Marilyn Naeem, Adjunct Professor at Stonehill College, attended the annual American Scientific Affiliation (ASA) Conference at Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts. As part of the Local Arrangements Committee she helped organize an MIT Museum Visit and Whale Watching Field Trip to *"welcome attendees to explore both Boston and God's incredible creation"*.



In addition, she presented her research on the use of chemistry to advance mental health therapeutics while also serving as an Early Career Scientist panelist, sharing experiences and encouraging other young scientists in navigating their early careers at the intersection of science and faith.



Finally, Dr. Naeem notes that other highlights included connecting with two other attendees with Forman connections including ASA President Dr. Janel Curry (who is on the Friends of Forman Board and previously served Forman as a Fulbright Specialist) and Dr. Anita A. Azeem (a Forman graduate who taught at Forman and now serves as Assistant Professor of Psychology at Carson Newman University).

OTHER NEWS

Congratulations to Badia Raza and her colleagues in Marketing and Outreach, including Zainab Sanik and her Admissions team; Vice Rector Dr. Ivan Suneel and his College team; and many others for launching the Fall semester with impressive Intermediate enrollment numbers, exceeding our target figure and registering an entering class of more than 2,700, the largest such entering class ever.

Impressive results have been achieved at the Bachelor's level as well, most targets being met or exceeded. In this case, the total entering first-year class numbers well over 1,300, with interest in Computer Science registering at an exceptionally high level. Here, too, many people and teams across our institution contributed including Vice Rector Dr. Douglas Trimble as well as other colleagues throughout the university.

Light of Hope School Principal Furry George reports that all 12 graduating students (10 girls and 2 boys) who took this year's Lahore Board Matriculation Examination passed, one receiving an A grade and six others receiving B grades.

Forman's Campus Counseling Center (CCC) conducted an awareness workshop at Light of Hope School on *Understanding Bullying: Practical Strategy for Education* on August 18, facilitated by Campus Counselor Interns Anoosha Zeno and Zaib Sohail.





In addition, the CCC organized a Psychological First Aid (PFA) Training Workshop for the staff of Mercy Health Center on August 6. Facilitated by Ms. Fizzah (Student Discipline, Counseling and Support Officer), the workshop was organized to build confidence, impart skills, and strengthen the response in emergency situations involving medical or emotional distress.

Thanks to the efforts of Chief Internal Auditor Jamshaid Akhtar, FCCU has now been recognized by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) as a Training Organization outside Practice (TOoP), making Forman the first educational institution in Pakistan to be so designated.

The accreditation enables students pursuing a Chartered Accountancy Qualification to complete their mandatory professional training at Forman, equipping them with not only practical experience and technical competence but also the ethical values needed to pursue a successful Chartered Accountant career. Several members of Forman's Executive team attended the TOoP certificate hand-over ceremony, along with ICAP President Muhammad Samiullah Siddique and a number of ICAP Council members.



Forman's Business Incubation Center (BIC), part of our Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), held an application screening process to review student participants for the Punjab Youth Innovation and Incubation Competition 2026, resulting in the selection of three teams (Qanoon-e-Nisa, Cutilytics AI, and Eldera Link) to represent FCCU at the event. A special thanks to Waqar Azeem for serving as Focal Person and Dr. Hassan Amir Shah for chairing the screening process.

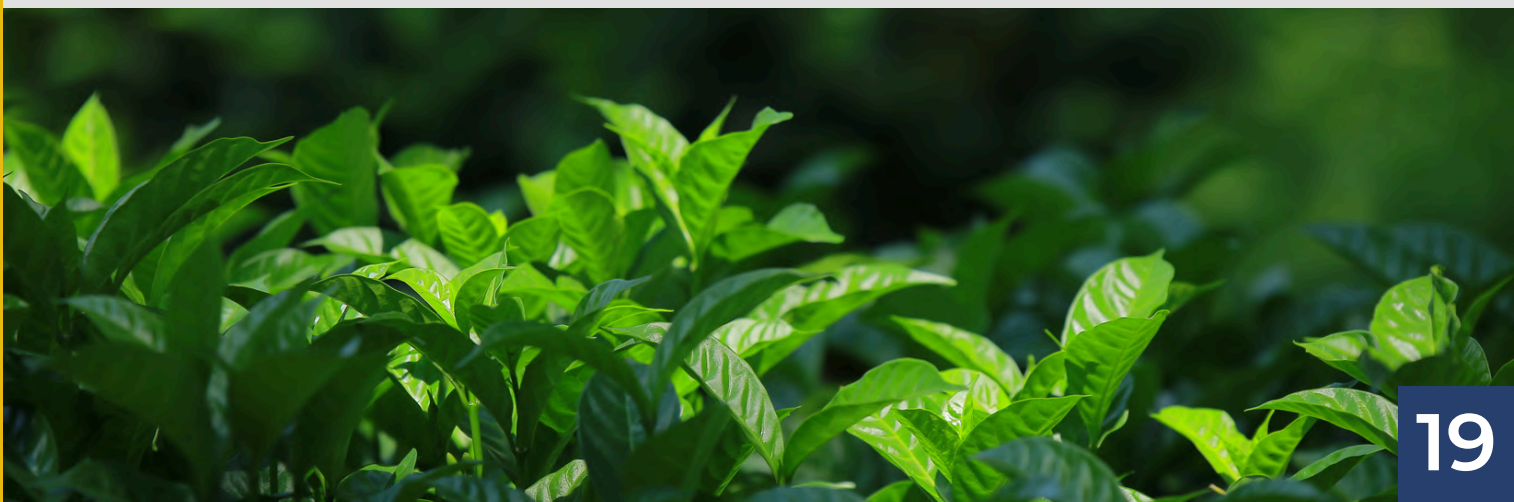
On the environmental front, we appreciate the effort made by the Provincial Motor Vehicle Department to provide emission testing on campus via their mobile van, ensuring that all our vehicles under the supervision of Suneel Chohan have now received their emissions testing certificates for this year.

Looking ahead, Forman's Psychology Department has set November 4-6, 2026 as the date for its *Second International Psychology Conference*. Also, Forman will host the *Fifth International Conference on Chemical & Pharmaceutical Sciences* on January 19-20, 2027.

Outside visits involving other university campuses during August that I was privileged to be part of included one to Government College University (to participate in the monthly meeting of Lahore-area Vice Chancellors and Rectors) and another to Akhuwat College University in Kasur at the invitation of founder Dr. Muhammad Amjad Saqib, in this case joined by FCCU Associate Vice Rector Dr. Song.

A special shoutout to CLT Head Dr. Rukhsana Zia who drew my attention to Harvard University's *Human Flourishing Project*, a matter of special interest to me because it focuses on character development for educational purposes while viewing wisdom as one of the key markers of character.

As highlighted in the article I wrote for *The Nation* earlier this month, in my view the acquisition of wisdom should go hand-in-hand with the imparting of knowledge as one of the key roles and responsibilities of a university -- a role and responsibility that I am gratified to learn is now seemingly receiving renewed interest at Harvard as well!



Finally, it was wonderful to wake up one morning to read an unsolicited e-mail from Dr. Sana Illahe who studied at LUMS and is now on the faculty of Virginia Tech. Having taught a course this summer on *Global Feminisms* for Forman's Philosophy Department, she commended Forman students for their "curiosity, engagement, academic rigor, and dedication"; adding that they were "impressive and reflect very positively on the standards being cultivated in FCCU"; and ending her note by congratulating both Forman and the Philosophy Department for "recruiting and cultivating such exemplary students"!



DR. JONATHAN ADDLETON
RECTOR