

IBA NEWS

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Welcoming talent from across Pakistan!



The Talent Hunt Program (THP) – Batch 2024 kicked off with a vibrant orientation, welcoming over 300 aspiring students, with a diverse representation of **65% males and 35% females from 70 cities** across Pakistan, including Baluchistan, KP & FATA, Gilgit-Baltistan, Punjab, and Sindh.

In partnership with Ihsan Trust and Oil & Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL), IBA provides scholarships covering 100% of expenses for selected students in its prestigious four-year undergraduate programs.

During the orientation, Dr. Junaid Alam Khan, Director, THP, along with other key speakers, emphasized IBA's unwavering commitment to making quality education accessible and its transformative impact on the lives of these talented individuals.

MS Project Presentations for MS Computer Science and MS Data Science Programs

SMCS organized MS project presentations for MS CS and MS DS programs featuring over 20 projects on the following themes:

Machine Learning, Data Science, NLP, Cloud Computing, Generative AI, Business Intelligence, Cyber Security, and Computer Vision.

Students presented their work to industry leaders from companies like Systems Limited, Folio3, Sepia Solutions, and Creative Chaos. Dean, SMCS, Dr. Shakeel Khoja, Chairperson, Department of Computer Science, SMCS, Dr. Shahid Hussain, and Dr. Tariq Mahmood, Program Coordinator MS CS and MS DS programs, emphasized the importance of academia-industry collaboration.



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JULY AT A GLANCE

Strategic Planning Cell's 'Discovery Session' brings together the IBA community to develop the Institute's Strategic Plan 2030



IBA Karachi's Strategic Planning Cell (SPC) hosted a full-day event, 'The Discovery Session,' bringing together faculty, staff, students, and alumni to develop the Institute's **Strategic Plan 2030 (SP-30)**.

Dr. Rameez Khalid, SPC Chairperson, along with members Dr. Lubna Naz, Dr. Hilal Anwar Butt, Dr. Shahid Hussain, and Dr. Saima Binte Saif, shared insights into the strategic planning process and gap analysis.

Participants, in focus groups, discussed IBA's evolving landscape and strategies for a sustainable strategic plan. With over 50 attendees, this session marked a key step in refining IBA's strategic planning through collaborative input.

Academic Immersion Module launches for EMBA students

Dr. Muhammad Shafique, Program Director for MBA and EMBA, led the inaugural session, marking the start of the **Academic Immersion Module (AIM)** initiative for our EMBA students.

AIM aims to facilitate a smooth transition between executive and academic responsibilities, helping students excel in both areas.



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IBA-CMES Berkeley Summer School

A two-day workshop on 'Global Humanities Methodology' was held as part of the **IBA-CMES Berkeley Summer School**, featuring **Dr. Asad Q. Ahmed**, Magistretti Distinguished Professor of Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures, and Director of CMES at UC Berkeley, along with M. Azam Ali, Assistant Professor at IBA Karachi.

Part of the IBA-CMES Berkeley Summer School, the workshop, which facilitated insightful readings and discussions, brought together faculty from UC Berkeley and IBA Karachi.

The three-week Summer School includes participants from prestigious institutions like **Harvard University, UC Berkeley, The University of Oklahoma, the International Islamic University, Islamabad, Allama Iqbal Open University, Bahria University, Abdul Wali Khan University, Habib University, and IBA Karachi**. Participants of the Summer School will study selected logic, theology, jurisprudence, law, tafsir, and hadith texts with madrasa scholars and will undergo rigorous training in reading Dars-e Nizāmī texts in Arabic.



Daniyal Shah, named Head of Operations for Pakistan at World Championship of Legends



We are thrilled to announce that Daniyal Shah, A BS SSLA student has been appointed as the **Head of Operations for the Pakistan Champions Team**. The team is competing in the prestigious World Championship of Legends at the iconic Edgbaston Cricket Ground in the UK.

This is an incredible achievement, and we are immensely proud of Daniyal's dedication and leadership on the international stage.

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Data Engineering using Microsoft Azure

SMCS in collaboration with VentureDive, hosted a two-day workshop on 'Data Engineering using Microsoft Azure' which was attended by SMCS and SBS students.

Experts from VentureDive led sessions on **Data engineering, cloud computing, Azure Data Services, and more.** Participants engaged in hands-on activities, creating **Azure Storage Accounts, configuring Blob and Data Lake Storage, and building data pipelines using Azure Databricks and Apache Spark.**



Unilever staff's kids experience a day of discovery at IBA



The kids of Unilever employees spent an exciting day at IBA, filled with exploration and learning. Through hands-on activities and interactive sessions, they were introduced to the vibrant educational environment at IBA. The experience provided them with valuable insights into diverse career options, fueling their curiosity and inspiring a passion for future opportunities.

JULY AT A GLANCE

Al Baraka Bank visit to recruit fresh graduates

Al Baraka Bank Pakistan Ltd. representatives recently visited IBA-CDC to discuss recruiting fresh graduates from the institute. The meeting focused on potential collaborations in areas such as internships, job placements, promoting workplace diversity and inclusion, and establishing campus mentorship programs.



MBA Business Orientation Program students engage in career guidance session



Syed Atif Murtaza Qaiser, Lecturer and Head, Career Development Center (CDC), conducted an inspiring session for MBA BOP students during their orientation. He shared his professional experiences, highlighted key skills and competencies, and provided advice on improving CVs. The session focused on the importance of teamwork, collaboration, and staying motivated.

STEAM Mathematics Summer School

The second cycle of the Mathematics Summer School took place at the Main Campus, in collaboration with STEAM Pakistan.

Under the leadership of Dr. Danish Ali, Assistant Professor and Program Director, MS and PhD Mathematics, SMCS, high school students engaged in exciting activities and explored the wonders of mathematics.

The participants were introduced to the Konigsberg bridge problem, Euler Paths, and Circuits.



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Google I/O Extended 2024 at IBA Karachi: A Successful Tech Event



The Google I/O Extended 2024 at IBA Karachi attracted 1,447 participants, including 969 students. Dr. Shakeel A. Khoja, Dean SMCS, welcomed Googlers from Singapore and local guests, underscoring the importance of technology.

The event included 14 sessions on the latest Google technologies by industry leaders and seven workshops on **AI, design, mobile development, and Women Techmakers**. It also hosted the finals of a national startup competition.

Google Cloud and Tech Valley concluded the Startup Competition Pakistan 2024, with 700 submissions from over 70 cities. The Grand Finale at IBA showcased innovative solutions in **AI, Fintech, Sustainability, E-commerce, and Frontier Technologies**.

Top VCs, including Indus Valley Capital and i2i Ventures, Sarmayacar, nVentures, and SEED Ventures, judged the event, awarding each track winner PKR 1 million and mentorship from Google experts. All 25 finalists received further mentorship opportunities from industry experts.

IBA-CICT partners with the National Computer Emergency Response Team to strengthen cybersecurity efforts

IBA-CICT and PKCERT have established a strategic partnership through an MoU to strengthen cybersecurity and promote innovation in Pakistan.

Signed by Dr. Haider Abbas, Director General, PKCERT, and Dr. Shakeel Khoja, Dean, SMCS, the MoU aims to tackle cybersecurity challenges, advance research, and develop a skilled workforce to protect the nation's digital infrastructure.



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IBA students shine at Jazz Digital Squad - Data Hackathon



We congratulate our students **Muhammad Hamza Ansari, Safwan Khan, and Khawar Ahmed** on securing 3rd place at the Jazz Digital Squad - Data Hackathon in Islamabad, winning a prize of **PKR 100,000!**

Competing against talented candidates from top universities across Pakistan, the team embarked on a six-month journey into the world of data analytics with Tableau focusing on a dataset provided by Jazz - '**Global Superstore**' - with an objective to uncover insights that could drive significant business impact.

Through rigorous rounds of selection, the IBA team emerged as one of the top 5, presenting their findings in-person to an esteemed panel of judges.

Mango Fiesta and Policy Roadshow

The HR department organized an event centered around the theme of '**learning with fun**'. The celebration focused on the king of fruits while also providing valuable insights into HR policies.

The roadshow creatively highlighted 9 key HR policies, engaging approximately 90 participants in an interactive and enjoyable experience. Through collaborative discussions and teamwork, the event fostered a lively environment, culminating in innovative group presentations.



JULY AT A GLANCE

Focus Group Session of Travel Lovers Club

In the inaugural meeting of the **Travel Lovers Club**, the IBA team united by a shared passion for travel, engaged in meaningful discussions, exchanging travel experiences and ideas for the club's future development. Members concurred on prioritizing domestic trips initially to build experience, with the intention of planning international excursions in the future.



Emergency Response Awareness Session

In line with HR's commitment to employee well-being, an **Emergency Response Awareness** session was conducted. This session, organized in collaboration with the Liaquat National Hospital Team, imparted essential skills and knowledge for handling everyday emergencies.

IBA Training & Development

100 participants successfully went through HR Trainings in July 2024. The **Change Catalyst and Adaptability** training was conducted by Awais Khan; **Effective Communication Skills** training was led by Barera Quadri; **Mastering Emotional Intelligence** was taught by Dr. Irum Saba; **Personal Grooming, Effective Communication Skills, and Basic Housekeeping** was conducted by M. Ather Rana, Ayatullah Memon and the Admin team; and **UMS Refresher** was conducted by the UMS team.

