



Society for International Education

NEWSLETTER

April - June 2019

Strengthening Students' Societies in Universities— Review Meeting

Society for International Education organized a day-long 'Review Session' under Strengthening Students' Societies in Universities project on June 15th, 2019. The program was attended by 200 students and faculty members from 6 universities including Benazir Bhutto Shaheed University, Karachi University, Newports Institute of Communication and Economics, Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology, Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science & Technology and Usman Institute of Technology.

The objective of the program was to bring all the stakeholders i.e. University Student from Societies, Representatives from University Management and Partner Organizations on a single platform to review the successes, challenges, and areas of improvement of the 6-month long project. The students were the actual highlight of the program as they themselves shared their successes and the impact which the program made on them. Breakout sessions were organized for students of each society in the second half of the program which allowed them to review their challenges and success. The program ended with a thank you note from SIE.



Azme Naujawan Closing Ceremony



On April 23rd, a grand ceremony was hosted, celebrating the closing ceremony of 'Azm-e-Naujawan', with over 600 participants.

The theme behind 'Azm-e-Naujawan'; an exemplary initiative that offers holistic training and development for the youth of country, polishing professional and entrepreneurial skills, and providing them with a platform for personal growth.

At the end of the current cycle, over 3000 young leaders have been trained under this program, covering six districts of Karachi. This ceremony had community representatives invited as guests, who addressed the audiences on their perspective on the role of youth in social settings and in general civil society, extending their full support to the program.

Azm-e-Naujawan program alumni, presented their insights and shared success stories, showcasing the AeN experience and how it transformed their thought process in transforming to mature and active citizens contributing to community development.

The event provided a unique platform for different community representatives, to meet, greet and learn from each other about this initiative under 'Azm-e-Naujawan' activities and identify with its positive impact across the board. The ceremony concluded on a high note with a motivational session followed by a musical performance by a group of community folk singers. Overall, the event concluded successfully and was

widely appreciated.



What's Inside...

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- ⇒ Access Alumni Meeting with RELO
- ⇒ SIE Professional Development Aug-Dec 2019

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SIE PROGRAMS

Activities & Events

The US Summer Sisters Exchange Program- Pre Departure Orientation

On Saturday, March 18th 2019, the Pre-Departure Orientation of the US Summer Sisters Exchange Program was conducted in Karachi, for all the outgoing batches. A total of 24 students will travel to the United States this summer, to attend the summer program being offered by renowned universities in America.



The orientation was divided in two phases; speakers' session and the workshop. The sessions during the workshop focused on helping the students understand the true nature of the program along with its rules and guidelines. Here, they were given the rundown on university life in USA, food, transportation, costs and other cultural aspects. Idea was to give him a head start in how to best utilize the opportunities through this program. The work-shop phase covered writing communication skills, email communication, social media norms and how to use technology safely, plus develop understanding on student testimonials about the exchange program.



US Consul General JoAnne Wagner was the chief guest of the evening. He was accompanied by Stephen Valen Cultural Affairs Officer at US Consulate Karachi. The Consul General spoke about the cultural similarities between United States of America

and Pakistan, and how these girls will play a pivotal role as Ambassadors of Pakistan.

The Pak-USA Women's Council initiated the U.S. Summer Sisters Exchange Program back in 2013. Under this program, young female high school students aged 15-18 from under privileged backgrounds, are selected on merit, for opportunities to study and learn in the USA.



Access Alumni Meeting with RELO

Mr. Jerrold Frank, Regional English Language Officer, U.S. Embassy Islamabad, Ms. Susan Ross, Cultural Attaché, and Ms. Aisha, English Language Program Coordinator from U.S. Consulate General, Karachi visited SIE office on April 17th, 2019 and met the Access alumni. The Access alumni were from Access Programs of 2010-12, 2012-14, 2014-16 and 2017-18.



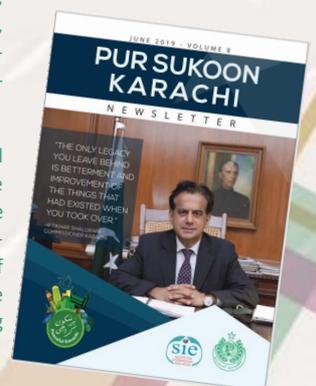
The alumni shared their success stories on how 'Access' helped them plan and achieve their dreams. They also shared how they applied their skills in practical to benefit society while participating in the Access Program. The alumni shared details on community service projects that they served after completion of the Access Program. The guests congratulated the alumni on their efforts to transform their communities, bringing positive change in society.



Pur Sukoon Karachi – Relaunched

SIE in collaboration with Commissioner's office Karachi launched the PSK-Project (Pur-Sukoon Karachi Project). PSK is the official monthly newsletter that highlights the peace –building initiatives being taken up by the government of Karachi in promoting peace, showcasing a positive narrative of the city, identifying positive trends, while promoting inter-faith harmony and development for the city.

June marks the 1st edition of the official newsletter- a vibrant initiative vie by the Karachi Commissioner's office alongside SIE and its official partners. This newsletter will provide a detailed overview of the history and culture of Karachi while identifying solutions to the pressing challenges faced by the metropolis.



The PSK project has been re-launched with its Volume # 8, under the current leadership of the government.

SIE PROGRAMS

Activities & Events

Mission to Mars Space Challenge - Orientation Day

Society for International Education (SIE), in collaboration with U.S. Consulate Karachi, Lincoln Corner Karachi, and Pakistan Space Science Education Centre, hosted a day-long Orientation session on Tuesday, April 30th, 2019.

This was the orientation launch ceremony to kick off the 'M2M' –Mission to Mars Space Challenge Project in Karachi.

M2M Space Challenge is a two-month long educational journey, created as a future way-forward for generations to overcome human challenges in future space journeys to Mars. The journey was divided into four different themes: Technological Advancement, Survival on Mars, Colonization of Mars and Mars-tromy. Over 100 students from 10 different schools participated in the session. Students made different teams, with each team picking up one theme, building their creative learning around that project. The projects were showcased on July 20th, 2019 on M2M Exhibition Day.

Hibah Rahmani (the first Pakistani female Avionics Engineer working at NASA) was the chief guest of the event. U.S. Consul General, U.S. Embassy in Pakistan, Cultural and Public Affairs Officers from U.S. Consulate were also invited as speakers and motivators on this occasion, where they encouraged students to pursue careers in STEM. Overall, the event was a great success.



M2M Space Challenge – Sessions at Schools

M2M-Mission to Mars training sessions continue to be held, since the Orientation event on 30th April 2019. Each trainer- volunteer from SIE is assigned to visit one school each, to facilitate students who are selected to work on this project. The students work in teams with the help of trained volunteers to complete their projects. These STEM projects are based on the themes introduced at the orientation session. The projects will be showcased in July at Exhibition Day of the program. Top 3 t winners will get a chance to participate in a two-day 'Space Camp' at Lincoln Corners.



Fifth Networking Event of Azme Naujawan

Society for International Education hosted their 5th Networking event of Azm-e Naujawan on April 3rd, 2019 at Best and Bright School, Shirin Jinnah, Karachi. The theme of the event was "Creativity for Community Empowerment".



Over 100 youth and community members participated. The main objective of this networking event was to encourage peace and create awareness on how to create balance through colors and creative arts. Parents and students took part in doodling activity. The activity was very refreshing and widely appreciated by youth and community members.



Citizen Journalism Training Program

Citizen Journalism Training Program began in mid-April 2019, with over 200 participants benefitting through this first round of training which included a 6 hour training session on 'news writing' and 'reporting' for aspiring journalists. Others areas covered in the session included Mobile Journalism, Photojournalism and Social Media for Citizen Journalism.



Majority of the sessions were conducted at the SIE – training house, which is home to many aspiring storytellers. Among the trainers were Pakistan's top media professionals, including Journalist Ali Arqam, part of the Newsline magazine, Shahzeb Ahmed from the Centre for Excellence in Journalism and Photojournalist Ayesha Mir. Upcoming sessions are scheduled to be held after the Eid Festival.



SIE WORKSHOPS & TRAININGS

Workshops & Trainings

Classroom Management for Effective Teaching

A Professional development workshop on "Classroom Management for Effective Teaching" for teachers was organized by SIE, on Saturday, April 13 at Globe-the SIE Training Centre. A total of 13 teacher participants from different schools of Karachi attended the workshop.

The workshop focused on teaching innovative approaches and techniques to teachers, helping them to optimize and effectively drive their curriculum, keeping student focus and empathy in mind, leading to higher learning in classroom environments. The participants were taught how to use learning tools and build rapport with the students, while keeping maintaining excellent time management skills.

The workshop was very useful for us to learn innovative strategies for classroom management", said one of the workshop participant.



Allama Iqbal Kay Saat Aasman

SIE kicked off various workshops from Saturday, 8th April. This week SIE conducted a workshop on "Allama Iqbal Kay Sath Aasman" specially designed for Urdu language teachers at the Globe- SIE training center. 16 teachers from different schools of Karachi participated.

The purpose of this workshop was to develop better understanding and get to know more about Allama Iqbal's publications as a renowned poet, thinker and philosopher of Pakistan. The facilitator focused on various activities to mark the 'Iqbal day' and such other important national events to highlight the social and cultural significance of such events for the schools and students.

The workshop also provided extracts which has been taken from the writings of Iqbal which will help in school activities to bring a new color to the classroom teaching. "The workshop helped us to know more about Iqbal's publications and how we can use them for our school activity as our responsibility to spread awareness amongst students." - Workshop participant.



'Tadrees Urdu ka Sooti Tareeka'

On April 20th, 2019, SIE conducted a workshop on Urdu language titled: 'Tadrees Urdu ka Sooti Tareeka', for professional development of Urdu language teachers of primary school level. This workshop was held at Globe- the SIE training Centre in which 20 teachers from different schools of Karachi participated.

The workshop offered participants to learn innovative approach to teach Urdu which will create interested in student to know more about Urdu language which will bring new colors to classroom teaching. The workshop had hands-on activity which focused on learning techniques of Urdu alphabets. Overall, the workshop was very interactive.

"The positive skills learned in this workshop can not only be seen in the classroom but also are being seen in student social behavior. Learning techniques of alphabets was fun. It has cleared many of my wrong concepts." – Saniya Mehmood (KMA Girls Secondary School)



SIE team at Iftaar Dinner hosted by Society for International Education at Karachi Club on May 07th, 2019

GLOBAL COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

with iEARN Online Projects

Don't Waste—Create

Students of Class- 1 Beaconhouse School System KG PECHS II recycled plastic bottles to create simple ottoman. The activity was designed as a part of "Don't Waste—Create" Project. The methodology used for the activity was; students collected empty plastic bottles then they filled those bottles half with water. After that, they joined all bottles in form of a flower with a tape.

The top and bottom of ottoman was secured with a cardboard sheet and then wrapped it with 2 rectangular foamic sheets which was finally covered with a fabric using hot glu gun and placed it outside our class reading area. The students learned to recycle materials through this project activity.



Get to Know Others

Students of Beaconhouse (PKG-3) had an interesting and fun filled Skype session with the students of BSS PKG-I. They introduced themselves and talked about their likes and dislikes, favourite cartoon characters, hobbies, games etc.

The session ended by singing rhymes. Students loved interacting with each other. Beaconites exchanged cards and friendship bands with each other. The activity was a part of online collaborative learning under the project of "Get to Know Others"



Folk Tales / Storytelling : Past and Present

Students of Beaconhouse School System KG PECHS II celebrated Dr. Seuss Birthday. The event was celebrated for a week in school to show respect. The students made props for photo sessions and shared his famous quote "the more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more place you'll go."

The idea of whole activity was to promote reading habits among students. Overall, the activity was conducted successfully.



Every Day is Earth Day

Students of Bloomfield Hall School, Johar Town Campus celebrated Earth Day by carry out "Say No to Plastic" activity under "Every Day is Earth Day" Project.

Students researched and conducted awareness session at school to promote use of paper instead of plastics. The students posted their work on iEARN forum and received comments which was encouraging for them.



My Name around the world

The students of grade VIII from Aga Khan School Garden, Karachi, started the My Name Around the world project, under the club and society hour. During the first module the students researched, find information about their own name.

Students got answered different questions connecting with own name. Students have created different visualizations of name: posters, calligraphy work etc. They made visual presentations for sharing information about name and photos.



Digital Citizenship



Students of Beaconhouse School System Primary 2 PECHS Campus participated in this project where they did some research about Digital Citizenship.

Students listed down roles and rules of digital citizen in digital world. They also shared their work online on iEARN forum which was widely appreciated by other members.

The school is looking forward to conduct these activities in future also.

YES ALUMNI PROGRAM

Activities Update

Sharing is Caring

YES alumni Pakistan carried out a total of 39 "Sharing is Caring" Project at 14 locations nationwide, through which they prepared to organize Iftaar meals and boxes for underprivileged community members. The projects were carried out at Burewala, Charsadda, Faisalabad, Gilgit, Hyderabad, Karachi, Lahore, Mansehra, Mardan, Peshawar, Rawalpindi, Swat, Turbat and Umerkot.

Nearly 7,300 persons were directly and indirectly benefitted by this initiative conducted by 58 alumni of the YES-program.

The project included organizing 'Iftaar' meals for the underprivileged community members, through which they sat together and opened their fasts during the Holy Month of Ramadan. The alumni found it to be a rewarding experience and felt extremely good during the project while serving meals to the needy. Most of the participants of the project nationwide were daily laborers, wagers, workers, or travelers, without the means to buy ration to open their 'fasts'. The project promoted and harmony.



Ramadan Ration Drive Project



YES Alumni Pakistan carried out a total of 7 "Ramadan Ration Drive" projects in 6 locations nationwide (Faisalabad, Hyderabad, Mansehra, Lahore, Peshawar and Rawalpindi), during which they prepared ration packages for underserved families that is expected to last throughout the month of Ramadan.

Through these activities, a total of 260 families were benefitted and engaged 13 YES alumni.

The projects were carried out in the spirit of the holy month of Ramadan. The alumni identified undeserved families in their neighborhoods and communities, after which they reached out to friends and family to fundraise. Once the fundraising phase was over, the alumni put together

their contributions, purchased food items of daily use, packed them in different packages and delivered them to the already-identified families.

This was widely appreciated by the beneficiaries and said that it brightened up their Ramadan considering that it is extremely difficult to keep up with increasing expenses. Overall, the activities were a high success.

Medical Camps

YES alumni from Karachi and Umerkot carried out four medical camps at different locations in the province of Sindh. In the beginning, the alumni distributed flyers to inform people about the project and reach out to as maximum number of people as they can. Alumni, Volunteer and teams of doctors, were provided 'sanitizers' to ensure more hygienic environment.

All four projects were carried out at different locations of Karachi and Tharparkar. The first project was carried out in underserved areas in Tharparkar, where nearly 400 patients were treated and given 'free of cost' medicines. The second project was carried out in the small village of New Chor, where villagers including children and elders were provided with free medicines and checkups.

The third project was carried out in Umerkot, whereas the fourth one was

carried out in Baldia Town, Karachi. Nearly 600 persons were benefitted as a result of these four camps. These were widely appreciated by the local people and said that such camps help the local people in learning about preventive measures, and stay safe. Overall, the projects were a tremendous success.



Earth Day Celebration Project

SIE conducted the 'Earth Day' project. Students and children from underserved communities to celebrate the Earth Day, as part of a larger celebration under the banner of Global Youth Service Day 2019. The projects were carried out in Hyderabad, Islamabad, Lahore, Mardan, Peshawar, Rawalpindi and Turbat.

The activities consisted of giving short lectures regarding the importance of celebrating Earth Day along with some interactive drawing sessions. The students actively engaged in 'Tree Plantations' in their school and community and created "earth logos", on large posters encouraging collective participation and group building.

The workshops were widely appreciated by the students and the school administration, as important activities to gain better understanding of the environment, its challenges and its benefits. The alumni also found it to be a useful experience. Nearly 400 students participated in nearly 10 Earth Day celebratory projects and green wave tree plantation activities.



YES ALUMNI PROGRAM

Activities Update

Health and Hygiene Awareness Project

Health and Hygiene Awareness projects were carried out by YES alumni Pakistan nationwide. The beneficiaries of the activities were students from local schools and children from the community. The activities were held in Faisalabad, Islamabad, Karachi, Mansehra, Peshawar, Rawalpindi, and Umerkot. The projects focused on educating the beneficiaries about the importance of maintaining a key hygiene habit in themselves as well as adopt a proactive approach to their health in order to stay away from these diseases. Various activities were carried out with the children, mainly an educational session, about hygienic habits, practically involving hand-washing with soap activity as well as teeth brushing activity with tooth pastes. Everyone benefited from this project as a result of their involvement.



Dental Camp 2019

YES alumni Karachi, along with a team of doctors and dentists, organized and held a YES alumni Medical and Dental Camp at the underserved community of Baldia Town. The project was under the larger celebration of Global Youth Service Day 2019. The targeted locality was underprivileged and deprived of quality medical care, which was the reason why the YES team ensured that they catered their health needs to the fullest. The team provided free consultation, free medicines, referral to the nearest economical and reachable health care centers in tertiary care cases, Vitals and blood sugar-level checkups along with the correct dietary and life style counselling. It was a 4-hours long camp that facilitated around 100 patients.

In addition, proper medical prescriptions and advices were also provided to the local community to shield themselves from any possible hazards of the approaching heat wave in the city and the diseases that can be avoided with proper care. It proved to be a simultaneous learning and community serving experience for the participants. The project was widely appreciated by everyone involved and requested the YES alumni to hold similar sessions in future as well.



MY ALASKAN EXCHANGE YEAR—Leena Tarar (YES 2018-2019, Pakistan, hosted by AFS-USA in Anchorage, AK)

I would like to start my story right from the moment when this beautiful chapter of my life was first introduced to me. Of course, at that moment being placed in Alaska did not seem all too nice but as the time passed by, whoever I told about my placement was just as surprised as me. At first I started to think, why can't we do things other exchange students get to do in other states?

When I stepped off the plane and a week had passed by, I saw how beautiful my host state was with its glaciers, mountains, snow and sun. Everything existing in one place at one time just amazed me. I decided to do as many different sports and activities that I had never done before. This motivation came from my Pre-Departure Orientation in Pakistan and from Ms. Farah saying, 'Try new things'. Those words were just so saved in my memory that I couldn't forget them.



I signed up for ice-hockey without knowing anything about it and I never knew I would make it to varsity and we would win State Championships. Later on, the badminton club of anchorage arranged State Championships in which I also won Girls Singles and Girls Doubles. I did not stop then; I joined shot put and discus which were also new sports for me. I thoroughly enjoyed the season. I also did a lot of biking and hikes including flattop in which I slid down the mountain.



I was a teacher's aid for life skills (children with special needs) for the whole school year. The first ever exchange student facilitator in Pace. I volunteered more than 300 hours in my community. I got selected for a week long workshop known as Points of Light Youth Leadership which got me connected to the local government of Anchorage and increased my network of communication. I was not only successful in all of these things but also got honor roll for my academic performance. I did everything in Alaska and made things possible in this beautiful place because I was willing to try new things. I am very proud of being placed in Alaska because not many exchange students get to say that they were placed in this beautiful piece of land. And yes, I forgot to tell that Alaskans don't live in igloos and don't have polar bears as their pets!



SIE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

August—December 2019

Month	Date	Title of Workshop	Time	Focused Participants
August	3	Develop Reading Skills in Primary level Students	10:00am - 02:00pm	Subject teachers of primary school level
	17	Iqbal ke Saat Aasman	10:00am - 02:00pm	Urdu Language teachers of primary and secondary school level
	24	Enhance your Images with Adobe Photoshop	10:00am - 02:00pm	IT teachers, all subject teachers, students and all other interested participant
September	14	Workshop on Urdu Vocabulary (خزانے کی تلاش)	10:00am - 02:00pm	چھٹی، ساتویں اور آٹھویں جماعت کے اساتذہ کے لیے ورکشاپ
	21	iEARN Beginners Training	10:00am - 02:00pm	Subject teachers of primary and middle school level, Trainee/Pre-Service teachers, Subject Coordinators
October	5	Activity Based Teaching	10:00am - 02:00pm	English language teachers of primary and middle school level
	12	Teaching Math with Technology	10:00am - 02:00pm	Math subject teachers for middle and high school level
	19	Asking the Right Question	10:00am - 02:00pm	Subject teachers of primary and middle school level
November	2	Healthy Eating for Kids (iEARN Staying Healthy Project)	10:00am - 02:00pm	Science, Social Studies, Health Sciences teachers of primary and secondary school level
	16	Emotional Intelligence & Coaching Skills for Teachers	10:00am - 02:00pm	All subject teachers of primary and middle school level, Trainee/Pre-Service teachers, Subject Coordinators, Admin staff
	23	Web2.0 Tools for Virtual Classrooms	10:00am - 02:00pm	All subject teachers of primary and middle school level, Trainee/Pre-Service teachers, Subject Coordinators
December	7	Effective Feedback for Students	10:00am - 02:00pm	Subject teachers of all grade levels
	14	Design Effective Publications for Schools	10:00am - 02:00pm	Subject teachers, school admin staff, graphic designers and all other interested in designing and publishing.



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