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Dear Readers,

Assalamu Alaikum! Isra News is an official organ of Isra University. This quarterly newsletter is designed to keep the Isra affiliated community well connected, and at the same time bring the readers up to date with the various co-curricular and extra-curricular activities taking place at the University along with the educational and social welfare programs pursued by the parent organization, Isra Islamic Foundation.

In order to keep Isra News well populated, we rely on contribution of news items from the community members. When sending news items, please make sure to include the essential elements of an event: what took place, whom it concerns the most, where and when it took place. You are encouraged to send your news items by email to the address given below.

Last but not the least, your news contributions are important to us, so help us keep the Isra community connected by contributing regularly to Isra News. We appreciate your interest and contributions, and hope that you will find Isra News to be informative and pleasant to read.

Best Regards,

Irfan Haroon

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ISRA NEWS

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The first international Neuro Rehabilitation & 3rd National Rehabilitation Conference was held at Isra Institute of Rehabilitation Sciences, Islamabad Campus from 31st October to 2nd November 2014.

Its basic purpose was to promote Entrepreneurship and Professionalism in the field of Rehabilitation Sciences. Neuro Rehabilitation conference was aimed to highlight the challenges to Neuro Rehabilitation and its planning and effective management. These three days conferences were organized by the enthusiastic team of IIRS (Isra Institute of Rehabilitation Sciences) under the supervision of Principal of IIRS Dr. Muhammad Naveed Babur.

The conference was sponsored by HEC (Higher Education Commission) Pakistan, ISRA University Hyderabad & Karachi Campus, IIRS, WFNR, (World Federation Neuro Rehabilitation), Shaigan Pharma, PSNR (Pakistan Society for Neuro Rehabilitation and International Journal of Rehabilitation (IJRS).

Seventeen (20) research papers, (7) plenary sessions with (21) key note speakers and, Four (4) workshops were conducted in the ICNR & NRC. More than (350) National and International Professionals attended the conference from the national & International Platform.

WFNR played an important role in organizing the conference. In the inauguration ceremony of the conference Prof. Stephnie Clark, President WFNR, welcomed all the participants and congratulated the management committee of the conference for organizing it successfully through video link from Switzerland. President of World Federation of Neuro Rehabilitation, Prof. Stephnie Clark participated & delivered her message to the Neuro Rehabilitation participants and elaborated upon the previous & current Neuro Rehabilitation scenario internationally.

Dr. Muhammad Naveed Babur and his team appreciated the continuing efforts of Pro-Vice Chancellor of Isra University Dr. Altaf Ali G. Sheikh for the 1st International Neuro Rehabilitation & 3rd national rehabilitation conference. The chief guest Dr. Khalil Ahmed, Chairman Pakistan Sciences Foundation inaugurated the conference. Chairman, ICNR & NRC Dr. Naveed Babur enlightened the participants about the various aspects of the conference.

WFNR Vice president (Gulf Region) Dr. Sabahat Wasti participated in the conference. On that occasion Foundation of Pakistan Society of Neuro Rehabilitation was laid which was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Khalil Ahmed Chairman of Pakistan Science Foundation.

Dr. Faisal Naqvi from Canada conducted a workshop on the topic of osteopathy & neurological dysfunction. Dr. Atif Khan from England conducted a workshop about ultrasound guided Musculoskeletal injection & Dr. Sabahat Wasti from UAE conducted the workshop on the topic-establishment of neuro rehabilitation in developing countries.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Wasay from Agha Khan University organized a workshop on burden of stroke in Pakistan Dr. Shaista Habib Ullah, Director of National institute of Rehabilitation Medicine, Islamabad, a key note speaker talked about disabilities related to women effects of October 2005 earth quake.

The closing ceremony of the ICNR & NRC, 2014 conference was done by Chancellor of Isra University Prof. Dr. Asadullah Kazi at the end Dr. Muhammad Naveed Babur delivered a vote of thanks to all the delegates, professional and participants from Pakistan & world over.
Creativity and Vision are the main pillars for running academics programs with success and also for the improvement in the academic activities. Keeping these two goals in mind the Dr. Muhammad Asif, Principal, Isra Institute of Rehabilitation Sciences, Isra University, Karachi Campus under the guidance of Dr. Muhammad Riaz Baig Chughtai, General Secretary of Pakistan Physiotherapy Society initiated the process of Academic Development about a year ago and after many rounds of lengthy and fruitful discussion with Iranian Physical Therapists, both of them finally decided to visit Iran for the Promotion and Projection of Physical Therapy Programs in Iran & Pakistan from 12th to 17th October, 2014.

In the 1st Phase of the tour, they reached “SHIRAZ “, Iran- and had meetings with the Head of the Shiraz College of Rehabilitation Sciences and also with the Inspector of the Iranian Physical Therapy Association. During these meetings they exchanged the Progress of the Physical Therapy Profession in both countries & they were very happy with the Professional Growth of Physical Therapy in Pakistan & also liked the Educational Programs at Isra Institute Of Rehabilitation Sciences, Karachi Campus.

On 13th October, 2014, Isra Institute of Rehabilitation Sciences, arranged an Entry Test and Interviews at “Shiraz” for the interested candidates in “Post Professional DPT program” at Karachi Campus.

The delegation proceeded Tehran for the 2nd Phase of the tour, and on the 14th October, 2014 they attended a very important meeting at “Iranian Medical Council “ Head Office at Tehran, with the Head of the Council, Dr. Zaali and his colleagues in the presence of Dr. Kaveh (Councilor in International Affairs) alongwith the Head of the “ Iranian Physical Therapy Council “ Dr. Ismeel Ebrahimi accompanied by board of directors.

In this meeting, Head of the Iranian Medical Council, Dr. Zaali & Head of the Iranian Physical Therapy Association, Dr. Ebrahimi welcomed the delegates from Pakistan & discussed the issues of Physical Therapy Profession at Iran in detail and later on Dr. Riaz Baig Chughtai explained the Progress of Physical Therapy Education in Pakistan from beginning till date & Dr. Muhammad Asif highlighted the DPT and Post Professional-DPT Programs at ISRA University in detail. The Members of the Council & Association also raised various questions, which were properly addressed & replied.

The Members of the Iranian Medical Council & Iranian Physical Therapy Association, appericiated the Progress of Physical Therapy Profession in Pakistan and also Appraised the Academic Programs of Physical Therapy at Isra University and specially the “Post Professional Doctor of Physical Therapy Program”. In the same evening Dr. Muhammad Asif & Dr. M. Riaz Baig Chughtai visited the Head Office of the Iranian Physical Therapy Association & had a detailed meeting & discussion with the “Board of Directors” of the Association “later on they agreed to finalize a “Memorandum of Co-operation” between the Iranian Physical Therapy Association and Isra University, Karachi Campus & it was signed in a small but an organized ceremony at the Association Office.

In real means & true sense, it is a Great Achievement by the Isra University, Karachi Campus that an agreement has been signed between the two neighbouring countries for Professional Academic Program and this is the first Time in the History of IRAN that their Association has signed an Agreement with a Pakistani University and it is also a Milestone in the history of Isra University and specially for the Karachi Campus.

On 15th October 2014, another Entry Test and Interviews were arranged in Tehran for Post Professional DPT Program at isra University, Karachi Campus in which 21 Physiotherapists from all over the Iran participated and in the end keeping the transparency and the merit, result was finalized & displayed at Association Office, according to the result, out of total 28 candidates, 16 candidates were selected for the Post Professional DPT Program (Starting from January 2015).

The officials of the Iranian Physical Therapy Association showed their excellent hospitality, co-operation and support in the entire journey and the promise to continue this cooperation and academic collaboration was made by both of the parties.
The IEEE Isra Student Branch organized iCube 2014 on 24 November 2014 at Isra University, Hyderabad, where 1200-odd students from across the nation participated and made it a story of success. iCube is a Competition that gives an opportunity to the young innovators to invent an innovative idea as reflected in its tagline, “IDEA, INNOVATION, INVENTION”, which also understandably gives rise to its name “iCube”.

Nabeel Abid, Chair, IEEE Isra Student Branch welcomed the participants at the mega event in his welcome speech at the opening ceremony held at Asadullah Kazi Auditorium. Following his speech, Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Engineering & Management Sciences; and Chief Patron, iCube 2014 addressed the participants and wishing them luck noted, 'It is such an overwhelming feeling to see so many students from so diverse institutes gathered here to make the most of this dynamic event. I wish you all the very best of luck!'

Later, a flash back video of iCube 2013 was played reviving the memories of the preceding year's event. Proceeding the ceremony, Engr. Saad Khan Baloch, Coordinator, iCube 2014; and Counselor, IEEE Isra Student Branch, Pakistan apprised the participants of the different competitions and relayed all necessary information. Finally, Dr. A. G. Kazi, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Isra University, Hyderabad who was invited as the chief guest of the event officially inaugurated iCube by cutting the ribbon. This time around iCube comprised of 22 versatile competitions for students ranging from school to college and university. The participating students represented nearly seventy institutes which included Govt. College University, Faisalabad; University of Engineering & Technology, Lahore; SEECS, Islamabad; MNS UET, Multan; National University of Emerging Sciences (FAST), Hamdard University, Bahria University, PAF KIET, SZABIST, DHA Suffa University, Domino Center, Iqra University, Karachi School of Art, Preston University, and Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology of Karachi; Virtual University, HIAST, BITE, APTECH, and Avenaz of Hyderabad; Mehran University of Engineering Technology, University of Sindh, Center of Excellence in Arts and Designing, and Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences of Jamshoro; and many other colleges and schools of Sindh Province.

The different competitions that iCube offered pertained to different fields and disciplines to cater to the needs of every participating student for instance Hardware Exhibition, Software Exhibition, Programming King, Circuit Designing, Logo Designing, Web Development, Arts Competition, Photography, Gaming Mania, Short Film, Speed Wiring, Poster Presentation, Robo Race, Scenario Writing, Business Idea, Techno Idea, Spelling Bee, Minute to Win it, Quiz Competition, Textile Designing, Sculpture Creation and Ad-War.

The daylong event finally culminated in the grand closing ceremony that featured a fun cube section offering different eatables and games for the entertainment of the attendees. The ceremony, which was organized at the Isra Sports Complex, was attended by the chief guest, Prof. Dr. Ghulamqadir Kazi, Vice Chancellor, Isra University; Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi, participants, guests, sponsors, faculty members, judges and the organizers. Addressing the massive gathering, the chief guest expressed his amazement to see such a huge crowd and congratulated the winners and runners up. He also encouraged the participants to actively participate in such events for their own development. Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi and Engr. Saad Khan Baloch also spoke on the occasion.

The chief guest presented awards and souvenirs to the winners, runners up, sponsors, organizers and dignitaries. At the end, Amaad Soomro, Vice President, IEEE Isra Student Branch and Hamza Malah, Secretary, IEEE Isra Student Branch, very befittingly summed up iCube 2014 and the President of IEEE Isra Student branch, Nabeel Abid presented the vote of thanks acknowledging the efforts of the participants and organizers.
The 2nd Annual Students Health Research conference and poster presentation of 3rd Year MBBS students of Isra University Hyderabad Campus was held on 16 October 2014 at Asadullah Auditorium, Isra University presided by Prof. Dr. Ghulamqadir Kazi, Vice Chancellor, Isra University while Prof. Azam Hussain Yousfani was chief guest.

The theme of the conference was the “Role of Medical Students in Health Research Promotion in Pakistan.” This was second time that student research conference was organized at the university under the aegis of Department of Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine & Allied Medical Sciences.

18 Posters and 8 power point presentations were included in the main program. The research topics were based on data collected from patients visiting Isra Hospital OPD and admitted in the ward and coming for laboratory tests, X-ray, ultrasound and diagnosis. This year 18 different research topics were given to students to fill the questionnaire and pro-forma from the patients about their diseases. These were analyzed and written in the form of research studies and poster were made and students presented their research work before large gathering comprising medical, dental and nursing students and postgraduates students of Isra University.

Conference was also linked with video conferences system with Al-Tibri Medical College Karachi Campus and Al-Nafees Medical College Islamabad Campus. The important research topics presented by students were: anemia in pregnant women, waterborne diseases, dengue fever, polio mellitus malaria, cousin marriages and birth defects and congenital malformation, safe drinking water and mineral waters.

The guest of honor Prof. Dr. Ghulamqadir Kazi while addressing the conference, appreciated the students' research topics and their scientific presentation on poster and multimedia and told that in future without research work and publishing papers in journal medical students will not be awarded MBBS or BDS degrees this trend is already initiated in the developed countries he advised the teacher to organize journal club meetings at under graduate and post graduate levels regularly to promote research culture among the students and sharpener that data interpretation and writing skills.

The Chief Guest Prof: Dr. Azam Hussain Yousfani Vice Chancellor, Peoples University of Medical and Health Sciences (PUMHS) Shaheed Benazirabad addressing the gathering highlighted the importance of research in medical field commenting on the students work he said Isra students are one of the best students in the province and their research interest and quality teaching work was excellent.

The students groups who won the poster presentation prizes were Miss Sumbul Memon, Miss Nairjis Raza Halepoto and Miss. Sadia Mishal. Oral presentation prizes were won by Mr. Faisal Mehmood, Mr. Naveed Jamali and Miss. Payal Chandani. The three posters were awarded cash prize and three best presentations were also awarded cash and participation certificates.

The penal of the judges who selected the best poster presentations and oral presentations were Prof: Dr. Fateh Din Khand, Dr. Seema Mumtaz, Dr. Khalida Naz Memon and Dr. Arejo from Isra University.
“ZONG-Innovative Pakistan-2014” a business plan competition for academic institutes and universities was held on 10th of November, 2014 by Isra Entrepreneurial Society in collaboration with Ball State University, USA and in partnership with ZONG CMPak Limited with objective to foster entrepreneurship culture among business graduates for sustainable economic growth and development in Pakistan.

This competition is an annual event which provides knowledge based platform for young future entrepreneurs to brainstorm innovative investment ideas and their feasibility for greater productivity. Isra University Entrepreneurship Center also invited the shortlisted participating teams for one-day training seminar on “How To Prepare Successful Business Plan” which was held on 24th of October, 2014 in collaboration with Ball State University, USA and SMEDA. An interactive session enabled participants with computation tools and techniques to prepare an effective business plan for successful venture.

An industry participation by TiE Karachi Chapter, SMEDA and Invest2innovate exposed participants to venture opportunities available in Pakistan for young entrepreneurs. A jury panel consisted of representatives from SMEDA, PTCL and Soneri Bank Limited declared “Tiffin Express” from Isra University as winner followed by first runner up “Rice Husk Power System” from Shah Latif University, Khairpur and second runner up shared between “Alert 24/7 Infotainment Channel” from SZABIST and “Good Pakistan Resources” from Isra University.

Dr. Hameedullah Kazi, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Engineering & Management Sciences & Patron-in-Chief of Isra Entrepreneurial Society by addressing the august house during concluding and prize distribution ceremony emphasized the vital role of successful entrepreneurs in socio-economic advancement and development of a society and encouraged the participants to focus on the real needs and problems of the society with viable solutions of market value. He appreciated the team work of Isra University Entrepreneurship Society under supervision of Mr. Javaid Dars, Assistant Professor & Patron Isra Entrepreneurial Society and Ms. Najma Soomro, Assistant Professor & Co-Patron Isra University Entrepreneurial Society for organizing successful training sessions and competition on the platform of “ZONG-Innovative Pakistan – 2014”
World Heart Day, annually celebrated on September 29th, inform people around the globe that heart disease and stroke are the world's leading causes of death, claiming 17.3 million lives each year. The event also aims to promote preventative measures that reduce the risk of cardiovascular diseases. Each year's celebrations have a different theme, reflecting key issues and topics relating to heart health. 2014's theme was creating “Heart-Healthy Environments”.

Coordinator of Hyderabad Chapter, Prof. Dr. Feroz Memon and Department of Cardiology, Isra University Hospital jointly organized a program on 2nd October 2014 in order to celebrate World Heart Day with a theme “Heart Choices Not Hard Choices”, at Isra University Hospital, Hyderabad in collaboration with PHL. The Guest of honor Prof. Dr. Asadullah Kazi, Chancellor Isra University emphasized that the cardiovascular disease and the stroke are the world's largest killers. He said more people die annually from cardiovascular diseases than any other diseases. Dr. Kazi said according to estimate more than 20 million people representing more than 30% of all global diseases die every year from cardiovascular disease. He said this clearly manifests that there is a need to launch a massive awareness program to circumvent this ailment. Dr. Kazi informed more than 45% of the adult population of Pakistan, over the age of 45 years, suffers from heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes; and there seems to be a rise in these life threatening ailments every year. 

Prof. Dr. Feroz Memon and Dr. Nandlal Rathi talked extensively on preventive strategies and provided awareness to the participants to have healthy diet, say no to smoking, be physically active, and know your number.

The speakers said there is a great role all of us as a single individual and as a community. People those who are attached with medical profession have a greater role and responsibility. Dr. Feroz Memon emphasized on medical students, staff nurses, and health related personnel should also take responsibility for the prevention of this health related burden. The event was honored by the Prof. Dr. Asadullah Kazi, Chancellor Isra University, Dr. Hameedullah Kazi, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Engineering & Management Sciences, Isra University and Dr. Abdul Ghani Kazi, Pro Vice Chancellor, Health Sciences, Isra University. Medical students, paramedical staff, staff nurses, and other health related personals participated in this awareness and preventive program to mark the World Heart Day and encourage healthy lifestyles.
IEEE Isra Student Branch organized a seminar in collaboration with Career Development Office on 24 October 2014. The seminar was titled as Seminar on Freelancing & Career Development which was based on how a person can earn as a freelancer and can develop a career. The seminar was held at the Asadullah Kazi Auditorium with a participation of nearly 300 participants from the students and faculty members of Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology & Faculty of Commerce, Economics & Management Sciences.

The talks given in the seminar were by Engr. M. Noman Ahmed, CEO, UFC and Mr. Zafar Siddiqui, Assistant Professor, Management Sciences Department, Isra University. The presentations were very informative and interesting. The General Secretary, IEEE Isra Student Branch, Hamza Malah, gave the welcome address, Chair IEEE Isra Student Branch, Nabeel Abid and Ebad Qureshi briefed the audience about a project IEEE Academic in which IEEE Isra Student Branch is involved with IEEE International.

The Pro-Vice Chancellor, Engineering & Management Sciences, Isra University, Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi, was the chief guest on the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi, who also happens to be the Head of Executive Council, IEEE Isra Student Branch briefed about intrapreneurship and entrepreneurship. He also encouraged the students to participate in IEEE Academic, freelancing activities but not at the cost of their studies.

A flash back video of IEEE Isra Student Branch activities was also played. Engr. Saad Khan Baloch, Counselor IEEE Isra Student Branch, Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering Department, gave the vote of thanks. In the end the worthy chief guest, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Engineering & Management Sciences, Isra University, Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi distributed Shields, Souvenirs & Certificates.

The event also had a healthy media coverage including Express News and Tech TV. The event partners for the seminar were UFC and CDO.
Isra University Job Fair in Hyderabad

The first ever job fair of Hyderabad city was organized on November 27, 2014 by Isra University Career Development Society. It was organized with a thought to create more employment opportunities for the graduates of Hyderabad. The job fair was held at cricket ground, Isra University, Hyderabad. The event was inaugurated by Chancellor, Isra University, Prof. Dr. Asadullah Kazi accompanied by Pro-vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi.

The event commenced around 9:30 PST and continued till late in the afternoon. The event was sponsored by Kazi Nizam & Co., Ajwa Cooking Oil and Nizam Energy. More than 25 companies from different sectors including Banking, Automobiles, Construction/Builders, Insurance, N.G.Os, Software/Hardware houses, Pharmaceutical, Media Houses, Academia/Education and Consumer Products participated in the job fair and facilitated the job seekers by apprising them of vacancies and other company information.

The fair was basically divided into 5 sections, namely, The Recruitment Corner, in which the recruitment process was being carried out; The Students Project Corner, which displayed projects made by the students of Isra University; The Sponsors Corner that housed the sponsors of the event; The Food and Beverages Corner consisting of many food stalls, and The Media Corner. Students from different universities of Hyderabad actively participated in this notable event of Isra University. Different media organizations were also present at the event to cover it, which was broadcasted on television channels.
The Medical Education Department in collaboration with the Research Center for Training and Development (RCTD) conducted a two-day workshop for postgraduate students on “Literature Review Made Easy” from 7 to 8 of November 2014. The faculty members and postgraduate students from the Faculty of Medicine and Allied Medical Sciences (FM&AMS), Faculty of Commerce Economics and Management Sciences (FCE&MS), Faculty of Engineering Science, and Technology (FES&T) participated in the two-day video-conferencing workshop. Previously, the RCTD had collaborated with Medical Education Department to conduct workshops based on research topics, however, this was the first workshop in Isra University where participants from different disciplines collaborated during the session. Several national as well as international universities participated during this session.

Research is an active pursuit of new ideas and knowledge. In present era, the undergraduate, postgraduate students and faculty members are expected to actively participate in research pertaining to their respective specialty. During postgraduate education, students are expected to develop, internalize and demonstrate research-related skills such as searching the literature, writing and presenting the literature review in an organized manner, and critically reviewing the information is a part of the qualification. This workshop specifically focused on the literature search, organizing, and writing literature review using computer-assisted learning such as EndNote X7 and NVivo.

First day of the workshop, facilitated by Prof. Mohammad Ramzan, focused on learning about advanced browsing and searching skills for published literature and digital resources as well as using EndNote X7 software. Later half of the day involved hands-on session during which participants performed online activities as instructed by the facilitator followed by feedback and discussion. At the end, Prof Ramzan concluded that researchers could use EndNote as a bibliographic management tool that will help organize their efforts and create in-text citations as well as bibliographies from references. Nonetheless, as the researchers use the software they may even use it to gather full text articles, reading them, making notes and sorting everything in the final review.

Second day of the workshop, facilitated by Dr Syeda Banoo Saeed, focused on using NVivo software for literature review. Most of the activities during the session were hands-on. Dr Saeed highlighted that the main benefit of using NVivo software is that it allows users to find patterns and put things into groups and categories during the literature review, which is an important part of the literature review process. Therefore, using NVivo, researchers can categorize sections of reading notes as well as text of PDFs and create themes within them. Secondly, the software allows users to change categories easily as the research progresses and at the same time, information will always be linked to the source it came from. However, the only drawback of using NVivo is that it does not allow users to cite-while-you write.

At the end of the workshop, the organizers expressed their gratitude to RCTD on behalf of Isra University and highlighted the significant impact of the workshop on future researchers and faculty members at Isra University.
The ISRANEWS

"Isra University 2nd Academia Research Paper Competition-2014"

The 2nd Academic Isra University Research Paper Competition (2nd IURPC) was held on 7th November 2014 by tireless efforts of program coordinator Ms. Najma Soomro. The 2nd IURPC was started with the aim of providing a platform for students at university level where they may present their academic research. It was a stand where one can learn through practical experience for academic research and development. This time competition was announced in February 2014 with the aim of achieving the objective of increasing and continuing trend of academic research in youngsters.

The event was presided by Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi, Pro Vice Chancellor, Engineering and Management Sciences. Nine teams participated in the final competition, among them 7 were from Management Sciences and one team from Computer sciences and one team from Electrical engineering. The jury members for event were Dr. Muhammad Ali Nizamani, Dr. Munir Ahmadani and Mr. Qamaruddin Mahar. These teams were reviewed on the basis of research gap, contribution to the field, originality, impact, technicality, evidence, clarity and depth of research.

First prize was won by Ms. Asna Rajput and Paras Tariq from BBA on the research paper topic of Impact of Emotional Intelligence Leader on Organizational Innovation. Second prize was won by Ms. Irum Gul and Rozina from BBA and third prize was won by Ms Nimra Saleem and Fizza Bhatti from BBA. Cash prize were given to the winners respectively along with shields. Shields were presented to judges also by chief guest and all participating teams received certificates.

Isra University Social Welfare Society (ISWS) organized the “Inter Orphanage Educational Gala” on 15 October 2014 at Asadullah Kazi Auditorium, Isra University Hyderabad. The Inter Orphanage Educational Gala comprised of 5 creative competitions including; Qirat, Arts, Quiz, Speech and Tableau Performance Competition. These competitions were held between the 110 children from 3 different orphanages from the cities of Hyderabad, Jamshoro and Tando Jam. The children participated in all of the competitions and were appreciated highly by the huge crowd present to witness their performance.

On this occasion the chief guest Prof. Dr. Asadullah Kazi, Chancellor Isra University addressed and appreciated the cause of promoting the underprivileged children and focusing on the skill development among them. He also added that Isra University will always be playing a vital role to support such causes and serving humanity. The Pro-Vice Chancellor, Engineering & Management Sciences, Isra University and the Patron-In-Chief of ISWS Dr. Hameedullah Kazi also addressed on this occasion and motivated the students to actively participate in such philanthropic causes. He also appreciated the organizing committee and the office bearers of ISWS.

Later the children were also served with lunch and attractive gifts, whereas the winners of the competitions were awarded by the trophies along with the educational children laptops.
IEEE Isra Student Branch members Hanan Daudpota, Pirah Akbar Nizamani, Basim Brohi and Amaad Somroo attended the IEEE PSGW Congress at University of Engineering & Technology, Lahore from 24th to 26th October 2014. The students participated in different activities at the congress which included seminars, trainings & competitions. The congress also included field visits to different areas and places which increased the technical knowledge of the students. IEEE Karachi Section had funded 50% expenses of the students participating from Isra University, Hyderabad.

IEEE Day Celebration at Isra University, Hyderabad

IEEE Day is celebrated globally on 02 October 2014. In this regard IEEE Isra Student Branch also organized IEEE Day at Isra University, Hyderabad.

The day was commemorated by cake cutting ceremony in which, Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Engineering & Management Sciences & Head of Executive Council, IEEE Isra Student Branch and Engr. Saad Khan Baloch, Counselor, IEEE Isra Student Branch & Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering Department were invited as guests.

The ceremony was marked by handing over the IEEE Day T-Shirt to Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi. He spoke on the occasion and congratulated the IEEE Isra Student Branch on celebrating the day with the global community.

Live Surgery Session from South Korea

Dr. Ho-Seong Han, MD, PhD, Professor of Surgery and Director of Comprehensive Cancer at Seoul National University College of Medicine, Korea conducted a Session demonstrating live laparoscopic liver resection of segment 4 from South Korea on 26 November 2014. This session was a part of International Surgical Week 2014 and organized by the Society of Surgeons of Pakistan (Rawalpindi-Islamabad Chapter).

This three hour live surgery was linked through PERN network with Isra University, Hyderabad; Al-Tibri Medical College, Karachi; Regional CPSP Centers of Karachi, Lahore, Hyderabad and Islamabad; King Edward Medical University, Lahore; and Higher Education Commission (HEC).

Prof. Asif Zafar Malik, President, Society of Surgeons of Pakistan (Rawalpindi-Islamabad Chapter) facilitated this session in Al-Nafees Medical College and Hospital. The session, which was a landmark in telemedicine at the Al-Nafees Campus, was attended by Prof. Dr. Altaf Ali G. Sheikh, PVC, IU; Prof. Dr. Umar Ali Khan, PVC, HS; Brig. (R) Dr. P. B. Khokhar, ED, Hospital; Department of Surgery, senior faculty from clinical sciences and other faculty members.
Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi represented Isra University at the four day workshop for US partner institutions in Denton, Texas, USA between 12 to 15 November, 2014. The workshop comprised of participants representing 17 partnering universities in Pakistan, along with officials from the US Department of State, US Embassy in Islamabad, HEC Islamabad, and the Embassy of Pakistan in Washington. The workshop provided an excellent opportunity to foster networking among the academicians and administration officials and to promote community engagement, interactive teaching methods, collaborative research and academic regional integration in both the United States and Pakistan. In his presentation, Dr. Kazi apprised the participants of the contribution of Isra University in furthering the cause of the partnership and shared ideas on how to make such collaborative ventures more effective in promoting curriculum design and providing services of career development and entrepreneurship for students.

Dr. Kazi also visited Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, USA with which Isra is currently in its third year of partnership in the area of Management Sciences. At Ball State, he visited and held meetings with the Alumni Center, Career Center, and Business Incubation Center for the purpose of establishing effective services at Isra University in providing linkage between academia and industry and offering students facilities and support for career development and entrepreneurship. He also met with the Dean, Miller College of Business to discuss collaboration in curriculum design and research among the faculty and students. He also met with officials at the Center for International Development and Center for International Programs to pursue the prospects of joint degree programs and development projects.

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Dr. Kazi also visited Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, USA with which Isra is currently in its third year of partnership in the area of Management Sciences. At Ball State, he visited and held meetings with the Alumni Center, Career Center, and Business Incubation Center for the purpose of establishing effective services at Isra University in providing linkage between academia and industry and offering students facilities and support for career development and entrepreneurship. He also met with the Dean, Miller College of Business to discuss collaboration in curriculum design and research among the faculty and students. He also met with officials at the Center for International Development and Center for International Programs to pursue the prospects of joint degree programs and development projects.

IEEE Isra Student Branch at IEEE Karachi Section Seminar

Sustainable Development at Avari Hotels Karachi on October 18, 2014.
The IEEE Isra Student Branch was specially invited at the seminar, in which Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi spoke on the occasion and highlighted the activities that IEEE Isra Student Branch had organized in the recent past.

PEC Career Fair

Fifty students from Isra University, Hyderabad participated in a career fair that was organized by PEC (Pakistan Engineering Council) at EXPO Center, Karachi on 25 October 2014. Students were from the faculties of FCE&MS and FES&T.

The entourage was managed and coordinated by faculty members from Career Development Office Zafar Siddiqui, Shadia S. Baloch, Nuzhat Madina & Kinza Yousafani.
Dr. Naseem Salahuddin, Director, Rabies Prevention and Training Center at Indus Hospital Karachi; and WHO Consultant and Chairperson of Rabies in Asia foundation visited Isra University Hospital and Department of Community Medicine on 20 December 2014 under the supervision of Dr. Salman Farsi Kazi and Dr. Sajjad Kazi.

After meeting the Vice Dean, Dr. Salman Farsi Kazi and the training team she visited ER and the Rabies Treatment, Prevention, Training and Research Center. In her visit, Dr. Salahuddin suggested some structural changes specially installation of washbasin with proper drainage to wash the wound of the dog bite victims. She also handed over anti-Rabies vaccine (Cell culture and Rabies immunoglobulin RIG) to Dr. A. G. Kazi, Pro-Vice Chancellor along with some written information and audio-visual material.

Dr. Salahuddin conducted a 2-hour training session in the Hospital library for doctors and nurses of Emergency Department and staff of Department of Community Medicine (Prof. Kolachi and his teammates).

She also presented a multimedia presentation following which a question answer session was held. At the end, Dr. A. G. Kazi appreciated the visit of Dr. Salahuddin and extended full cooperation by announcing the establishment of more rooms in the Rabies Treatment, Prevention, and Training and Research Center at Isra Hospital Emergency Department. In addition, Dr. Naeem Qureshi, focal person for Rabies prevention at Health department, Government of Sindh assured his support in technical training and research matters for Rabies, one of the neglected diseases declared by WHO.

Dr. Naseem Salahuddin offered her thanks to Dr. A. G. Kazi, Dr. Salman Farsi Kazi and Professor Hussain Bux Kolachi for their commitment and vision to provide community based and Hospital based services to Rabies patients in rural Sindh and promised to train all the staff of Emergency Department and Community Medicine Department at Indus Hospital, Karachi to enable them to run the Rabies Center at Isra University better. She also expressed her hope for Isra Rabies center to be a center of excellence and WHO as well as government referral training and research center in future.
Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Engineering & Management Sciences participated in IEEEP 35th Annual Convention at Lahore on 6th November, 2014. That was organized by Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers Pakistan (IEEEP). Dr. Kazi was presented Excellence Award shield of honor for the services rendered by him in the field of Electrical Engineering. The award was conferred to a total of 12 professionals across the country.

The Annual Convention also composed of annual general meeting of IEEEP bodies across Pakistan in which Dr. Kazi also highlighted the accomplishments of Isra University in the education sector.

Isra University had organized a visit to Pakistan Cables Factory, Karachi on October 29, 2014. The visit was managed and coordinated by faculty members Engr. Saad Khan Baloch, Asst. Professor and Ms. Nuzhat Madina, Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering & Science Technology.

Fifty students from the Faculty of Engineering & Science Technology witnessed the making of cables for transmission, distribution & utilization systems. Students were first of all given a presentation on the company's portfolio then they were shown different sections i.e. raw copper material section, plates conveying and melting process, cable diameter reducing section, stranding section, bedding & sheathing, insulation section, rolling section and aluminum section. Students got to know on how the copper, aluminum and steel cables were made from raw materials and then used for low and high voltages. all in all a great learning experience for the Isra students.

On 21 November 2014 students of DPT (Doctor of Physical Therapy) from the University of Faisalabad visited Isra Institute of Rehabilitation Sciences (IIRS), Isra University, Islamabad Campus.

During the visit the students attended different lectures delivered by different speakers including an informative lecture on 'Neruo Rehabilitation' delivered by Dr. Qamar Mehood (Physio Therapist) and another delivered by Dr. Muhammad Naveed Babur who highlighted the importance and scope of Physical therapy profession in the 21st century. At the end, the students were given certificates to acknowledge their participation.
Isra University Career Development Center launched has been launched. The center will be responsible to provide internships and jobs to the students of Isra University.

The Career Development Center helps students in obtaining employment and internships in the industry. It realizes the growing need of qualified professionals in the industry in both Pakistan and abroad. It strives to match the background and skills of the students with those of the job requirements presented by potential employers. This facilitates both the students and the employers in being able to hire the candidates who meet their requirements at a low cost and within a short duration of time.

Almost all Isra graduates are successfully employed, among whom a good number have found growing career opportunities abroad. We train our students in the art of resume writing and presenting themselves for job interviews. This greatly facilitates the students in expressing their professional strengths and impressing potential employers with their well preparedness. We look forward to grooming our students with the skills needed to attain career opportunities that offer growth as well as job satisfaction.

Final Year Project Competition 2014

A Final Year Project Competition organized by Shadia Saad Baloch, Senior Lecturer, FES&T and Amber Khadim, Student Teaching Assistant, FES&T was held at the Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology on November 28, 2014. Students from the Department of Computer Science & Electrical Engineering participated in the competition. A total of ten projects were on display, which also carried cash prizes for the winner, and 1st and 2nd runners up.

Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Engineering & Management Sciences, visited the competition and acknowledged the efforts of the students. A panel of judges also visited the projects and declared three projects as joint winners. Dr. Kazi distributed Certificates & Cash Prizes among the joint winners. The three projects which were declared as joint winners were 'RGB color sensors' being represented by Radan, Ali and Irfan; 'Interactive Voice Response System' being represented by Sikandar, Irshad and Basil; and 'Smart Keyboard System' being represented by A. Khilji, A. Shakoor and Umer.
Two-Day Data Analysis SPSS Workshop

Isra Institute of Rehabilitation Sciences (IIRS), Isra University, Islamabad campus conducted a two-day SPSS workshop in Farash town campus, Islamabad from 18 to 19 November 2014. This SPSS workshop was conducted by Dr. Muhammad A. Samad from Karachi.

Around 16 PhD scholars of Rehabilitation Sciences attended the workshop along with four professors from various medical universities. During the workshop, not only different aspects of research were discussed in detail but the attendees were also provided practical training regarding SPSS software to illustrate the way the software is to be used.

HEC Best University Teacher Award

In a ceremony held at the auditorium in Higher Education Commission (HEC), Islamabad on 23 December 2014, Prof. Dr. Hameedullah Kazi was presented the Best University Teacher Award for the years 2013-2013, The HEC received 103 nominations from universities and degree awarding institutes across the country, out of which 45 recipients were conferred with the award. The award was conferred on the criteria of qualification, teaching, research publications and supervision of students, organizing co-curricular events, professional achievements and promoting international linkages. The awards were presented by the chief guest of the occasion, Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada, Federal Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination, together with the HEC Chairman, Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed.

Isra University students participate in All Pakistan Bi-lingual Declamation Contest

Students from Isra University participated in 23rd All Pakistan Bi-lingual Declamation Contest 2014 held at Cadet College Petaroone 25 October 2014.

Ms. Ayesha Mehmood, student of Department of Management Sciences and Mr. Malik Ajmee Gadola, student of Department of Medicine represented Isra University at the Contest. Ms. Ayesha Mehmood spoke in English, whereas Mr. Malik Ajmee Gadola spoke in Urdu.

PEC Visit to Isra University

Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) visited the Department of Electrical Engineering, Isra University, Hyderabad from 26-27 October 2014. PEC team appreciated the facilities at Isra University.

The team in their visit met with the dignitaries of the university which included Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Engineering & Management Sciences), Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology and Chairperson Electrical Engineering Department.

Faculty Publications

A research paper entitled as “Appraisal of Air and Water Pollution in Hyderabad and Karachi, Pakistan” by Dr. Asadullah Kazi, Chancellor, Isra University, Hyderabad was published in Quaid-e-Awam University’s Journal of Engineering Sciences & Technology, Volume 13 (1): pp 7-20.

A research paper entitled as “The Homeostasis Boosting Effects of Curcuma Longa in Nitro-Methane Sulfonamide Induced Hepatic Stress in Male Albino Wistar Rats” by Abroo Fatima Qazi, Din Muhammad Shaikh, Saif-ur-Rehman and Hamid Zia Shaikh from Physiology Department was published in IMJ International Journal in 2014: Volume 6, Issue 3.
PROJECTS OF ISRA ISLAMIC FOUNDATION GUARANTEE LIMITED (IIF)

Educational Programs
Isra University (Main Campus), Hyderabad
- Faculty of Medicine & Allied Medical Sciences
- Faculty of Engineering, Science & Technology
- Faculty of Commerce, Economics & Management Sciences
- Faculty of Dentistry & Allied Sciences
Isra University Hospital, Hyderabad
Isra Dental College & Hospital, Hyderabad
Isra College of Rehabilitation Sciences
Isra School of Nursing, Hyderabad
Isra School of Paramedics, Hyderabad
Isra Schools Network, Hyderabad & Nasarpur

Health and Welfare Programs
Isra Blindness Control Programs
- Al-Ibrahim Eye Hospital: Malir, Kunri & Kharan
- International Eye Camps
- National Eye Camps
Isra University Welfare Hospital, Hyderabad
Isra General Medical Camps, Rural Areas
Al Tibri Medical College Hospital, Karachi
Al Nafees Medical College Hospital, Islamabad

Isra University (Karachi Campus)
- Al Tibri Medical College & Hospital
- Isra Institute of Rehabilitation Sciences
- Isra Postgraduate Institute of Ophthalmology
- Isra School of Optometry

Isra University (Islamabad Campus)
- Al Nafees Medical College & Hospital
- School of Engineering & Applied Sciences
- Isra School of Rehabilitation Sciences

Markaz Islami Sindh
Isra Quran Academy Programs
- Isra Quran Fahmi Program
- Isra Ta’leemul Quran Program
Madaris-Masjid Support Program
Rural Community Support Program Translation, Publication and Distribution of Islamic Literature