Regional Experts Meeting on Using E-Books and E-Libraries in Educational Institutions

Raja Muhammad Ibrahim, Head of Library Information Services (CIIT) participated in Regional Experts Meeting on Using E-books and E-libraries in Educational Institutions from May 7-9, 2012. The meeting was organized by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), Ministry of Auqaf, and Islamic Affairs (State of Kuwait) in cooperation with Pakistan National Commission for UNESCO (PNCU) in Islamabad.

Objectives of the meetings were to determine a list of websites for authenticity and integrity of E-books contents, to create a guide for the library procedures and policies in acquiring E-books, to encourage communication and sharing of expertise among the stake holders and to take a stock of initiatives and good practices in using E-books.

Dr. Imtinan Elahi Qureshi, Executive Director, COMSATS Secretariat, was the chief guest of the inaugural session of the meeting. Speaking at the occasion, Dr. Qureshi emphasized the importance of E-books and related technologies keeping in view the technological innovations and future scenario.

He specially highlighted the salient features of CIIT’s Library Information Services (LIS) and praised the services and facilities offered by CIIT libraries.

Library and Information specialists from Pakistan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh participated in the meeting.
World Book and Copyright Day

23 April is a symbolic date for world literature for on this date in 1616, Cervantes, Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega all died. It is also the date of birth or death of other prominent authors such as Maurice Druon, Haldor K. Laxness, Vladimir Nabokov, Josep Pla and Manuel Mejía Vallejo.

So it was a natural choice for UNESCO's General Conference, held in Paris in 1995, to pay a world-wide tribute to books and authors on this date, encouraging everyone, and in particular young people, to discover the pleasure of reading and gain a renewed respect for the irreplaceable contributions of those who have furthered the social and cultural progress of humanity. The idea for this celebration originated in Catalonia (Spain) where it has become a tradition to give a rose as a gift for each book purchased.

By celebrating this Day throughout the world, UNESCO seeks to promote reading, publishing and the protection of intellectual property through copyright.

Just like previous years the World Book and Copyright day was again celebrated by the Library Information Services Islamabad with full zeal and enthusiasm. A book exhibition was arranged in this regard. The ceremony was inaugurated by the eldest and oldest library staff member, Sardar Muhammad Shabbir, who has been working as Library Attendant for last several years. A huge number of students, faculty and staff members witnessed the exhibition and took keen interest in displayed books.

Art Exhibition at Library

Solo exhibition of prints by Dr. Shahida Mansoor was held at the Art Gallery of CIIT (Islamabad Campus) library.

Earlier, the exhibition was inaugurated by His Excellency, Mr. Hiroshi OE (AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN IN ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN) on 15th June 2012. The inauguration ceremony was held in the library at 12:30 PM. A large number of students, CIIT officials and guests participated in the ceremony and witnessed the beautiful pieces of arts which were displayed on the occasion.

Raja Muhammad Ibrahim (Head Library Information Services) greeted the honorable guests and witnessed the exhibition.
Ambassador of Argentina in Pakistan H. E. Mr. Rodolfo J. Martin Saravia visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus) on April 4, 2012. Raja Muhammad Ibrahim welcomed the honorable guest outside the library building and took him to the different sections of the library. Later on a presentation was held in the Video Conferencing Room of the library in which senior officials of CIIT and Rector CIIT, Dr. S. M. Junaid Zaidi (S.I.) also participated.

Delegates from different countries who were in Islamabad for the 2nd Commission meeting of COMSATS (Commission for Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in South Asia) visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus Library). Delegation includes ministers, senior officials from Bangladesh, China, Colombia, Egypt, Ghana, Iran, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zimbabwe. They visited different sections of the library where they were briefed by the Senior Librarian about the resources, services and facilities library is offering to its patrons.

Admiral Tayyab Ali Dogar, Chief of Staff, Pakistan Navy, visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus) library on May 4, 2012. Dr. S. M Junaid Zaidi (Rector CIIT) along with other senior officials of CIIT accompanied the honorable guest during his visit to the library.

Mr. Cameron Munter, U. S. Ambassador to Pakistan visited Islamabad Campus library when he was in COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT) on an official visit on 29th May, 2012.

Dr Hiroyuki Ohsaki, who is Associate Professor at Osaka University, Japan, visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus Library) on June 5, 2012. Visiting to different parts of library, Dr. Ohsaki, praised the infrastructure, facilities and services being provided by the library to the students and researchers.

Delegations and VC’s from several universities of Islamic countries, who were in Islamabad to participate in the International VC’s Forum, visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus) and its Library on June 13, 2012.

Dr. Franco Vigliotti, Dean UAE (Ras Al Khaiah) Campus of EPFL visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus) library on June 5, 2012.
H.E. Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwaijri, Director General of Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), who is also the Secretary General of the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (FUIW), visited the CIIT library accompanied by the worthy Rector of CIIT.

Representatives of a Libyan University, who were here in Islamabad to attend the International VCs Forum, visited the library on June 14, 2012.

A high profile delegation from Lancaster University (UK) visited the CIIT Library on June 15, 2012.

A group of librarians and IT managers who were attending a training workshop at AHKNCRD (Islamabad) visited the library on 20th September 2012.

Prof. Scott Yam, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Queen's University, Kingston, Canada, visited CIIT and Library on September 6th, 2012.

Recently elected body of Pakistan Library Association (Federal Branch) along with the Director General National Library visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus) library on 18th September 2012.

A delegation of the University of Malaya (UM), Malaysia, headed by its Vice Chancellor, Professor Dato Tan Sri Ghauth Jasmon accompanied by senior professors and deans visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus) library on September 8, 2012.

Mr. Najeeb Khawer Awan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus) and Library on 14th September 2012.

Office of Development organized “CIIT Alumni & Freshmen Interactive Session” on September 11, 2012. Participants of this session visited the library where they were briefed by Raja Muhammad Ibrahim (Head of Library Information Services) and Tariq Mahmood (Deputy Librarian) about the library resources, facilities and services.

As part of the National Book Day Celebrations, a Book Fair was organized from April 22-26 at Pak-China Friendship Centre in Islamabad. Library Information Services Islamabad campus actively participated in the first ever National Book day.

A stall was set up with variety of information material about COMSATS Institute of Information Technology and Library Information Services. Streamers, brochures, banners and charts made the stall very informative and attractive for people. As a result, large number of visitors kept coming to the stall during the event and got their required information about CIIT and LIS department.

Arslan Sheikh (Assistant Librarian at CIIT, Islamabad Campus) along with Namoos Khan (Library Assistant at CIIT, Islamabad) dealt with the queries of the people and distributed CIIT Prospectus and other information material among them.

Raja Muhammad Ibrahim and other senior staff members of CIIT and LIS also visited the CIIT and other stalls set up by different publishers, booksellers and institutions during the event.

CIIT (Islamabad Campus) Library Got Access of IMF E-Library

CIIT Islamabad campus has got the access of IMF eLibrary for its all seven campuses. The IMF eLibrary delivers comprehensive online access to IMF information and contains over 12,000 publications.
Farewell party of Ms. Nadia Israr

CIIT Library team arranged a farewell party for Ms. Nadia Israr, Library Assistant who had been serving in COMSATS since 2009. At the moment Senior Librarian, Raja Muhammad Ibrahim & the Librarian, Madam Syeda Nasreen Sultana applauded the work and contributions of Ms. Nadia for the library. They also presented a souvenir to her in recognition of her services and wished her good luck in the future endeavors. Nadia Israr thanked the seniors for their guidance and support, she also appreciated the whole library team for their cooperation.

Orientation Sessions for New Students

COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT) organized Orientation Day for those students who got admissions in the Fall Semester 2012. The purpose of the Orientation Day was to provide basic information to the students about their respective departments, their course work, other facilities, and rules and regulations etc.

Students along with their parents enthusiastically participated in the event and turned out in large numbers. Special stalls and help desks by various departments were set up to guide and help the students.

Special lectures were held for students in their respective departments while a special session was organized for PhD and MS students in the Management Science Department. Special presentation about library was also a part of this activity.

Mr. Sheraz Ali,
Library Assistant at Islamabad Campus got married on August 26, 2012.
The whole library team wish him good luck and pray for his happy married life.

Mr. Abdul Ghafoor,
Library Attendant at Islamabad Campus got married on March 17, 2012.
The whole library team wish him good luck and pray for his happy married life.
Lancaster University Delegation Visits CIIT (Lahore Campus)

Distinguished guests from UK, Professor Mark E. Smith, Vice Chancellor, Professor Robert McKinley, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Professor Steve Bradley, Pro-Vice Chancellor (International) and Dr. Hassan Ahmed, Director Relationships, visited CIIT, Lahore Campus on June 14, 2012.

During their campus visit, honorable guests along with Worthy Rector Dr. S. M. Junaid Zaidi, SI, and Director CIIT Lahore Campus Dr. Muhammad Ahmed Bodla, Director ORIC / Head of Academic & Research Prof. Dr Talat Afza, Dr. M. A. Farooqi and other officers of CIIT Lahore Campus, visited the main library.

The Library In charge Mr. Muhammad Ishtiaq welcomed the guests and briefed them about the library resources and services.

The guests visited the various sections of the library Information Services and appreciated the resources and services.

Celebration of World Book Day at CIIT Lahore Campus Library

Library Information Services, CIIT Lahore, celebrated the World Book Day on Thursday, April 26, 2012. Main idea of celebrating this day was to develop reading habits and to create interest for reading among students and faculty members. Main events organized on this day were;

- Walk from Mosque to Library
- Poster Competition
- Gadget Competition
- Departmental Publications Stalls
- Library Mounted Books Exhibition
- Display of Students research projects/Prototypes

At the end Dr. Muhammad Ahmed Farooqi, Chief Guest Muno Bahi and Convener library affairs Dr. Robina Farooq described the importance of books and reading habits among students and faculty members. The Convener paid special thanks to worthy Director Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ahmed Bodla for providing all possible generous support to library. She acknowledged the efforts of Prof. Dr. Talat Afza as Ex-Convener library affairs. The “World Book Day Celebrations Committee” library staff, participating students and departments for organizing this walk was highly admired by speakers and later distributed certificates among all library staff, position holders and other supporting staff.

For more information about the services and activities of Library Information Services, Lahore Campus, contact to

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Mr. Tariq Najmi, In charge Library Information Service, CIIT Lahore, rejoined the office after successful completion of the PhD course works from Hamdard University Karachi. He was on leave from December 2011 to July 2012. Library staff Congratulated Mr. Tariq Najmi on this achievement and wish him best of luck for the future.

Dr Abdul Sattar renowned Library Scholar/Teacher/ Professional visited the CIIT Library along with Mr. Mumtaz Aslam a Library Professional on August 24, 2012.

A delegation from the Lancaster University UK, including Dr. David Sim, Director, of BBA Management, Dr. Reuben Edwards Principle of Furness College Lancaster University and Dr. Hasan Ahmad, Director, Relationship COMSATS Lancaster Program, visited the CIIT Library, Lahore on 5th September 2012.

The orientation program for new students (fall semester 2012) was held on September 2, 2012. The new students visited the library in groups along with the faculty members. The library staff Mr. Muhammad Ishtiaq, Mr. Abdul Rahim and Ms. Nasira Muneer briefed them about library resources.

The following library staff has been promoted in next scales/grades:
1. Ms. Fatima Usman promoted in OG-I in regular scale
2. Muhammad Saeed promoted to Jr. Library Assistant
3. Ghulam Fareed promoted to Jr. Library Assistant
4. Attiq ur Rehman promoted to Jr. Library Assistant

The whole library team congratulates them.

Mr. Javaid Iqbal joined CIIT Lahore campus Library as Library Assistant on 24-8-2012. He is Master in Library and Information Science from Sargodha University and has good skills in library activities.

Ms. Ambreen Naz joined as Jr. Library Assistant on same date. She is Master in Computer Science and will look after the digital library, CIIT Lahore repository, Library website and Electronic Resource Section.

News & events at Lahore Campus Library

Workshop on Communication Skills
With the collaboration of Department of Humanities, Library Information Services arranged a one day workshop on Communication Skills for CIIT Lahore library staff. The workshop was held on August 01, 2012, at Library Hall, CIIT Lahore.

Ms. Amna Naveed, Lecturer in Humanities was the first presenter of this workshop, she discussed the communication skills, its tools and techniques with library perspective. In second session, Ms Shazia Aziz, Lecturer in Humanities gave presentation on “Inter personal Skills”. In last session, Mr. Tariq Najmi, Incharge, Library Information Services talked about “Library Ethics” he also discussed the professional ethics within the library.

In concluding session, Dr. Amna Yousaf, Incharge, Department of Management Sciences, grace the occasion with her presence. She appreciated the activity and the contents of the workshop and added that this type of workshop/trainings should be conducted regularly. She presented the bouquets to the presenters of the workshop.

For more information about the services and activities of Library Information Services, Lahore Campus, contact to

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Events and Visits at CIIT Abbottabad Campus Library

Dr. Thomas C. Nugent Department of Chemistry, Jacobs University Bremen, Campus Ring 1, 28759 Bremen (Germany), accompanied with Dr Amir Waseem and Dr Sharif, Visited COMSATS Abbottabad campus library. They visited different sections of the library and appreciated the Library Services.

Faculty and Students from Abdul Wali Khan University, Mardan Visited CIIT Abbottabad on Wednesday May 02, 2012.

PEC Team visited the library in connection with accreditation of CIVIL ENGINEERING at COMSATS Abbottabad.

A team of Pakistan Engineering Council visited the CIIT Abbottabad Library for the accreditation of Computer Engineering. They visited the whole library and check all the available resources. They took keen interest in the services especially the book bank concept.

A German delegation from DAAD Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (German Academic Exchange Service) Ursula Saarbeck (MS), Director DAAD IC Islamabad and Katharina Fleckenstein Desk Officer Pakistan, visited the Abbottabad campus library.

Accreditation Inspection Committee from Higher Education Commission, National Computing Education Accreditation Council (NCEAC) visited the Library, CIIT Abbottabad. The purpose of the visit was to accredit the BSCS program. They thoroughly visited the library.

During Final Examination, Library timings were extended on Saturdays and Sundays. The students took full advantage of it and used library for their exam preparations.

KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency) Delegation also Visited CIIT Abbottabad campus Library.

During last six months more then twelve hundred latest books were added to the library stock on variety of subjects, e.g. Civil Engineering, Electrical engineering, computers science, pharmacy, chemistry, geology etc.

CIIT Abbottabad campus library received more then 70 books as donation on variety of subjects from Asia Foundation Islamabad.

For more information about the services and activities of Library Information Services, Abbottabad Campus, contact to

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Books on Wheels

Mobile Bookshop of the Oxford University Press Pakistan visited CIIT Abbottabad Library on November 6, 2012. The mobile Bookshop has a wide range of books which include dictionaries and reference books, academic and general books for adults and children on discounted prices. Faculty and students took keen interest in innovative books; they also purchased books for their personal use.

Book Fair @ Library

CIIT Abbottabad campus library arranged a grand book fair on 29th and 30th May 2012 at Azeem Shahzad hall. The event was inaugurated by Khan Gul Jadoon. A verity of books on different subjects were displayed during the book fair. Publishers from all over Pakistan participated in this event enthusiastically.
At CIIT Sahiwal campus library this time the World book day was celebrated in an innovative way. The world book day writings and flowers were presented to the library users in the library.

In-charge Library Information Services also visited the offices of administrative staff and faculty members and distributed flowers and writings regarding World Book Day celebration.

All the users of the library, staff and faculty members appreciated this activity and received the flowers and writings with great interest. They applauded the library team for celebrating this event.

Library Information Services try to avail every opportunity to enhance its collection for its readers and researchers. About 2638 more new titles were added to the library collection. With addition of these books now the library stock has exceeded the figure of 8500 which is a healthy development.

Computer Science accreditation council visited CIIT Sahiwal to inspect the BS (CS) program that is being offered at CIIT Sahiwal. Computer Science is a very successful program at CIIT Sahiwal, as highest number of students are enrolled in this program. The council members also visited the Library information services department on the same day. In-charge Library Information services along with his team welcomed the members of delegation including Dr. Ayub Alvi and Dr. Sharifullah khan on May 24, 2012.

A briefing was given to the delegation about the services that are being offered to the library users. Later on the delegation visited the digital library section, reference services section, circulation desk and library hall along with faculty members of computer science department.

Mr. Waris Ali Arslan joined “The University of Faisalabad” as Deputy Chief Librarian. The whole LIS staff Congratulates him and wish him all the best in his future.
National Conference on “Information Resources and Services in the 21st Century

Mr. Laeeq Mushtaq, Incharge Library Information Services CIIT Attock attended a 3 day Conference on “Information Resources and Services in the 21st Century” from July 17-19, 2012 held at Bara Gali Summer Campus University of Peshawar.

This National Conference was jointly organized by Department of Library and Information Sciences and Central Library, University of Peshawar.

More than 70 library science professionals participated from all over the country. Professor Dr. Mumtaz Anwar chief guest distributed certificates to the Participants.

Appoint
ment

as
Library Assistant

Mr. Aftab Ahmad LDC at CIIT Library Attock has been promoted to the post of Library Assistant.

The library team congratulates him on this achievement and hope that he will continue to improve his skills for the enhancement of the library services.

Workshop on “Use of HEC Digital Library, and E-brary

A workshop on “Use of HEC Digital Library, and E-brary” was organized by Library Information Services CIIT Attock for MS (CS) students enrolled in Fall 2012, on September 26, 2012 at the Lecture Hall-8 in the permanent campus of CIIT Attock.

Presentation was adeptly delivered by Mr. Laeeq Mushtaq, Deputy Librarian, CIIT Attock. During the workshop, participants were given a detailed Introduction of various e-resources that are available at the HEC digital library and e-brary. Various searching options, techniques and strategies were practically demonstrated to the participants. The participants considered the workshop very fruitful for their research work.

In the end, the participants were also briefed about the open access resources & various services offered by library Information services. The students were also briefed about VPN for accessing the digital library from outside the campus.

For more information about the services and activities of Library Information Services, Attock Campus, contact to

Mr. Laeeq Mushtaq, Incharge LIS (Attock Campus)
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COMSATS Vehari hosts a library with good number of books, journals and digital material. Digital library is among the promising features of the campus. Latest issues of the newspapers are displayed as well. Library has a very wide and diversified range of helping material for faculty members and students. In context of these services now the Library Information Services department has successfully implemented the CU Online library module to facilitate the LIS users in fast and accurate way. After the implementation of CU Online now the library operation has become more smooth for the staff, and users can also access their required information through their desktops.

Access to eLibrary USA & IMF @ LIS Vehari
CIIT LIS Vehari campus has subscribed the e-libraries of USA and IMF. The said resources provide full text information on various subjects. These are very valuable addition to the existing electronic resources of the library.

Access to Turnitin
With the support of CIIT Islamabad campus the students and faculty members are availing the facility of anti-plagiarism software at CIIT Vehari campus.

VPN Connectivity
To facilitate the faculty members and students in getting remote access to HEC digital resources; CIIT Vehari campus library is providing VPN accounts to the users with the support of CIIT Islamabad.

Reference Services
The reference service is being provided continuously to the library users in form of research articles, ebooks and citation references. The library regularly disseminates the information forwarded from other CIIT campuses. Current Awareness and Selective Dissemination of Information Services are being provided to the library users.

For more information about the services and activities of Library Information Services, Vehari Campus, contact to

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Libraries have a pivotal role in the success of any university and also a positive contribution in career development of the graduated students. Since the inception of CIIT Wah campus library in 2001, it was hardly believe to allocate more space to the library, due to the limited space of the campus but with the blessing of Almighty ALLAH and continuous struggle of the worthy Director Professor Dr. Tayyab Akram CIIT Wah campus has succeeded in getting adjacent building of the Sanofi-Aventis. For the last six months all the staff of the library strived hard to offer better services/facilities to all faculty members as well as to the students.

Following are the main activities of the library in last six months:

- Shifting of the Library to the new building. Total space available for library in new building is 4400 Sq Ft. With this extension in space the library have the capability to accommodate around 70 students. Study carrels have been provided up to 10 desirous students/faculty members. Complete convenience is provided at self-study center.

- With the extension of Campus and starting of new disciplines in Engineering (Civil Engineering and Power Engineering) demand for new books has increased. Almost 1000 new books are added to the library stock in last two months. In these 1000 books around 150 books are gifted by CIIT main Campus Islamabad. The books have been purchased mainly on the following subject areas:

  Civil Engineering  
  Power Engineering  
  Computer Sciences  
  General Reading

- For safe placement of the above added books, 10 new book shelves also added in library furniture.

- VPN (Virtual Private Network) facility is extended to 15 more PhDs faculty and Library staff members for research purpose. With this facility they can easily access their required materials/high reputed journals round the clock form their homes as well.

- Library also provide users, journals both in soft as well as in hard form. Presently library subscribed 10 more Journals of IEEE, ASCE (American society of Civil Engineering) and ACM in hard form.

For more information about the services and activities of Library Information Services, Wah Campus, contact to

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Library Promotional Material

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