



AIOU

News & Views

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AIOU holds Convocation in Islamabad

Education can help change country's fate :- Dr. Arif Alvi

Convocation to rejoice with our students, approximately 5 million students have graduated from this University - Dr. Nasir Mahmood



Convocation of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) was held on January 31, 2024, at the Jinnah Convention Center, Islamabad. The Ex- President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi, who was also the Chancellor of the University, was the chief guest. Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood hosted the event. Numerous distinguished guests, including the Federal Ministers, Secretaries, Senior Officials of HEC, Vice-Chancellors of various universities, Rectors, renowned journalists, eminent social personalities, deans, professors, principal

Cont.. P/2

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In This Issue:

- Promote Arabic literature in Pakistan, Madad Ali Sindhi
- Int'l moot on Allama Iqbal kicks off at AIOU
- Int'l moot on Islamic Finance concludes in AIOU
- AIOU organizes seminar on women rights
- AIOU celebrates world teachers day
- Regional Heads Conference
- Iqbal Day



Mahmood, mentioned in his speech that AIOU is celebrating its golden jubilee this year. The decision was made to commence the golden jubilee celebrations with a convocation to rejoice with our students. Dr. Nasir further stated that approximately five million students have graduated from this university to date, and our graduates can be found in various institutes and organizations. He congratulated the students, emphasizing that the university belongs to them and that they are its pride. Following the Vice Chancellor's address, degrees and gold medals were conferred on. Former President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi, along with former Minister of Education, Madad Ali Sindhi, and Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, distributed degrees and gold medals to the students. Dr. Arif Alvi emphasized the need for effective leadership and wisdom to solve the country's problems, stating that the youth of Pakistan are fully capable of taking on this role. He advised the graduates of Allama Iqbal Open University to continue their pursuit of knowledge and to work hard in their lives. He also stressed that the future of Pakistan lies in the hands of the youth and encouraged the students to promote love and peace in the country, work with dedication and honesty, and contribute to Pakistan's progress.



AIOU Organizes first Alumni Homecoming

Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) hosted an inaugural alumni homecoming ceremony and dinner during which former students reconnected with fellows. The event was graced by the distinguished guests, including renowned Urdu poet Iftikhar Arif, prominent columnist and analyst Muhammad Izhar ul Haq, Director General of Pakistan Institute of Education Dr. Shahid Soroya, Chairperson of Pakistan Academy of Literature Dr. Najeeba Arif, and Vice-Chancellor of Health Services Academy (NIH) Dr. Shahzad Ali Khan. The alumni participants at the event included Lt. Gen. Asif Mumtaz Sukhera, Executive Director of National Language Promotion Department, Dr. Rashid Hameed, renowned plastic surgeon Dr. Afzal Bashir, Syed Mohsin Ali Shah, Dr. Zahid Majeed (AIOU), Dr. Muhammad Ajmal Chaudhry (AIOU), and others. The Directorate of Student Advisory and Counselling Services (DSA&CS), AIOU, organized this homecoming event. Vice Chancellor, alumni and other participants congratulated the Director, DSA&CS, Syed Ghulam Kazim Ali, and his team for the excellent arrangements. The AIOU alumni expressed their gratitude to the Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, for providing them with an opportunity to come together and reminisce about old memories and the time they spent at AIOU. They acknowledged that the university played a vital role in their lives and that they consider themselves to be family members of AIOU. The alumni vowed to always be there to contribute to the prosperity and progress of the University. Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood said that AIOU has completed 50 years of its establishment and around 50 lac students have graduated in this period. "The alumni are our proud and they are playing their full role for the development and betterment of the country", he said. Iftikhar Arif while congratulating on the 50th anniversary of AIOU said that he had been associated with the university as a member of the executive council. He said that the educational services of this university are commendable. Iftikhar Arif also recited his ghazals and a few stanzas from his poetry. Muhammad Izhar ul Haq said that the alumni of AIOU are lucky that they can come to their alma mater. "I am a graduate of Dhaka University where I am unable to go", he said. Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Dr. Abdul Aziz Sahir, Dean, Faculty of Sciences, Prof. Dr. Hajra Ahmed, Dr. Tahira Bibi and Director Student Affairs, Syed Ghulam Kazim Ali also spoke at the event. AIOU Organizes first Alumni Homecoming



Sustainability Expo held at AIOU

As part of the ongoing Golden Jubilee celebrations of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), Office of the Research Innovation and Commercialization of AIOU organized a Sustainability Expo and Poster competition. The event featured stalls from various universities and organizations showcasing their work towards a sustainable environment. The Expo was attended by a large number of students, families and children from different educational institutions. The poster competition involved students from various educational institutions, and more than 100 posters were displayed. The students who participated in the poster competition expressed that such opportunities help them to showcase their art to the public and boost their motivation. Fateha Tariq, Hajra Noor, Ajala Zahra, Miss Preet and Sidra Noor secure the first five positions in the competition respectively. Vice Chancellor of AIOU, Dr. Nasir Mahmood, was the chief guest at the prize and certificate distribution ceremony.



Tajweed Classes Begin at AIOU

Allama Iqbal Open University AIOU organized Tajweed Al-Qur'an classes during Ramadan. A Total of 37 employees of the university, including 22 female and 15 male employees, were registered for these classes. The certificate distribution ceremony for these classes took place at AIOU. Dean Faculty of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Prof. Dr. Mohyuddin Hashmi presided over the ceremony, while Director, Coordination and Follow-up, Prof. Dr. Syed. Aamir Shah was the chief guest. Dr. Sana Ullah Hussain, Chairman of the Department of Quran and Tafseer, hosted the event. Addressing the ceremony, Prof. Dr. Amir Shah spoke about the close relationship between the Quran and Ramadan and congratulated the Department of Quran and Tafseer for their efforts. Dr. Mohyuddin Hashmi praised the department's work

in guiding people back to the Holy Quran, emphasizing the importance of the Quran and the Sunnah in guiding Muslims. Dr. Sana Ullah mentioned that the teacher in



Tajweed Al-Qur'an classes focused on ensuring the correct pronunciation of the Qur'an. He explained that these classes aimed to teach fundamental religious rule and regulations.

Moot Explores Trends in Chemistry

A two-day 6th international conference on 'Recent Trends in Chemistry' commenced at Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU). Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood was the chief guest at the inaugural session. He highlighted the importance of promoting science as it is crucial for the development of any country and nation. Dr. Nasir encouraged the students to work hard for the prosperity of the country, and to fulfil their dreams because it cannot be achieved without hard work. He also mentioned that the world is open for those who work hard, and the success of students is an honour for the institution. Additionally, the Vice Chancellor emphasised the need for useful and applied research for the betterment of the society. This conference is being organised by the Department of Chemistry, AIOU. Dr. Nasir mentioned that experts in chemistry from Russia, China, and other parts of the world have participated in the conference to educate students about the latest trends in chemistry. This

will help students stay well-informed about the developments in the field of chemistry. The Chairperson of the Chemistry Department, Dr. Uzma Yunus, explained the aims and objectives of the conference in detail. She emphasised the importance of the conference, as AIOU is celebrating its golden jubilee and the chemistry department is celebrating its silver jubilee this year. Dr. Uzma explained that the conference aims to showcase the research-based projects of students, provide a platform for scholars to interact with the national and international research community to enhance the quality of research, and acquaint the students with the latest trends in chemistry.



AIOU Launches Spring Plantation Campaign

Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has launched spring plantation campaign for the year 2024. Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood inaugurated the campaign by planting apricots in the lawn adjacent to the new ICT building. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood said that planting is the most important need and to contribute towards fulfilling this need Allama Iqbal Open University tries to play



its full role every year. He said that the gardener of the university has maintained this tradition for which they deserve congratulations. Deans, principal officers and faculty members have planted Japanese fruit, pear, peach, plum, apricot and citrus trees. Director Follow-up and Coordination, Prof. Dr. Syed Amir Shah, while briefing the Vice Chancellor on the planting campaign, said that as a result of the hard work of gardeners, AIOU secured first position in all three categories of flower exhibition in Rose and Jasmine Garden organized by the Islamabad Horticulture Society and CDA. Dr. Nasir Mahmood announced a cash prize of Rs. 10,000 for gardeners. AIOU is planting eight different fruits and several types of flowers in this campaign. In the end, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood gave certificates of appreciation to the gardeners.

AIOU Holds 67th BASR Meeting

The 67th meeting of the Board of Advanced Studies and Research (BASR) was held at Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) on January 24, 2024. Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, presided over the meeting. The Directorate of BASR organized the meeting and the Director BASR, Prof Dr. Syed Amir Shah, presented a detailed report on the implementation of the decisions made during the previous meeting and the agenda for the current session. A total of 15 students from different departments presented synopses during the meeting, including 6 scholars from the Department of History, 4 from the Department of Educational Planning, Policy Studies and Leadership, 4 from the Department of Nutritional Sciences and Environmental Design and 1 scholar from the Department of Statistics. All four Deans, prominent scholars, subject specialists, supervisors, heads of departments and a permanent member of the board, Prof. Dr. Yusuf Khushk was also present at the meeting. Prof. Dr. Tanveer Anjum, Prof. Dr. Mujeeb Ahmed, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Imran, Prof. Dr. Malik Ghulam Behlol, Dr. Asma Sohail and Dr. Wajiha Shahid were the subject specialists. The research topics were approved with minor changes. The board directed some PhD scholars to refine the synopses further and present these in the next meeting. VC AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood asked the Deans, and Heads of the Departments that considering the current situation, students should be given such topics which can contribute to the country in any aspect.

New ICT building inaugurated at AIOU

"Equipping the youth with information technology is the most important need of the hour, if the entire system of the university had not been digitized in time, it would not be possible to carry on educational activities during the covid-19", said Vice Chancellor, Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood while addressing the inaugural ceremony of the newly constructed



building of Directorate of Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Dr. Nasir Mahmood said that no one in Pakistan has such a platform, students have got online facilities because of digitalization and, problems are being solved on a priority basis. Dr. Nasir Mahmood stated that digitalization was the vision and mission of Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum. Despite the interruption caused by Covid, AIOU continued its educational activities, which is creditable to the former Vice-Chancellor. Executive Director, Higher Education Commission (HEC) and former Vice-Chancellor AIOU, Prof Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum, was the chief guest of the event. Dr. Zia expressed gratitude to the university administration for continuing the digitalization policy and emphasized that good initiatives should be carried forward to strengthen institutions. He also stated that the new ICT building is a modern facility, and institutions must be run by planning. After digitization, it is essential to pay special attention to the quality of education and course development, particularly in standardizing the texts of undergraduate, BS, postgraduate diploma programs, and associate programs. Registrar AIOU, Raja Umar Younis, deans, and principal officers participated in the ceremony. It is pertinent to mention here that the foundation stone of this building was also laid by the former Vice Chancellor, Prof Dr. Zia Ul-Qayyum, who also inaugurated the building today.

AIOU Resumes Extra-Curricular Activities

Vice Chancellor of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), Prof Dr. Nasir Mahmood said that there is a dire need to attract children to co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. He said these activities instill the spirit of hard work in students, while addressing the prize distribution ceremony of the AIOU Annual Cricket Tournament 2024. Sports activities were halted due to the pandemic, now resuming those healthy activities is a very good initiative, he added. The Vice-Chancellor emphasized the importance of sports in the physical and mental development of children and announced that sports activities will be organized in the university's regional campuses. Additionally, he mentioned that the renovation of residential colony blocks and the ground is in the planning stage, and sufficient funds will be allocated in the budget. During a briefing on sports activities, Director of Student Affairs, Syed Ghulam Kazim Ali, informed the Vice Chancellor that cricket, badminton, table tennis, and football teams have been formed at AIOU, and 60 teams participated in this cricket tournament with a total of 50 matches played. DSA said that there were 2 categories in this tournament, one was the students' category, and the other was the AIOU employees' category. The student category tournament was won by the university residential colony team while the final match of the employees' category was played between the admin and DRS teams, DRS team bags the winning trophy. At the end of the final match, all four finalist teams were introduced to the Vice Chancellor.



AIOU to Send Degrees Automatically to Students

The Vice Chancellor, Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood has said that the university would mail degrees automatically to the students from the Semester Autumn 2024. While addressing the meeting of Faculty of Social Sciences, he said that there would be no need apply for degree separately. He said that there was special focus on improving the examinations and admissions system. The VC directed the Controller of Examinations to clear the pending cases of degrees as soon as possible. Dr. Nasir further said that facilities for the students would be improved to boost their confidence, adding, that the dropout rate would be minimized. Dr. Nasir added that faculty members were playing an important role due to which our institution was among the best institutions of country. He said that we were all engaged in our respective jurisdictions for the betterment of the students and the intuitions. Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Prof Dr. Abdul Aziz Sahir gave a detailed briefing about the Faculty of Social Sciences Departments. He gave various suggestions to increase the number of admissions. He further said that we needed to create more clusters and introduce certificate courses.



AIOU Inks MoU with Takmil to Enroll Out-of-School Children

Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Takmil- Teach A Kid Make Individual Life, regarding cooperation and facilitation to bring out-of-school children into the education network. Dean, Faculty of Education Prof Dr Fazal ur Rahman and Director, Coordination and Follow-up Prof Dr Syed Amir Shah represented the Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof Dr Nasir Mahmood in the ceremony. Chairman, Department of Distance non-Formal and Continuing Education Dr Muhammad Ajmal Chaudhry from AIOU and a board member from Takmil Dr Sania endorsed the MoU. According to MoU, AIOU will provide education and technical support to bring out-of-school children into the educational network. This includes support for teachers' training conducting training and assistance in organizing educational activities. Dr Fazal Ur Rehman addressing the ceremony, mentioned that both public and private sector organizations as well as various NGOs, are working on out-of-school children but they are still encountering some challenges. He emphasized that our vice chancellor believes that MoUs should not be mere paperwork they should bring tangible benefits to the community.



AIOU Allocates Rs125m for Students Assistance

Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has allocated a significant amount of 125 million for financial assistance and scholarship programs. These programs are designed to help deserving, needy, and bright students, said Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood. He was addressing at the prize distribution ceremony held in honor of the students who won Final Year Project Grants and Merit Scholarships in semester Autumn 2023. Speaking on the occasion, he said that during the previous year, a total of 36,640 students benefited from these opportunities. AIOU provides free matriculation education to the people of Balochistan, merged districts (Ex FATA), and Gilgit-Baltistan, he added. In addition, VC said the university offers merit scholarships to bright students who secure more than 80% marks in each semester, and their fee is refunded. It is pertinent to mention here that a total of 129 students from various departments have been awarded merit scholarships for achieving more than 80% marks in the autumn 2023 semester. Additionally, 13 students from three departments have been granted final-year project grants. It's essential to note that as per university policy, students who secure 80% marks must apply within the given time to receive scholarships; otherwise, the university will not be responsible. The successful students were presented with cheques by the Vice Chancellor. Dr. Nasir Mahmood emphasized that hard work is a key factor in achieving success in life. The purpose of the merit scholarships is to encourage talented students to complete their education. This celebration will motivate other students, and there are vast opportunities available for them in the world. Dr. Nasir also pointed out that Allah has blessed everyone with the same abilities, and the only difference between the successful and unsuccessful is the amount of hard work put in. This event was organized by the Directorate of Students Advisory and Counseling Services.



AIOU conducts training workshop for community teachers

A four-day training workshop has begun at the Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) to digitize teaching courses for community teachers. The inaugural session was presided over by Prof. Dr. Fazal Ur Rahman, Dean of the Faculty of Education. Dr. Fazal appreciated the initiative of digitizing teaching courses for community teachers and expressed his gratitude towards the Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, for taking various measures to improve the facilities for students and teachers. The participants of the inaugural session included Irfan Ali Ansari, Director IET, Dr. Muhammad Ajmal, Dr. Tahira Bibi, Dr. Salim Iqbal, Kamran Mir, Muhammad Jawad, and others. Department of Distance, Non-Formal and Continuing Education, in collaboration with UNESCO Pakistan, is organizing a training workshop. Dr. Muhammad Ajmal stated that the workshop aims to complete the process of digitalizing teaching courses, ensure online delivery, and create 3D animation for a better understanding of community teachers. He expressed gratitude towards the Institute of Educational Technology, Directorate of Information & Communication Technology, and other related departments for their support in organizing the workshop. Dr. Tahira Bibi explained the aims and objectives of the workshop in detail. The closing ceremony of the workshop will be held on Thursday, January 18th.



Regional Head, Monitoring the Examination Centers

Regional Head, Narowal Campus, Dr. Baqir Hussain Shah is monitoring the examination centers as per the direction of Vice Chancellor Dr. Nasir Mahmood and DGRS Dr. Malik Tauqir Ahmad Khan. He also briefed students about the ongoing admissions of Semester Spring 2024.



Dinner for Lahore Region at AFOHS

Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood hosted a dinner for the entire team of the Lahore Region at AFOHS Club, Lahore, to celebrate the successful organization of the Punjab Chapter's convocation. Dr. Nasir congratulated and appreciated the entire team.



Disabled student visited Regional Campus Gilgit

Mr. Liaquat Ali, a disabled student of BA program, visited the Regional Campus Gilgit and met the Regional Director, Dildar Hussain. Liaquat appreciated the AIOU's free education policy for disabled students. He also pointed out some problems faced by the specially abled students. Liaquat Ali said that we are very thankful to the university due to which we are getting free education at our doorstep.



Vice Chancellor AIOU visited Sahiwal Region

Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, addressed the heads of educational institutions, teachers, university tutors, and resource persons at Jinnah Public Library in Sahiwal during his visit to the Regional Campus Sahiwal. He mentioned that the university is celebrating its Golden Jubilee this year as it has completed fifty years. He said that 50 lac students have graduated from the university during this time. Additionally, the Vice Chancellor visited the under-construction building of the regional campus and instructed to expedite the completion of the work.



The staff of Regional Campus Sheikhpura supervising the examination centers.



Meeting with representatives of Swift Centers

Regional Campus Peshawar held a meeting with tutors and representatives of Swift Centers in the Peshawar Region to discuss the admission campaign for the spring semester of 2024. Regional Director Peshawar, Nafees Bibi, instructed everyone to accelerate the admission campaign and ensure the message reaches a wide audience.



List of students who completed Mphil, Ph.D programs from AIOU, Jan 24 to March 24

S#	Name of Students	Title of Thesis
1	Ms. Uzma Abbasi	Evaluation of website content effectiveness in ODL Institution perspective
2	Mr. Muhammad Sajid	Strategic Planning and Implementation for communicate participation in adult literacy project in AJK
3	Ms. Anam Naseeb	The Socio-Economic determinants of crimes in Rural areas of Gujranwala
4	Mr. Muhammad Gul	Coherent Manipulation of Knot Bundles in Atomic Medium Under Kerr Non Linearity
5	Ms. Nayab Talib Awan	Synthesis and Characterization of ZnO-Co ₃ O ₄ Nanocomposite by Green Chemistry Method
6	Ms. Noor Ul Ain	Role of Agricultural farming on the Livelihood of Rural Communities in Tehsil Lawa, District Chakwal
7	Mr. Qaisar Khan	Coherent Manipulation of Knot Bundles in Atomic Medium Under Doppler Broadening Using Four Levels System
8	Mr. Badi uz Zaman	Hydrothermal Synthesis of Cerium Doped Zinc Oxide for Environmental Remediation
9	Asthma Ibrar	Identification of Challenges Faced by School Management during Covid-19 and Strategies to overcome the Challenges
10	Ms. Lubna Shaheen Ch.	Role of Interactive Class Talk in Development of Transversal Competencies in Grade 7 Science Students
11	Ms. Nadia Munir	Effect of Virtual Simulations on the Higher Order Thinking Skills in the Subject of Chemistry at Grade 9
12	Dure Shahwar	Effect of Kolawole Problem Solving Method on Student's Performance in Mathematics at Secondary level in District Bhakkar
13	Arslan Farooq	Synthesis of Metal Organic Framework for Removal of Toxic Ions from water
14	Zaheer ud Din	Synthesis, Ca Cadmium doped Sulfide Nanoparticles for Photocatalytic Application
15	Ms. Zakia Afzal	Stereoselective Synthesis and Pharmacological Study of Chiral Coumarin Derivatizes