

NEWSLETTER



Office of Research Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC)
National University of Modern Languages (NUML)
 Islamabad-Pakistan

BLTeae International Training organized at NUML

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Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) organized four day international training course titled, "New competence for online learning and teaching: activities for online tutors" under Erasmus+ capacity building project "Blended Learning Courses for Teacher Educators between Asia and Europe" (BLTeae) at National University of Modern Languages (NUML) in Islamabad (Pakistan) from December 10-13, 2018.

Erasmus+ is European Union's (EU) programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. It provides opportunities for over four million Europeans to study, train, and gain experience abroad. Set to last until 2020, Erasmus+ doesn't just have opportunities for students. Merging seven prior programmes, it has opportunities for a wide variety of individuals and organizations.



Training course was set up to provide a capacity building opportunity for teachers. Course used a blended learning approach and included sixteen face to face training sessions as well as online sessions with resource persons from USA and Denmark. The course included twenty five resource persons, eleven foreigners and fourteen locals.

The major objectives of this training were:

1. To enhance teachers' competence in integrating information technology in teaching.
2. To introduce new technology based techniques that can be used for blended learning.
3. To develop teacher educators competence for online tutoring skills.



Course began with opening ceremony on December 10; Prof. Dr. Sufiana Khatoon Malik (country focal person of BLTeae) gave introduction of BLTeae project and international training course, which was followed by welcome address of Rector-NUML, Maj. Gen (Retd.) Zia Uddin Najam HI (M). He emphasized the need for technology as a means to enhance knowledge and stated his hope that this course might open new horizons for online teaching and learning.



His Excellency Martin Kobler Ambassador of Federal Republic of Germany to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, was the chief guest at the opening ceremony. Ambassador Kobler talked about evolution of internet technology over the years and how such technology can be helpful in the capacity building of young people and in developing job market for the rapidly growing population in Pakistan.



The content of the course included: Using Social Media to Enhance Teaching and Learning, digital tools for learning, Developing e-Portfolios with free and open source tools, balancing the Two Faces of e Portfolios, Using video in teacher training, Blending learning approach for in-service teacher education programmes - The case of Institute Pendidikan G Batu Lintang, Facebook in teaching and learning, Designing in Learning Management Systems: Learner Experience Design, Knowledge clips, Online communities: Issues and Challenges, the case of Pakistan and practices to deal with challenges faced by online reflective communities of teachers, active learning, placed-based learning, online assessment practices, radio interactive instruction, blended learning and teaching gadgets.

A practical workshop was also conducted for

hands on practice on designing, and developing simple multimedia learning objects.



In the closing ceremony, His Excellency Jean François Cautin, Ambassador of European Union to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan was the chief guest and in his speech he stressed the value of projects like BLTeae in building bridges between academics from Asia and Europe working on quality education.



The course was made available online via NUML's official Facebook page and teachers from eight regional campuses at Peshawar, Lahore, Karachi, Quetta, Haiderabad, Faisalabad, and Multan took part through video conferencing.



(December 13, 2018) Rector-NUML, Maj. General (Retd.) Zia ud din Najam with Ambassador of European Union to Pakistan, H.E. Jean François Cautin, Director General, Brig. M. Ibrahim, Directors, Deans and participants at the closing ceremony of training course, "New competence for online learning and teaching: activities for online tutors" at NUML.

Training Sessions by Research Facilitation Center

NUML Research Facilitation Center (NRF) – unit of ORIC, organized four training sessions for faculty members of the university. Center was established for the purpose of providing auxiliary support to research scholars and faculty members by conducting training sessions, which are designed to complement their research work.

Session on Literature Review was conducted by NRF advisor and Assistant Professor-NUML, *Dr. Sajid Ali Yousafzai* on November 28, 2018 in which he briefed how to review literature, identify gaps and align research work accordingly.



Session on Automated Referencing was conducted by *Dr. Noman Malik* - advisor NRF and Assistant Professor-NUML on November 29, 2018 in which he introduced participants to the features of two referencing softwares, Mendeley and Endnote.



Session on Statistical Analysis was conducted by *Mr. Abdul Wahid*, Lecturer - Department of Management Sciences on December 4, 2018 in which he gave lecture on quantitative research methods and statistical analysis techniques.



Session on Academic Writing was conducted by *Dr. Gulfam Baghoo* – Associate Professor, Faculty of Management Sciences on December 24, 2018, in which he shared tips and tricks to increase chances of getting research papers published.



Third "Supervisory Committee" Meeting of Business Incubation Center of NUML

Third "Supervisory Committee" meeting of Business Incubation Center of NUML (B ICON) was held on October 29, 2018; start-ups selected by 'Selection Committee' were discussed.

Ideas of 'Oyster Mushroom Farming', 'Global News Pakistan' and 'Habib Translation Academy' were approved by Supervisory Committee, whereas 'Infinity' and 'Leaders of Tomorrow' were not selected because their concepts were not under scope of entrepreneurship.



Rector-NUML, *Maj. Gen. Zia ud Din Najam (HI) (M) (Retd.)* chaired the meeting. Director General-NUML - *Brig. Muhammad Ibrahim*, Director ORIC - *Prof. (Retd.) Dr. Karamat Ali*, Director Finance - *S. Tufail Khalil*, Acting Director Incubation Center - *Dr. Gulfam Baghoo*, Executive Director, Paprecious - *Dr. Humaira Shahbaz*, Higher Education Commission representative - *Dr. Farhan Jamil* and Industry Representative - *Mr. Amir Jahangir* attended the meeting.

'Sohni Dharti' – A Digital Competition

An information session was conducted by Program Coordinator-Epiphany, *Syed Mohsin Shayan* on digital competition, 'Sohni Dharti' on October 17, 2018 at Incubation Center. He briefed theme of the competition and its registration process; theme was "From Advocacy to Action" and participants had to make a sixty seconds video on climate change. Session was attended by students and alumni of Mass Communication Department and Paprecious (incubatee at Incubation Center of NUML).



On November 06, Epiphany conducted a nationwide "Sohni Dharti Climate Change Competition" at Fatima Jinnah Women University (Rawalpindi) - in which thirty eight teams from

different universities, colleges, schools and organizations participated.

Three teams from NUML participated in the competition; members of two teams were alumni of Mass Communication Department (they also participated in MoJo Training) and one Incubatee at NUML, Paprecious. All three teams secured positions among top ten participants; teams of NUML got first prize of fifteen thousand rupees, third prize of five thousand rupees and for most creative idea, awarded five thousand rupees.



One-week Training on Mobile Journalism (MoJo)

Incubation Center of NUML in collaboration with DBTV.live conducted one week (October 2-7, 2018) training on mobile journalism for capacity building of students and alumni of Mass Communication specifically and students of other departments who showed interest.



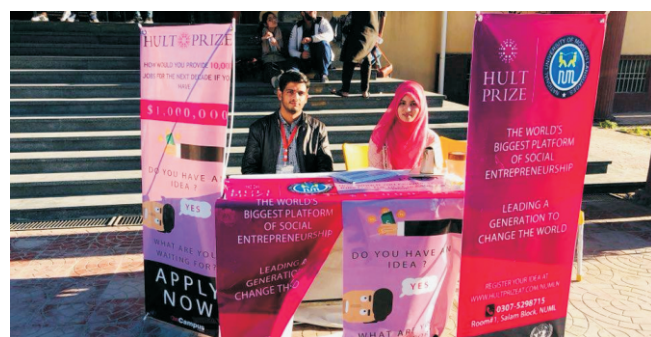
Four days in-house training was conducted in Idea Lab of Incubation Center whereas, for hands-on experience and mobile reporting top thirty participants were short-listed on basis of their performance. They were taken to historical places in Lahore for two days; on their visit, they had to do reporting.

Resource persons were Mr. Ayaz Ahmed (Senior Reporter DBTV.Live), Ms. Arooj Azmat (Social Media Expert), Mr. Shehryar Khan (Digital Marketing Expert) and Mr. Owais Jahangir (MoJo reporter and producer).

This workshop was designed separately for students studying in morning and evening shift. More than two hundred students applied for this workshop, sixty were selected, thirty for morning and thirty for evening session. Top three performers of MoJo training were offered job at DBTV.live as MoJo reporters.

'Hult Prize On Campus Program' at NUML

ORIC in collaboration with B ICON organized 'HULT Prize On Campus Program' at main campus of NUML in December 2018; the program comprised of orientation sessions for students, team registration and mentoring sessions for participants.



Hult Prize Foundation was founded in 2010; its mission is to solve global social challenges through crowdsourcing ideas and solutions from the world's best and brightest students. Hult Prize brings together brightest college and university students from around the globe to focus on solving one of the world's key social challenges and awards one million US dollars in start-up capital to winner.

The program gives universities an opportunity to host a local Hult Prize event at its campus, allowing

the winning team to bypass traditional application process and fast track their idea through one of twenty five plus regional final rounds of competition. The program allows more students to compete, leading to more ideas and ultimately more start-ups.

More than hundred teams registered from main and regional campuses of NUML; sixteen teams were shortlisted for 'on campus final'. Six teams from Peshawar Campus reached final and secured first three positions. The team winning the final was selected for 'regional final'.



At the end of the program, certificates were awarded to participants, jury members and organizers; Ubaid Zafar Iqbal as Campus Director NUML managed affairs of the event.

Training Sessions at Incubation Center

Following sessions were organized by Business Incubation Center of NUML (BICON).

Session on Interviewing Skills

Mr. Faisal Arif - CEO, Engineering for Kids conducted a session on interviewing skills on October 10, 2018. He also discussed techniques of writing curriculum vitae and how one may prepare himself for an interview. For intelligently tackling interview questions, he engaged students in mock interviews; students of different departments participated in the session.



Session on Public Speaking

Mr. Usman Rafique conducted two hours session on how to overcome fear of public speaking with the students of different departments on October 16, 2018. He is Leadership Education Expert, Behaviour Change Expert and Human Rights Lawyer.



Training Sessions for participants of 'NUML Business Plan Competition'

Incubation Center conducted three days exclusive training sessions for the participants of 'NUML Business Plan Competition' from December 12-14, 2018. Dr. Zeeshan Qadir conducted session on "Entrepreneurship and Khudi", Ms. Wajihah Shah conducted session on "Transforming university graduates into successful Entrepreneurs using NLP Techniques" and Ms. Samar Hasan conducted session on "Art of Pitching".



Presentation Skills for Managers

Centre for Global Innovators (CGI) organized a training session at Incubation Center on December 7, 2018 on "Presentation Skills for Managers". Resource Person was Dr. Shazia Akhtar – she is Associate Professor at Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology (SZABIST).



Tools of 10xing your Productivity

Incubation Center in collaboration with Centre for Global Innovators (CGI) organized training session on October 26, 2018 on tools by which productivity can be increased. Resource person was Mr. Noshad Minhas – he is Head of Cash Management, Silk Bank Limited – Emaan Islamic Banking. Students of different departments of the university and representatives of different organizations participated in the session.



Recycled Paper Craft Competition & Exhibition by Paprecious

Paprecious – an incubatee at NUML organized first university-wide recycled paper craft competition and exhibition titled, "Craft Your Sentiments" in collaboration with Incubation Center from November 21-28, 2018.



Thirty six teams of students and alumni participated – their items were displayed in week-long exhibition. Rector NUML, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Zia Uddin Najam visited the exhibition and graced prize distribution ceremony; he awarded medals and cash prizes to winners.



On November 27, certificate distribution ceremony was held. Senior Anchor Person PTV News - Mr. Zubair Ahmed Siddique was the chief guest whereas Mr. Ayman Zahid (journalist-producer) and Ms. Huma Jamil Baber (Chairperson All Pakistan Young Lawyers Association) were the guests.



Mr. Zubair awarded certificates among the participants and presented souvenirs to the jury members.



Jury members of the competition were Mr. Zazar Haider Babri (Lecturer, Department of Islamic Art and Architecture, Faculty of Social Sciences, International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI)), Mrs. Salma Shahid (Patron TFWC, Punjab Regiment Center) and Ms. Rehana Iram (Coordinator Quality Assurance, Air Foundation School System).



NUML Business Plan Competition

In December, Faculty of Management Sciences in collaboration with Incubation Center conducted university-wide Business Plan Competition.

Fifty six teams registered their ideas; three teams were from Economics Department, one from Computer Science Department, one from Governance & Public Policy Department, six from Accounting and Finance Department (Bachelors program), whereas from Department of Business Administration, thirty-two from Bachelor's program and thirteen from Master's program registered.

Jury members were Mr. Tahir Mahmood Chaudhary, Ms. Aneela Fatima, Mr. Shah Saood, Ms. Rabi Huda and Mr. Saqib Rafique.

In elevator pitch round, thirty teams were filtered, in the second phase of the competition all thirty teams gave detailed presentation and top seven teams were selected for the final round held on December 19, 2018. Shortlisted teams were 'Pak Rabbit', 'Print Guru', 'Exam Guide', 'Safar', 'N-S Art', 'Brand Ghar' and 'Dates Processing'.



For finalists, mentoring session was arranged in which Mr. Shuja Humayun (Director-Entrepreneurship Development, Preston University), Mr. Imran Jattala (HULT Prize National Director) and Dr. Gulfam Baghoor (Acting Director Incubation Center-NUML) briefed them.

'N-S Art' secured first position - awarded cash prize of twenty five thousand rupees, 'Safar' secured second position - awarded fifteen thousand rupees and 'Brand Ghar' secured third position and was awarded cash prize of ten thousand rupees.

Chief Guest of prize distribution ceremony was Brig. (Retd.) Maqsood ul Hassan - Dean, Management Sciences; he distributed medals among the winners.

Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) established in August 2014 in National University of Modern Languages (NUML) at its main campus to implement Higher Education Commission's (HEC) plan of developing research culture. The purpose of this office is to introduce and promote research culture within NUML by supporting university's strategic research directions and policies and by improving integration of research and education at all levels of the university. ORIC promotes and enhances cross-cutting and multi-disciplinary research initiatives and aims to increase external research funding. This office works to strengthen university-industry relationships and to support local and national economy and works to promote entrepreneurship, technology-transfer and commercialization activities.



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