



LIS BULLETIN

A quarterly newsletter of Library Information Services
COMSATS Institute of Information Technology



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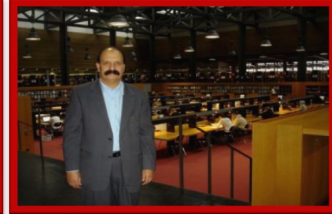
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The Editor, LIS Bulletin
Library Information Services
COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT)
Park Road, Chak Shahzad, Islamabad
Email: thussain@comsats.edu.pk
Phone: 051-9247000-3 Ext. 5063

HEAD LIS/SENIOR LIBRARIAN VISITS GERMANY



Raj Muhammad Ibrahim, Head/Senior Librarian of Library Information Services (CIIT) visited Germany from 13-29 February 2012. He visited libraries of Technical University of Applied Sciences Wildau and Grimm Center, Humboldt University for professional purposes. His visit was sponsored by Bibliothek & Information International. Detailed report can be downloaded and viewed at <http://ww3.comsats.edu.pk/library/Files/visitGermany2012.pdf>

MADAM SYEDA NASREEN SULTANA LED A WOMEN DELEGATION AT THE WOMEN AS GLOBAL LEADERS CONFERENCE



Madam Syeda Nasreen Sultana, the Librarian at Islamabad Campus, represented the CIIT at the Women as Global Leaders, (WAGL), Conference, held in Abu Dhabi from March 13-15, 2012. She was nominated by the honorable rector Dr. S.M. Junaid Zadi (SI), to lead a three-members women delegation, including the students from CIIT Islamabad and Abbottabad campuses. The prestigious international conference was organized by the Zayed University, Abu Dhabi. The theme of the conference was "Creating Sustainable Future for the World". More than one thousand professionals, experts, educators, leadership and students from over 06 continents and 34 different countries around the world participated in the conference.

The conference provided the delegation with an opportunity to learn about the multifarious
(Continue reading on next page)

Website: <http://ww3.comsats.edu.pk/library>



issues relating to sustainable development as well as to interact and network with several distinguished experts and professionals from across the globe.

At the occasion the CIIT delegation also got chance to create a soft image of Pakistan among the international community and to introduce the CIIT to several eminent scholars, educators and leadership. At the occasion, the CIIT was also introduced to the royal family as Madam Nasreen presented the CIIT brochures along with a gift of beautiful pieces of Pakistani handicrafts to Her Highness at a banquet hosted at the royal palace.

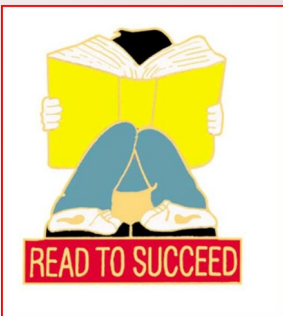
During the conference, Madam Nasreen had a meeting with the Dean of the Zayed University library and shared the ideas and information of mutual interest with the Reference Librarian.

As an outcome of Madam Nasreen's participation in the WAGL conference, an exchange of the CIIT professionals, including the library professionals, and students is strongly expected between the Zayed University and CIIT in near future.



NEWS & EVENTS AT ISLAMABAD CAMPUS LIBRARY

WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATIONS AND POSTER COMPETITION



Every year Library Information Services (LIS) celebrates World Book Day along with the world community to promote the reading culture and to spread awareness about copyright issues. This year's event will be celebrated on 23rd of April.

This year's special activities include a poster competition on the topic "Reading Habits in the Digital Era". This competition is open for students, faculty and staff of CIIT.

The winners of the competition will be awarded special prizes. Library will also hold an exhibition of the selected posters and special certificates will also be distributed amongst the participants.

LIS STAFF PARTICIPATED IN THE CONVOCATION



Library staff of Islamabad Campus participated in the 39 & 40 Convocation of CIIT (Islamabad Campus) held at the Convention Centre Islamabad in early part of this year. They not only enjoyed the occasion but also had an excellent opportunity to interact with the students, faculty and staff members of CIIT.



NEWS & EVENTS AT ISLAMABAD CAMPUS LIBRARY



Professor Ahmed Moosa, Vice Chancellor, University of Technology, Baghdad visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus) Library on January 9, 2012.

Head of Library Information Services, Raja Muhammad Ibrahim, accompanied him during the visit and briefed about the different library facilities and services. Professor Ahmed Moosa was also introduced with the staff working in different sections of the library.

Col. (Retired) Siraj-ul-Naem, Director General National Accountability Bureau (NAB) visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus) library on January, 13, 2012.

Professor Dr. Qaisar Abbas accompanied him during the visit in which he saw different sections of the library. Raja Muhammad Ibrahim, Head Library Information Services briefed them about different services and facilities being provided by the library to educational community of CIIT.

Palestine's Ambassador to Pakistan, Hazem Hussain Abu Shanab visited the library on 24th January 2012.

During this visit, the honorable guest inaugurated the solo exhibition of paintings by Mariam Haider. The exhibition titled "Sun Light" is being held in the library these days.

Mr. Hazem Hussain Abu Shanab, also visited different sections of the library and took keen interest in the facilities like Self Check-in/Check-out and Drop Box facility along with other services of the library.

Raja Muhammad Ibrahim, Head Library Information Services accompanied him during his visit to the library and explained about the different facilities and library services.

Dr. Abdul Hamid Al-Fatah, who is the Cultural Attaché of Cultural Mission of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Islamabad, visited CIIT (Islamabad Campus) and Library on February 8, 2012.

Purpose of his visit was to explore opportunities of cooperation in various educational programs with CIIT. Senior official of CIIT (Islamabad Campus) accompanied him during his visit and held a meeting with him to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Vice Chancellor of AWKU Mardan Visited the Library on 16th February 2012.

The chancellor was received in the library by Madam Syeda Nasreen Sultana, Librarian, who also took him to the different sections of the library and briefed him about the resources and services.

Students of Mastung Degree College, Baluchistan and Syrian Ambassador Visited the Library in February 2012.



PRESENTATION ON HEC DIGITAL RESOURCES AND KNOWLEDGE TOOLS FOR RESEARCH

Library Information Services (Islamabad Campus) in continuation of an extensive ongoing campaign to market its electronic resources and indigenously developed tools for research, arranged a presentation on the topic on January 11, 2012.

This presentation was organized for the faculty members of Department of Humanities on their special request. The contents were specifically designed with a special focus on disciplines related to Humanities.



Mr. Tariq Mehomood (Deputy Librarian) was the presenter. He not only introduced the faculty members with different databases, resources and indigenously developed web-portals, but, also briefed them about the basic research skills required to explore these resources and various research tools.

More than 20 participants were present during the presentation who asked many questions related to the use of databases and different aspects of various research tools. databases which CIIT library is subscribing through HEC Digital Library Program.

In addition to this, they also talked about different library services which can be extremely useful for the researchers. A question and answer session followed the presentations.

PAKISTAN DAY CELEBRATED AT ISLAMABAD CAMPUS



COMSIANS observed Pakistan Day on Friday (March 23, 2012) with enthusiasm to mark the passage of the Lahore Resolution that led to the creation of a separate homeland in 1947 for South Asian Muslims.

The celebrations started with the Flag Hoisting Ceremony accompanied by the special prayers for the progress and prosperity of the country.

Dr. S. M. Junaidd Zaidi (SI) along with the other senior CIIT officials graced the occasion and hoisted the flag in front of the library building at Islamabad Campus.

NEW OPAC



New Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) of Library Information Services (Islamabad Campus) is ready to launch and will be accessible through world wide web soon.

New OPAC offers many utilities and services to the library members. On one side it offers SIMPLE and ADVANCE search features to explore the library holdings with BASIC and DETAILED information about a specific item, but, it also has a very powerful "My Account" feature. This feature provide each patron/member facilities to view the following details;

- Patron/Member Information
- Item Loaned and Loan History
- Fines and Fine History
- Reserved and Booked Items
- Computer Booking

The library is getting a very good feedback from the faculty and students who are using this OPAC on Local Area Network (LAN).



More screen shots of OPAC can be viewed at www.facebook.com/LIS.CIIT.Islamabad

LIBRARY ORGANIZES BOOK EXHIBITION ON WORLD WOMEN'S DAY



International Women's Day is celebrated on 8th of March all over the globe. On this occasion thousands of events are held throughout the world to inspire women and praise for their accomplishments. This year's theme for International Women's Day was to "Empower Women - End Hunger and Poverty".

Library Information Services (LIS) organized a Library Books Exhibition to celebrate the occasion. The purpose was to let the library patrons know about the literature related to the issues of women, which is available in the library. A good number of books were displayed during the exhibition which started on March 8, 2012 and continued till March 10, 2012.

A good number of people, especially the female students and faculty members took keen in-

CONGRATULATIONS



Muhammad Asif Sadheer, Library Assistant at Islamabad Campus got married on March 17, 2012.

We wish him best of luck and pray for happy married life.

LIS staff also congratulates **Muhammad Asif**, Assistant Librarian at Islamabad Campus on the birth of his daughter .

LIBRARY ORGANIZES ORIENTATION SESSIONS FOR NEW STUDENTS

Library Information Services (LIS) organized basic introductory session for new students on February 5, 2012.

Purpose of these sessions was to provide an overview and to inform them about;

- Library resources and how they can benefit from them.
- Facilities available in the library for them and how they can make use of these facilities.
- Services being provided by the library and how they can get maximum benefit from library services.
- Library rules and regulation.
- Library systems and procedures.



A large number of students in groups attended these sessions and visited different sections of the library where library staff members not only briefed them about different aspects of CIIT (Islamabad Campus) library, but also answered their questions about the use of library.

VEHARI CAMPUS LIBRARY SHIFTED AT NEW PLACE INSIDE THE CIIT, VEHARI CAMPUS

With the growing use of library by the patrons and increase in the collection of the library, existing space was proving too small to handle the future needs. Keeping this in mind, the management, decided to shift the library at a new place inside the campus which is more spacious and can accommodate more collection and patterns.



Shifting of the library has been done in the recent past and services has been started as usual for the students and faculty members.

New it looks very artistic and eye catching with cool atmosphere which is more conducive for education and research. Sitting area is quite good and sufficient to cater the needs of library patrons.

ORIENTATION OF THE NEW STUDENTS



Library Information Services conducted orientation of the news students who joined CIIT, Vehari Campus. Purpose of the orientation is to let them know about the different aspects of the library. Library staff facilitated the students and explained them about the following;

- Library rules and regulations
- Library resources and how to use them effectively
- Library services
- Facilities and privileges

In addition to this they were also told about the electronic resources and who students can get maximum benefit from these resources.

ILO DELEGATES VISITS LIBRARY OF VEHARI CAMPUS



ILO delegation from Islamabad visited the Library Information Services (LIS) department during their visit at CIIT Vehari.

The worthy Director share the ideas and future plans with the delegation.

Incharge LIS, CIIT Vehari briefed the library services being provided to the faculty and students.

PROFESSOR DR. PETER LANGER VISITS THE LIBRARY



Prof. Dr. Peter Langer from Germany visited the library and showed his gratitude about the dynamic services and peaceful environment.



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

Ms. Abida Hanif, Incharge LIS (Vehari Campus)

abidahanif@ciitvehari.edu.pk

PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKSHOP ON "DOUBLE YOUR READING SPEED"

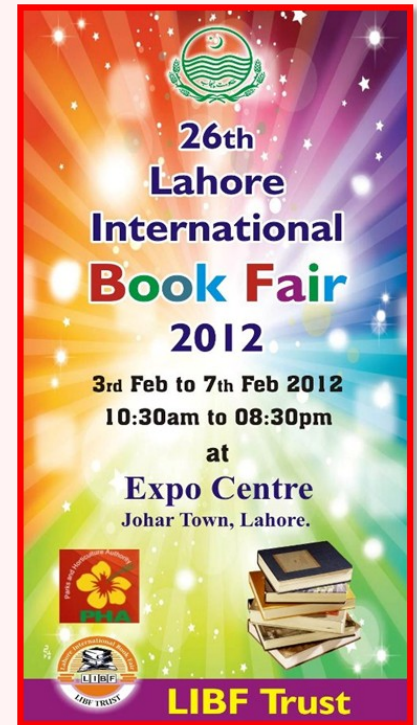
Mr. Waris Ali Arslan, Incharge Library information services, CIIT Sahiwal, attended a one day training workshop on "Double Your Reading Speed" at Quaid-e-Azam Public Library, Bagh-e-Jinnah, Lahore, on January 28, 2012.

Pakistan Librarians Welfare Organization in collaboration with In'O'Vative Consultants, Islamabad, organized this one day raining workshop with sponsorship of Punjab Library foundation.



Minister for Education (Punjab) and Director General Public Libraries distributed certificates to the participants. More than 25 Librarians from different private and public sector academic institutes and public libraries participated in the workshop.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AT SAHIWAL CAMPUS LIBRARY



As part of the collection development activity, Incharge Library (Sahiwal Campus) visited the 26th International Book Fair held at Expo Centre, Lahore from 3-7 February 2012.

The purchase committee including the Incharge Library (Sahiwal Campus) visited the various stall set up by national and international publishers and select a good number of books on variety of subject for adding them to the collection of the library.



LIBRARY INCHARGE (SAHIWAL CAMPUS) TAKES OATH AS JOINT SECRETARY OF PULISAA



Mr. Waris Ali Arslan, Incharge Library Information Services, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (Sahiwal Campus) has been elected as joint secretary PULISAA for the period of 2012-14. He took oath along with other elected members in a ceremony held in March earlier this year.

Oath taking ceremony was organized by PULISAA in main auditorium of Punjab University Library on Friday, March 30, 2012. Worthy Vice Chancellor of Punjab University, Dr. Mujahid Kamran was the chief guest of the ceremony.

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

Mr. Waris Ali Arslan, Incharge LIS (Sahiwal Campus)

warisarslan@ciitsahiwal.edu.pk

ABBOTABAD CAMPUS LIBRARY VISITS

DR. HAROON RASHID VISITS ABBOTABAD CAMPUS LIBRARY

Dr. Haroon Rashid, Director of External Campuses, visited CIIT Abbottabad Campus and library on 10th February 2012. Mr. Nafees Ud-Din Briefed him about the latest development in the library regarding collection development, infrastructure, video conferencing facility at library.

Dr. Haroon Rashid gives suggestion for the development of library resources, services and collection development. He also directed to further improve the existing facilities at library.



ASIA FOUNDATION TEAM VISITS ABBOTABAD CAMPUS LIBRARY

A two member team from The Asia Foundation, Islamabad, visited COMSATS Abbottabad Library and held a detailed meeting with Deputy Librarian regarding donation of books for the Library. They took keen interest and appreciated the library services; they also agreed to provide maximum books on specific subject to CIIT Abbottabad.



BOOK FAIR ON WORLD BOOK DAY AT ABBOTABAD CAMPUS



Library Information Services (Abbottabad Campus) will be organizing a BOOK FAIR on WORLD BOOK AND COPY-RIGHT DAY". Publishers and booksellers from all over Pakistan will participate in this fair.

This will help students as well as Faculty members to select and suggest books for the Library. They will also get a chance to purchase books on discounted rates for their personal use.

WORKSHOP ON KOHA AND DSPACE

Library Information Services is also planning to conduct a two days workshop on Open source Software, KOHA and Dspace, for the Library community of Hazara Division, in collaboration with PAKLAG, KPK chapter. This event will provide an excellent opportunity for Local Librarian to learn and explore these free automation solutions.



PARTICIPATION IN A TRAINING COURSE

From February 20-24, 2012 Mr. Nafees Ud-Din attended a very useful training Course "Competencies required for 21st Century Librarianship" organized by Pakistan Academy for rural Development, Peshawar.

Librarian from all over Pakistan participated in this training, on completion of this training a certificate was awarded to the Deputy Librarian.

VIDEO CONFERENCING ROOM SET UP AT ABBOTABAD CAMPUS LIBRARY



State of the art Audio Visual and Video Conferencing rooms are established at the Library.

This is great addition to the library Information Services and will help us to attract more and more customers to library.

These facilities will further enhance the usage and projection of Library Information Services



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

Mr. Nafis Ud Din, Incharge LIS (Abbottabad Campus)

nafees@ciit.net.pk

FEDERAL JOINT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY VISITS LAHORE CAMPUS LIBRARY



The Federal Joint Secretary, Mr. Saqib Aleem, visited CIIT Lahore on March 16, 2012. During his campus visit, Honorable secretary along with Worthy Director, Dr. Mahmood Ahmed Bodla, Additional Registrar, Mr. Rashid Ahmed Khan, and Manager Coordination & Liaison Officer, Mr. Shaheed Latif of CIIT Lahore visited the main library.

Library Incharge Mr. Muhammad Ishtiaq welcomed the guest and briefed them about the library resources and services in detail.

The Federal Secretary Mr. Saqib Aleem visited the various section of the library Information Services and appreciated the resources and services.

CONGRATULATIONS



Mr. Abdur Rehim, Library Assistant at CIIT Lahore got married in Sargodha. Library Information Services staff wish him best of luck and pray for his happy future.



GUESTS FROM SRILANKA VISITS LAHORE CAMPUS LIBRARY

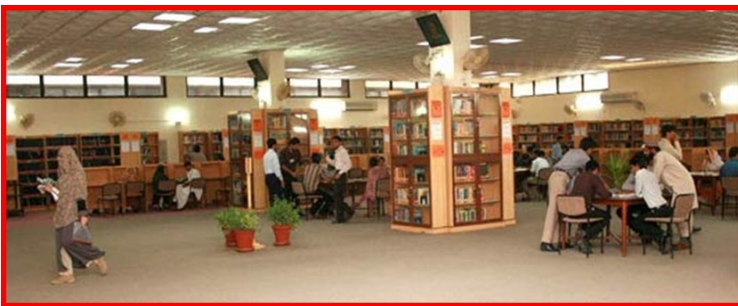


Distinguished guest from Sri Lanka Dr. Sumantha Kumar and Prof. Piya Firi (Luthana University Sri Lanka) visited CIIT, Lahore Campus on February 10, 2012.

During their campus visit, Honorable guests along with Faculty Members of CIIT Sahiwal Campus, and Information Officer of CIIT Lahore Campus, visited the main library.

The Library Incharge Mr. Muhammad Ishtiaq welcomed the guest and briefed them about the library resources and services.

The guests visit the various section of the library Information Services and appreciated the resources and services



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

Mr. Muhammad Ishtiaq, Incharge LIS (Lahore Campus)

mishtiaq@ciitlahore.edu.pk

BRINGING USERS BACK TO LIBRARIES: THE WAY AHEAD



By Namooos Khan (Library Assistant @ CIIT, Islamabad Campus)

Technology and electronic resources has made it very easy for users to access information through their desktops from wherever they are. Despite this huge advantage, this paradigm shift has resulted in diminishing of library clients. This scenario demands variety of efforts to encourage users to physically return to the library.

Because of the availability of electronic resources users might not think it necessary to come to library for information gathering so it is important to provide them alternative reasons to come to the library.



Library Information Services (CIIT) can be taken as a good example in this regard. Islamabad campus library has made various efforts to encourage users to use the library and has done a commendable job by building purposefully designed library building at Islamabad Campus. This building with its specially designed furniture and innovative interior provides welcoming and appealing environment to users and tempts them to spend time in the library. Wireless internet connection (Wi-fi) is available in all parts of the library. Public access computers are also available for browsing and study purposes. These and several other steps has yielded positive results as the gradual rise in the graph of people visiting the library has been observed.

In my humble opinion like CIIT, other libraries need to focus on this very important issue and do more efforts in this regard as the existence of libraries depends on their use by the people/patrons. In my view following suggestion can prove helpful;

- There is a need to centralize all service at one desk, so that users know one obvious location for getting assistance.
- Library services model needs to be continuously changing in response to the needs and characteristics of new users.
- Increase interaction among library staff and clients/users with focus on customer care.
- Organizing regular orientation lectures for clients about the use of library resources and new services.
- There is a need to market new services and features through beautifully designed pamphlets, posters and banners.
- Faculty and teaching staff should be involved in educating clients about the use of library. So there is need to establish close interaction among faculty members and library professionals.
- We, the professionals, should try to encourage the faculty members to give students assignments which demands research and use of library resources.
- Establishing a recreation area inside the library building or adjacent to the library premises.



Important Note

The author is solely responsible for the opinion and statements made in this article.

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LIBRARY PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

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