

IBA NEWS

www.iba.edu.pk



New Year New Goals– Here's to wishing the IBA Community a prosperous, joyous and safe 2024!

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY OF THE JAFFER FAMILY OF NEW YORK DATA SCIENCE CENTER



We started 2024 with a groundbreaking ceremony by The Jaffer Family of New York Data Science Center at the Main Campus, which was attended by members of the Jaffer Family, along with the board members of the Jaffer Family Foundation (JFF), United Global Initiative (UGI), and Know Welfare Foundation and senior leadership and faculty of IBA.

The MoU signing ceremony between JFF, UGI, and IBA, was honored by Chief Guest Justice (Retd.) Maqbool Baqar, Caretaker Chief Minister of Sindh and Patron IBA. The event featured leadership from JFF and IBA, including Mohamed Taki Jaffer, Chairman, JFF; Dr. S Akbar Zaidi, Executive Director, IBA; Dr. Shakeel Khoja, Dean, School of Mathematics & Computer Science; and Malahat Awan, Director, Alumni Affairs, Resource Mobilization, and Corporate Relations.

With a focus on fostering entrepreneurship and innovation, the Data Science Center will empower students and researchers to explore future-positive technologies, conduct ground-breaking research, and develop solutions to real-world problems.

JANUARY AT A GLANCE



HR LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT LAUNCHED A SERIES OF BASIC AND ADVANCED TRAINING SESSIONS FOR IBA STAFF

At IBA, we strongly believe in the personal and professional development of our people. As a result, HR L&D launched the very first training calendar for IBA staff in January 2024. This achievement was made possible through collaboration with all departments, based on the training needs assessment.

A total of 117 participants were successfully trained during the month of January 2024, covering a range of soft and technical skills as below:

- Effective Communication Skills- Advance Level
- Effective Communication Skills- Basic Level
- MS Excel – Basic to Intermediate
- MS Excel – Intermediate to Advance
- Writing Techniques – Level I
- Writing Techniques – Level II
- Masterclass: Presentation Skills with Impact
- Operational Excellence

The first **Chai Baithak** of the Spring semester organized by the IBA History Society was opened with Dr. Asad Q. Ahmed, Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies from UC Berkeley. He led an enlightening conversation on the significance of philosophy in modern Islamic tradition.

Dr. Asad Q. Ahmed held his inaugural lecture on '**Zaban-i-Ghayr: Islam and the Work of the Humanities**' which highlighted how modernity has ultimately caused us to lose touch with our languages and customs. He discussed how individuals in the Global South could find cultural, political, and social empowerment through Islamic humanities.

JANUARY AT A GLANCE



School of Business Studies inaugurated the **Bloomberg Terminal** in the presence of the HBL team. It was a pleasure to have Muhammad Aurangzeb, President, HBL as the chief guest, and Dr. Waqas Ahmed, Director of Research, State Bank of Pakistan at the inauguration ceremony.

Dr. Riina Kionka, Ambassador of the European Union (EU) in Pakistan met with Dr. S Akbar Zaidi, Executive Director, IBA, exploring mutual interests. Dr. Kionka praised IBA's longstanding commitment to quality education. They affirmed their dedication to enhancing cooperation between Pakistan and the EU to facilitate higher education and research opportunities for the IBA students.

At the **Social Inequality Lab's book talk** on Amartya Sen's "Inequality Reexamined", Umema Siddique and Shafia Imtiaz discussed the importance of capacity, function, and freedom as a critical indicator to human well-being.

It was great to welcome the **U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan, Donald Blome**, US Consul General in Karachi, Conrad Tribble and Public Affairs Officer, Lee McManis to the IBA-CED and CEJ-IBA. Dr. S Akbar Zaidi, Executive Director, IBA and Dr. Lalarukh Ejaz, Director, CED, briefed the U.S. Ambassador on the Center's programs, and the many initiatives rolled out by the CED. The delegation also engaged with founders of some of CED's outstanding startups.

Amber Rahim Shamsi, Director, CEJ-IBA, shared exciting insights of the MS Journalism program offered at the IBA, and the Centre's new 'iVerify' fact checking initiative. The team engaged in lively discussions with the MSJ students and met the CEJ fact-checking team. It was an enriching exchange of ideas and experiences!



JANUARY AT A GLANCE

For those interested in **building a career in Data Science**, Bilal Farooq, Lead in Data Science and Squad Lead at WooliesX, Sydney, Australia, conducted an insightful session where he shared practical tips to become a Data Scientist. The session was hosted by the School of Mathematics and Computer Science at the Main Campus and was well-attended by our campus community.

'**Wounded Sentiments: Religious Hate Speech and the Making of South Asian Secularism**' – a talk by Dr. J. Barton Scott, Associate Professor, Historical Studies, University of Toronto, Canada discussed how the colonial history of secularism continues to influence contemporary global discussions through a deep dive into the history of Section 295A of Pakistan Penal Code which makes it a criminal offense to outrage religious feelings through insults to religion or religious belief.

The **IBA-Dispute Resolution Forum** hosted its inaugural seminar on 'Commercial, Corporate and Regulatory Mediation' at IBA's Islamabad Office. Hon'ble Justice Jawad Hassan, Judge at the Lahore High Court, gave the keynote address. Kamran Bilgrami, Director, CEE delivered the welcome address, while Zmarah Khan, Senior Counsel, Commercial Law Development Program, United States Department of Commerce shared insights on his vision for collaboration with CLDP Pakistan and with the IBA-DRF.

We are proud of our students, Abdullah Manzoor, Hamza Khan Ghouri and Ibtihaj Bin Salah, on winning the **CFA Society Pakistan Ethics Challenge 2023-24** out of a total of 27 teams from across Pakistan. Dr. Mohsin Sadaqat, Assistant Professor, School of Business Studies served as the winning team's faculty advisor.



JANUARY AT A GLANCE

'GreenEnovate Waste Conference' gathered innovators, business leaders, and government representatives at the IBA City Campus, which was arranged by the IBA-CED, in collaboration with the Higher Education Commission, Prime Minister's Youth Programme (PMYP) and UNICEF to discuss sustainable waste management solutions.

Dr. Lalarukh Ejaz, Director, IBA-CED, delivered the welcome address. Syed Wasi Shah, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Youth Affairs, was the conference's chief guest. Renowned journalist Afia Salam delivered the conference's keynote address.

From captivating deliberations with politicians to engaging encounters with notable personalities, culminating in mesmerizing Qawalli performances and an enchanting Arabian Night, the **XIV Annual Model United Nations IBA Karachi (MUNIK) conference** was a resounding success, organized by the Public Speaking Society.

The **Animation and Pop Culture Society** made a memorable impact at HUCon, an Anime and Comic convention hosted by Habib University with an hour-long performance that captivated the audience. Being the final act before the cosplay walk, the show served as a fantastic closing performance, leaving a lasting impression. Now, it's over to the **IBACON** scheduled for February 25.

The Marketing and Communications Department was at the **19th Dawn Education Expo** in Karachi, Islamabad and Lahore, to create awareness among potential students about making the right career choices and highlighting the legacy of IBA in helping craft legacies of future leaders of our nation.

FemmPower - Celebrating empowerment and entrepreneurship at IBA-CED! A day of inspiration, passion, and courage! Incredible speakers, captivating stories, impressive showcases, engaging networking, and a delightful hi-tea made it unforgettable- FemmPower had it all!

IBA Career Fair '24 themed as an Airport terminal, was executed to portray a space where potential human resources meet dream job destinations in one place.

The Career Fair flight met with some turbulence during its take off, but engineers fixed the last-minute technical faults and with passengers' understanding and the crew's desire to serve. It flew across many industries, including Manufacturing, IT, Social & Services, and Banking & Financial Institutions, met diverse travelers, and finally descended with amazing memories. ✈️

A special shoutout to our Business Class Passengers Bank Alfalah, Ismail Industries, Meezan Bank Limited, National Bank of Pakistan, Z2C, DP World, and Tafsol Technologies.

