

# AKU-NAMA

Aga Khan University Newsletter and Magazine for Alumni

Summer 2009, Vol. 2, Issue 1



## Grand Alumni Reunion



## Celebrating 25 years



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Alumni representatives of the different AKU entities engaged the general alumni body at a session which focused on a new Alumni Association Constitution.

AKU/Fahim Siddiqi

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# No Room For Complacency

Adeel Butt

Twenty-five years is a long time in a person's life. In anthropologic/anthropometric terms it is considered one generation. However, 25 year is a mere blip in the life of an institution. The Aga Khan University celebrated its 25-year anniversary in 2008, a milestone that brought much pride and satisfaction at what we have achieved, but also a realisation and understanding of the challenges ahead. The University now has campuses or programmes in eight countries spread over three continents. With the addition of Institute for Educational Development in Karachi and Dar es Salaam, the Advanced Nursing Studies programme in East Africa and the Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations in London, the

University has truly become a leader in higher learning. A Faculty of Arts and Sciences will open its doors in near future to provide critical liberal arts education in Pakistan and East Africa, the first of its kind in the region.

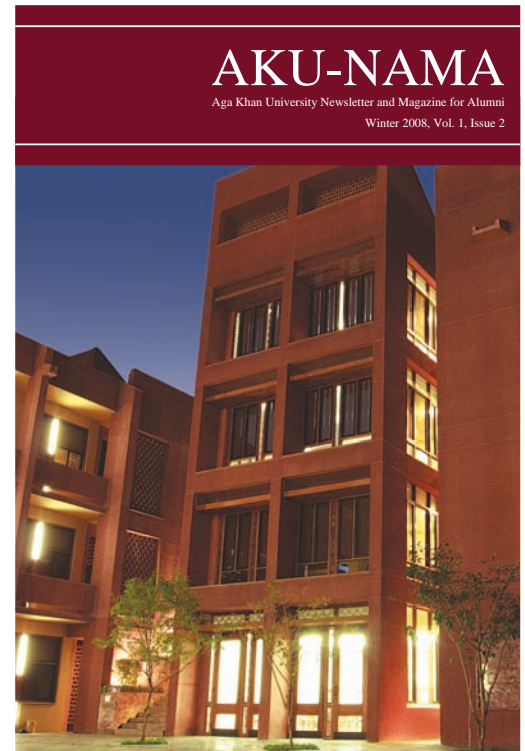
Self congratulations at our achievements as a University

“The alumni need to take a more active role in the affairs of the University to ensure that the achievements of the past are not merely that – achievements of the past, but become a baseline from where we reach out to an even brighter future.”

would be well deserved. Within the first 25 years, the Faculty of Health Sciences, the University's first faculty, has created a near paradigm shift locally and globally. The name 'AKU' has become synony-

mous with high quality merit based education. The University has earned a reputation not only in Pakistan and other countries which host its programmes and campuses, but beyond those borders in North America and Europe. Indeed the name 'AKU' elicits respect and admiration from the most prestigious institutions in the world where alumni apply for training and faculty positions.

Therein rings a warning bell. Laurels of the past must not make us complacent. The University needs to continue to adhere to the highest standards in education and ethics. The alumni need to be ever vigilant to continue to apply the knowledge and values they have



learnt in a manner that will further enhance the prestige of the University. The alumni also need to take a more active role in the affairs of the University to ensure that the achievements of the past are not merely that – achievements of the past, but become a baseline from where we reach out to an even brighter future. During the Grand Alumni Reunion, the University and the administration made it clear that they are looking for help and direction from the alumni. It is now up to us to respond to that call. Complacency is not an option, for it can lead to contentment with the status quo. And that can lead to a loss of scientific inquiry, a lack of ambition and a loss of what has been gained with so much hard work.

The ball is in our court. Let us play it wisely.



## Welcome Home

Rahila Zakir, MBBS '90

*Months of work behind the scenes by the Grand Alumni Reunion committee culminated in a week of events. It was an enormous success, even though before it started, no one really knew what to expect, what was going to happen or what impact it would have. Let me take you through the inaugural session from where I was sitting...*



*Dr Cheves Smythe*

Following the *Tilawat* recited by Mr Manzoor Hussain Changezi, MEd '00, Dr Tazeen Jafar, Chair of the Grand Alumni Reunion committee, welcomed alumni, reminding us of AKU's achievements over the last 25 years – the University now has programmes in eight countries and thousands of alumni worldwide contributing to the fields of science, education, health care and social development at both national and international levels.

She was followed by Mr Asif Fancy, Director-General, Resource Development and Public Affairs, who declared that his true claim to fame was that he was father of an AKU alumna, which drew a warm round of applause from the audience. We all know that Asif worked tirelessly to facilitate the GAR, and to coordinate from the central alumni office in Pakistan. Mr Abdul Haq Wahedna (Haqqi), who many of us know as the face of the Alumni Office, introduced the week's events

and highlighted the first-class arrangements AKU had put in place for alumni, from corporate hospitality to childcare.

Dr Yasmin Amarsi, former Dean, School of Nursing (SON), spoke of the 7,800 alumni from the University, including SON and the Institute for Educational Development (IED) graduates from East

*AKU/Fahim Siddiqi*

Africa, who assist, support, mentor and act as role models for new graduates of the University, and of the partnership between AKU and its alumni. Dr Mohammad Khurshid, former Dean, Medical College, encouraged alumni to play a part in the future direction of the University. He stressed that we have to make our voices heard – that we, the alumni, can contribute to moving the University forward. Dr Muhammed Memon, Director, IED, highlighted the achievements of IED graduates, and spoke with pride of the role of IED alumni in building bridges between AKU and other sectors.

Dr Cheves Smythe, Founding Dean, Medical College, spoke about the role of an alumni association. It is an organisation not just for social interaction or fundraising for the university, but rather a source of new direction and leadership essential to ensure that an institution does not stagnate.

One of the factors which has contributed to AKU's success has been its unremitting commitment to the quality of its product – its graduates. The University is known in many places not for its campus, hospitals or patient care, but for the excellence of its alumni.

Whether the University reflects the quality of its graduate, or the graduate reflects the quality of the University, what is important is a reciprocal sense of ownership between the two. Whatever the University gives its graduates is valuable, and as alumni develop their careers and roles in society, it is in their interests to maintain a relationship with AKU.

He maintained that the alumni own – own in the truest sense of the word – a big portion of the programmes at AKU, and have a responsibility for the quality of those programmes. He illustrated this through an experience at Yale in the early 1960s, when a change of leadership brought an unfamiliar series of values and practices. "...not the least of the problems at that particular juncture of that university's history was the faculty's role in this unwinding of affairs. It was the alumni who I'll say revolted and who said things are not going well, the programme has to be reversed, some old values have to be reasserted. And I use that as an example to say where the hand of the alumni was very important and what evolved in that University, and it has done well since. So you all do own the place, it is yours. It is proud of you and, I hope, you are proud of it."

# In the Name of Service

Rubina Barolia, MScN '03

*Alumni from the School of Nursing and the Institute for Educational Development celebrating AKU's anniversary by serving over 4,000 people in different parts of Karachi.*

“To promote good health for the poor, we need to improve their access to health care as well as assist in health education campaigns that can make a difference. It is not only our responsibility... but also our gift to our alma mater on its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary” said Rubina Barolia, SON alumna, Co-Chair, Nursing Alumni Standing Committee.

Over 300 alumni from SON and the IED, along with 100 nursing students, volunteered to serve in eight health camps organised throughout Karachi, including Garden in Filmistan, Naseerabad in Rahimabad, Karimabad in Federal 'B' Area, Saudabad in Malir, Bilal Colony in Korangi, Ibrahim Haidery, Sultanabad and Jamot Complex in Rehri Goth. The University has worked in these communities over the last 25 years, through various health awareness campaigns, community service projects and in-community training for students.

The camps provided basic health care, screening for blood pressure, weight and sugar. They also promoted awareness of general hygiene and disease prevention practises amongst the visitors. “It is good to know that something as simple as washing my hands before preparing food can reduce the chances of my children getting sick” said one mother. A college student at one of the camps added, “I was not aware of the hazards of smoking cigarettes or eating *paan*. It is only today that I have come to realise what effect this has on me and, through me, on my family.”

Visitors with health problems were referred to alumni for free medical consultations while others spoke to college students about career options. The personal hygiene stall proved to be a favourite with the children, who also enjoyed the games on healthy diets, the puppet shows and face painting.

Congratulations to the alumni and students for contributing their time and effort.



*Alumni serving at the camps.*

AKU

# You Can Come Back to AKU!

*Carol Ariano, Vice President, Human Resources, AKU, spoke to alumni about the opportunities for involvement with the University and its vision for the future.*



*Carol Ariano inviting alumni to participate in shaping the University's future.*

As all of you know, AKU is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. You can be justifiably proud of the part you have played in laying the foundations, building the reputation, and positioning the University so strongly that we are confident in our ability to take on the challenges of the next 25 years and beyond.

One way that you might consider contributing to the University as it moves forward is to return to AKU and invest your knowledge, talent and experience to expand your career, whether it is as part of the faculty, staff or management of the University. We now have several hospitals, new and continuing academic programmes and facilities in a variety of locations, each of which are expanding their overall operations, and looking for gifted people such as yourselves to enable us to thrive in the delivery of world-class programmes and services within the developing world. Indeed, we are concerned that one of the major risks to achieving our challenging mission is that we will not be able to

attract enough people with the qualities we need in time to fulfil our vision.

You may be interested to know that between 1984 and 2008, AKU grew from 678 to 8,400 people. In many cases, we developed our own graduates into the health care professionals, managers and executives needed to deliver our programmes, and

we will continue to do this in the coming years. Our current plans include expanding our overall faculty and staff complement from the current 8,700 to 14,000 by 2018. The growth in faculty members between 2008 and 2018 will be from 585 to 1,464; the student population from 2,600 to 8,400 and we have plans to expand that number further. Such dramatic growth will be the result of growth in all of our existing programmes, and the establishment of several key new offerings.

A large part of this expansion will be seen over the next five years. During this period we will be opening or expanding the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in Tanzania and Pakistan, the Faculty of Health Sciences in Nairobi and health and education services in Afghanistan, Egypt and Central Asia.

The establishment of the new **Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS)** represents a significant transition for AKU to becoming a comprehensive university, with an expanded presence in both Pakistan and East

Africa. It will provide a broad-based arts and sciences curriculum, grounded in an interdisciplinary core curriculum, which will be unique in this part of the world. Undergraduate degrees will require four years of study, and our health sciences and other major programmes will share broad-based multidisciplinary study with FAS students in the first two years of their studies. In addition, we will build two new 1,000-acre campuses, which will include residential housing for faculty, staff and students. Recreation and state-of-the-art facilities for theatre, music, dance and other multipurpose uses will provide the background to a rich student life experience, another unique aspect for higher education in South Asia and East Africa. Our intent is to influence the development of the leaders of tomorrow from an international student body, grounded in broad thinking and problem-solving skills, and able to appreciate the influence of history, literature, economics and culture on developing perspectives suited to well-rounded professionals and citizen leaders. As the University progresses, we will also offer graduate professional schools in fields such as education, architecture and human settlement, media and communications, and economic growth and development along with a rich complement of continuing education programmes to continue to expand the reach of the University into the many communities we serve.

Building on the successes in Karachi, the University will initiate a **Faculty of Health Sciences** with international-standard programmes

for medicine, nursing and allied health education, including graduate studies, in all of these areas in East Africa. The plans represent an investment of US\$ 250 million in East Africa, and these investments will include the expansion of the Hospital in Nairobi into a full teaching hospital. The current programmes, which are focused on postgraduate degrees and diploma studies, will also be expanded.

We are offering certificate, diploma and degree programmes in Allied Health Sciences, Master degrees in Health Administration, Clinical Research and Bioethics and a programme in health economics is in development. Our focus on population health will strengthen expertise in operational research and public advocacy.

For those interested in **Clinical Services**, we have a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach to women and child health. In Karachi, with the expansion of the field of emergency medicine and the creation of a Department of Emergency Medicine, there are new opportunities to practice and teach your specialty while conducting research in our hospitals. Should you prefer to work elsewhere, for instance, with our partners at the French Medical Institute for Children, we are also developing a unique approach to train doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and the staff necessary to support these services with a combination of learning and work experience in Kabul, Karachi and Paris. This level of cooperation provides interesting opportunities to share expertise among students, faculty and clinicians.

The University is expanding its services in **Afghanistan** through the French Medical Institute for Children, which will expand to a 300 to 400 bed acute care and general teaching hospital with comprehensive diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities, and 24-hour emergency facilities. Here we are introducing postgraduate medical education, nursing and midwifery programmes, with FMIC serving as an

AKU academic resource centre in Kabul. We also have plans with Aga Khan Development Network, to develop an integrated health delivery system in Central Asia and to extend nursing programmes into rural parts of Afghanistan.

With the appointment of a new Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, our focus on **research** is expanding, and we anticipate growth in the quality and quantity of research conducted at AKU. We plan to increase opportunities for multidisciplinary research approaches applicable to different fields. Current focus areas include curriculum studies, education in early years, human development, reproductive health/women's issues, and cardiovascular diseases.

We have the need for hundreds of qualified faculty, staff and managers, under many different employment arrangements.

We need people to assist in the development of curriculum, programmes and to augment teaching and learning as we launch these various offerings. We welcome applications for permanent full-time position, short-term faculty (one semester), visiting lecturerships, and so on. We have evolved a supportive offering to welcome people on a part-time or voluntary basis, as external evaluators to academic programmes (we are constantly challenging ourselves to maintain competitive international standards) and to form partnerships for research through joint

research opportunities.

If you are not ready to join us, we still welcome your involvement. With your experience and networks you could be most helpful in identifying strong candidates and evaluating the appropriateness of those who apply. Serving on a search committee, as a thesis advisor, or acting as a mentor to new faculty members are all ways to share your expertise with the University.

We would like to rely on you to act as ambassadors for AKU, taking the opportunity to speak of your alma mater and to encourage friends and colleagues to consider joining us.

Should you join us in any capacity, you will have the opportunity to contribute to the continuing development of a world-class University, one that is grounded in and relevant to the needs of the developing world. You will have

the chance to augment your experience, and thereby your career, by working both locally and internationally, as our University now offers programmes in eight countries, a number that is constantly expanding. You will find a supportive research environment and you will be encouraged to engage in continuous professional development (including support for Master and PhD programmes). Additionally, as our academic programmes are highly competitive, you will have the chance to work with students of the highest calibre.

Please consider the amazing venture that AKU is embarking on for our next 25 years. You have been a critical contributor to the success we have achieved so far, and can make a continuing contribution to building an even stronger future.

We welcome your interest and your application to join us. Permanent full-time positions are posted at: [www.aku.edu/job/onlinejobs/](http://www.aku.edu/job/onlinejobs/). To apply for a position, you can contact us directly through [recruitment@aku.edu](mailto:recruitment@aku.edu). If you mark a copy to me at [carol.ariano@aku.edu](mailto:carol.ariano@aku.edu) we will contact you directly to set up a telephone or video conference interview.

## Assessing Our Impact

Umer Darr MBBS '92 , Mumtaz Khan MBBS '92 and Tazeen Jafar MBBS '90



*Umer Darr, far left, Tazeen Jafar, third from the left, and Mumtaz Khan, far right, at a musical evening event at the reunion. AKU*

March 2008 marked 25 years of Aga Khan University in action, a milestone celebrated in December at the first campus – Stadium Road, Karachi – with great fanfare. A Grand Alumni Reunion was organised to bring together former students of all the different programmes – AKU has truly become a university without borders with teaching sites in eight countries, on three different continents.

One of the principal themes of this reunion was to assess the impact of alumni. It is a question that has generated several dilemmas amongst the graduates. What is the appropriate 'yard-stick' for measuring impact? How does one define impact? This question is of particular relevance to AKU, which is

indeed a unique institution in terms of its emphasis on the training of health professionals in social and development work. It is an area receiving much more attention as medical education focuses on generating new science that can positively impact public health and society at large.

After much debate and the input of several noted academics, civil society leaders, scholars, physicians and educationists, a wide range of measures were suggested. Concerns were also voiced that perhaps efforts to assess the impact of AKU alumni depends on the age of academic institutions and should be conducted in stages. Since most of the alumni body, at this stage, consists of physicians and nurses, the impact of

health professionals at a global or national level could be assessed first. This could cover raising the standards of excellence in clinical service and medical education, enhancing the outreach and quality of care in under-served areas, assessing the impact of advocacy on health policy at global, regional or national levels, innovating new services and models of health care delivery, and generating new knowledge.

The brainstorming initiated at the reunion amongst alumni based in Pakistan and overseas, the University administration and the Alumni Affairs Office will continue throughout 2009. The questions posed will be discussed with the larger alumni body before any assessments are undertaken.



## An ACT Well Performed

Ahsan Raza, MBBS '09 and Anam Pal, MBBS '12

At first glance, medicine and drama seem quite the odd couple. Dry science and whimsical verse don't seem to mix, though it takes only a moment's reflection to realise how inseparable they are. Who hasn't relished at least one drippy episode of *Grey's Anatomy*? Wasn't Apollo himself revered by the Greeks as the god of both healing and the arts? And who hasn't acted like they really do care about and understand another's pain, when all they really want to do is toss that stuffy white coat and get a decent night's sleep? Clearly, 'the art of healing' is no understatement.

Finding art in a medical college, however, is a virtually impossible task; one tends to get lost amidst the angst, stress, ambition, short-tempered and god-complexes of the ever-over-worked students. It was in light of these tragic circumstances that Aga Khan University's Club for Theatre (ACT) got its act together.

Expressing one's inner self is a welcome relief from studying one's inner self. ACT is a platform that allows AKU medical students to channel their inevitably built-up frustrations into something engaging, attractive, evocative, and entertaining – in short, it looks better than a nervous breakdown. Writers, directors, stage designers and creative minds in the University come together under the aegis of ACT, the need for which was established by the institution's lack of one, and the abundance of drama queens that just couldn't get enough attention. ACT exploded on stage in the spring of 2008, with its debut performance *Uljhan*, or confusion, a short comedy with a dark ending. The play's success established ACT as a *tour de force*

amongst the rest of the societies, making the Students' Bioethics Forum and Students' Research Forum pale in comparison.

Organising events such as the two-day Drama Festival, annual plays, and participating regularly in acting competitions around the country make ACT one of AKU's most ACTIVE and productive societies, with packed auditoriums and rave reviews now only to be expected.

ACT's most auspicious production to date, however, was the annual play staged at the Grand Alumni Reunion during AKU's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. The appropriately titled *Naqaab* told the tale of a freshly-graduated doctor who intends to leave Pakistan and settle abroad for good – a dilemma and temptation haunting many a local MBBS graduate. However, after a bloodied patient in the ER confides in him his dying wish, he is challenged with formidable obstacles in his quest for justice

against those meant to serve its cause – all for a complete stranger, and at the risk of the lives of those he loves most.

Dark themes of betrayal, hidden agendas, greed, sacrifice, and insufferable loss were explored beneath the veneer of comic antics and hilarious characters, such as the perpetually inebriated servant, the cross-dressing 'aunt,' the amorous father and the rigid general – serving to make very clear that everything is not always what it seems. At the end of the road, the hero emerges victorious, yet with the realisation that abandoning his ailing nation is not the answer. The protagonist's impassioned ending speech resonated with the audience, and the curtain fell to roaring applause.

The play's reception embodies ACT's underlying ideology, because at the end of the day, we not only want to make the study of medicine a bit more fun, but just a bit more meaningful as well.



*Naqaab – the veil – performed entirely by students.*

AKU

## New Visions and Dreams

Haider A Naqvi, PGME '03



Haider Naqvi is an Instructor at AKU-MC.

The Grand Alumni Reunion was a mega event with arrangements tailored to engage the alumni. People flew in from all over the world just to catch up with the spirit of bygone years. While sitting in the auditorium, listening to inaugural speeches, a question hacked at me repeatedly, “What is the essence of a University? Is it the mortar, marble, the fancy woodwork, or it is something else?”

The subconscious part of my mind replied, “Of course, teachers are the essence of a University!” A teacher is like a beacon of light in the darkness of ignorance. Teachers bring all of us to the realisation of our true selves, liberating us from heresy and dogmas. One who subjugates us to them is not a true teacher. A true teacher has gone through their own internal journey of self-actualisation, and come into the full light of their internal powers and limitations. They have realised the order of the universe, believing, “Ask and it will be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock and the door will be opened to you.”\* Teachers seek to unravel the mystery of the universe and bring their pupils into the full realisation of their true selves. It is through the conscious and determined efforts of

a teacher that the rough edges of a pupil are shaped; like a diamond they then shine and gleam, for all to see in the end.

As the University charts out its agenda for the next 25 years, it is important that academic leadership takes everyone on-board. Though there is no substitute for experience, the vitality of a fresh vision is also essential. In the words of Paulo Coelho, “New ideas need space. Body and soul need new challenges. The future has become the present, and every dream – each new, unfettered dream – will have a chance to reveal itself.”

Aga Khan University needs to move forward, into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with its commitment to professionalism, merit, research-ingenuity and the highest standards of patient care. Those with similar values will align themselves with this notion, while others will fall out. Imbibing these values, AKU alumni will be called on to do their part and serve in various academic and leadership roles. Ultimately the torch is transferred from one generation to another.

\* The Holy Bible, Luke 11:9-10

## Letter from an Alumna

Ann Felstead, BScN '94

As an alumna I was delighted to be part of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AKU. Even though I returned to the Karachi campus after 11 years, my memories are still vivid. I remember an impressive and friendly campus, where I enjoyed living and learning at a university that has grown to become one of

national and international repute. At first, I felt like a stranger as I did not recognise any faces. At the reunion however, I saw many faces, all happy and filled with laughter. I saw faculty members who taught me, old friends who studied with me – and the sense of commitment and belonging to my alma mater was reignited.

The School of Nursing has achieved so much. It has expanded far beyond the Stadium Road campus and even beyond the borders of Pakistan. Its alumni have contributed to programmes in Afghanistan, Syria, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, performing multiple roles of managers, clinicians, educators and mentors. Moreover, they have dedicated themselves to empowering people, especially women, in developing countries, to guide their own destinies and to make their rightful contributions as citizens of a global community. On a personal note, I take pride that one of my closest colleagues, and dear friend, is now the Interim Dean of SON.

University alumni are all over the world. We are stakeholders in our own fields, armed with our abilities and a vision that is shared by all alumni. Therefore, wherever we are, whatever we contribute, be it time, expertise, financial and/or technical support, our alumni are



Ann Felstead, second from the right, visiting with friends at the reunion.

equipped to join AKU on its journey into the future.

Last but not least, I would like to extend my gratitude to the active members of the AKU family for organising the Grand Alumni Reunion. As excited as I was leading up to the event, I had a more marvelous time than I could possibly have imagined. There were so many friends, colleagues and faculty to reconnect with, some of whom I had stayed in touch with over the years. It was just as wonderful to see once again old friends with whom I had lost touch, but after just a few minutes the years simply melted away as we all shared our memories of university days and stories of the lives we have led since. It was a truly magnificent occasion, one I will forever cherish.

## Homecoming of the Heart

Atif Zaheer, MBBS '97

My recent trip to AKU for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary was tremendous, from the time I saw the Welcome Home Alumni sign at the entrance, to the lavish dinners and concerts I attended. However, I felt like a ghost drifting aimlessly through the quadrangle, looking for familiar faces, in search of a pat on the back for my accomplishments. People were more interested in what I had done rather than what was next for me – a question I, myself, had no answer for.

I traced my footsteps back to where it all started: to the first interview. We were all visionaries at the time, 17-year-old visionaries, who had it all figured out. Medicine, specialisation (I think they call it residency now) and cardiology. Beyond this, however, it was all murky. Research, education and helping the

country were some of the buzzwords that we all randomly threw out to impress our interviewers. Between receiving the acceptance letter and the end of postgraduate training, there were too many CATs and Calls to think about any of our grand plans; our idealistic ambitions became a distant memory. Somewhere along the road the goals changed altogether and now there was talk of job contracts and partnership tracts. Cardiology became 'cards' and 'derma' became 'derm'. Along came talk of mankind's barren existence without an iPhone and the need for the largest vehicle that is not a minivan. We know that we are all there without actually knowing what there is. Every now and



Atif Zaheer, second from the right, on a tour of the recently built Ibn Zuhr oncology facility.

Fahim Siddiqi

then while listening to the radio the 17-year-old turns in his sleep and mutters something about the fundamental nobility that is inherent to our profession before falling back into deep slumber. Answering an email from an AKU student, giving free advice makes us feel special and we marvel at our gracious nature while helping these poor souls. Has our quest to attain nirvana ended in a suburb in Nevada? Is this what all this was all about?

I feel like we need the equivalent of a 180° pulse used in MRI

imaging, to refocus the de-phasing protons required to generate a signal, to get us back to the spirit that we all started our careers with. That question of 'now what,' that we keep asking ourselves and keep ignoring is sometimes very hard to answer. A good place to start would be to have a better platform for alumni. As President Rasul has recognised, the University has not always made a conscious effort to keep track of its alumni. We can start with building a stronger Alumni Affairs Office in the University. As for our role as alumni, let us start with a very basic gesture: if we can all contribute at least US\$ 100 a year (that's less than 30 cents a day), it would amount to

US\$ 150,000 for the University. This endowment can work towards scholarship programmes for deserving students and towards building more academic programmes. This could just be the beginning of the role of the alumni not to mention the enormous intellectual potential that can be tapped.

In this time of financial uncertainty and brain drain in the developing world, let us reflect on where we are heading in our own lives and do a little soul searching before we worry about that flat screen TV.

# Combining Academics and Philanthropy

Series Editor: Faiz Bhora, MBBS '92

*This is a new feature highlighting the achievements of distinguished alumni. Faiz Bhora speaks with Nayyar Iqbal, MBBS '90.*



**FB:** What helped shape your selection of a career while you were at AKU?

**NI:** It was really a process. I did not go to medical school thinking that I would become an endocrinologist. I always wanted to be a physician with a broader reach. At the University, I was very much attracted to the concept of public health and its wider impact. However, after a lot of discussion and deliberation with my friends, family and mentors, I decided to start my career in internal medicine but have always wanted to expand my role above and beyond traditional patient care.

**FB:** Now, after you finished AKU, can you tell us very briefly about your training and then your academic appointments?

**NI:** I did my internship at AKU and then came to Chicago and did my internal medicine residency from University of Illinois, Chicago.

From there, I went to Indianapolis and completed my clinical endocrinology fellowship at Indiana University Medical Center. My wife got a fellowship spot at the University of Pennsylvania, so we moved to Philadelphia in 1997 and I did a research fellowship at

“Our first class is matriculating this year. Many of those kids who would have remained illiterate are now proudly discussing their college plans. We have recently started a scholarship fund for students (especially girls) who decide to study further (which is strongly encouraged).”

Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia. That year turned out to be extremely productive in terms of learning the research tools and also developing an interest in the field of obesity and Type 2 diabetes. That interest brought me to the University of Pennsylvania/Philadelphia Veteran Affairs

Medical Center faculty in 1998 where I stayed till 2008. I currently hold an adjunct faculty appointment at the University of Pennsylvania (Penn).

**FB:** Tell us about your work at Penn and your move to the pharmaceutical industry.

**NI:** I helped set up the section of endocrinology at Philadelphia VA, which is now a fully integrated academic programme with the University of Pennsylvania. I continued my research work in the field of obesity and Type 2 diabetes. I think the most important work was the study of the effects of a low carbohydrate diet in obesity. The main findings were published in the *The New England Journal of Medicine* and later in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. While at Penn, I also did my MSc in Clinical Epidemiology and am continuing to participate in two longer term research projects at Penn. Some of this data will be published in the next few months.

At Penn, I was actually very





farmhouse in Nilore, about 25 kilometres out of Islamabad, and he opened a small school in his garage when he moved there in 1999. We took over that school in 2001 and since then, we have built a new building that is now a fully staffed secondary

well-funded. I had been there for more than eight years, and I had at least eight different research projects going on. But at the same time, I needed to do something more, something more challenging and with a wider reach. I was looking at other options. I was offered the opportunity to join a team of very qualified researchers (at a local pharmaceutical company) to study a novel first in humans, glucosuric compound for the treatment of Type 2 diabetes. After a lot of angst, I decided to take the plunge ... and I must say that I have no regrets (at least so far).

**FB:** Tell us exactly where you fit in in your team and what is your precise role?

**NI:** My title is Director of Global Clinical Research and the majority of my time is spent in designing and conducting global phase III trials. I am responsible for the publication and presentation of data generated from these trials. I am also involved in the development of new diabetes and obesity compounds which are coming through the pipeline.

**FB:** Tell us about the work you and your wife, Nuzhat, are doing in Pakistan regarding early education.

**NI:** Nuzhat's father has a small

school. In fact, our first class is matriculating this year. Many of those kids who would have remained illiterate are now proudly discussing their college plans. We have recently started a scholarship fund for students (especially girls) who decide to study further (which is strongly encouraged). We also opened a school in Mansehra, NWFP. We are collaborating with another organisation in interior Sindh, where we have three additional primary schools. So, we have a total of about 700 children in five schools getting quality education at a nominal cost in the poorest areas of Pakistan.

I must add here that this was only possible because of generous help and support of many of our friends and family members who have continued to support the *ibtida* (a beginning) school net-

work, [www.ibtida.org](http://www.ibtida.org), during all these years.

We started this project with a budget of US\$ 2,000. Now our operating budget is about US\$ 35,000 a year. As the project expanded, we started a not-for-profit charity organisation in the US. All of our work is voluntary and our administrative cost is only 2 per cent, otherwise 98 per cent of funds are spent on these projects. The money is raised through personal contacts, emails, fund raisers and the website. We have very committed and reliable people within Pakistan to oversee all the work and accounts. Our work in those areas has truly been a humbling experience and certainly puts things into perspective.

Photos courtesy of [ibtida.org](http://ibtida.org)

*The nominees for the Distinguished Alumni Series are chosen by the editorial board based on recommendations from representatives of various academic units.*



# ISMC: An Inaugural Graduation

The Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations (ISMC) held its very first graduation ceremony in February 2009, when 11 graduates were awarded the Master of Arts in Muslim Cultures degree in London. Ambassador Saidullah Khan Dehlavi, Chairman, Board of Trustees of the University, inaugurated the event.

In his welcome address, President Firoz Rasul pointed out that ISMC is the first academic unit of the University to introduce the teaching of the humanities, to “gain as much as possible from the disciplines that explore cultures, civilisations

and histories... to open new avenues for the understanding of Muslim civilisations as they emerged in the past, and to develop the basis for understanding the challenges faced by contemporary societies.”

The keynote address was delivered by Professor Nouzha Guessous-Idrissi whose many experiences include extensive work in the fields of scientific research and human rights: she is a biochemist, an academician, former Chairperson of UNESCO’s International Bioethics Committee and a founding member of the Moroccan Research Ethics Committee of Casablanca, among other things. Through her work with UNESCO and the International



*“Graduands, you will be regarded as part of the pioneering team of the Institute who took a bold approach to establishing the role of the humanities in the study of Islam.” - President Firoz Rasul.*

AKU

Bioethics Committee, Professor Guessous-Idrissi has had the unique opportunity to investigate and begin a process of “re-appropriating” her Muslim heritage, with the rationality related to her scientific training combined with her knowledge of universal human rights.

She noted that throughout history Muslims have contributed substantially to the development of culture, education, medicine and science. This period of learning and development continued until the 10<sup>th</sup> century when, “Muslims stopped all kinds of research and innovation”, a phenomena she qualified as a “divorce between Muslims and reason”. She explained that this schism has had

many ramifications, including the promotion of “non-thinking and obscurantism” within contemporary Muslim contexts. Professor Guessous-Idrissi concluded that, “It is by introducing rationality and modern research methods that Muslim thought can become alive and continue to evolve; and thereby recover its place in human thought.”

Dr Abdou Filali-Ansary, Director ISMC, at the conclusion of the ceremony, expressed his gratitude to the entire ISMC family, its donors, faculty, staff, senior management and students who, over the last two years, had worked hard to produce a successful and well-regarded programme.

# Championing Change

*This year saw the first cohort of graduates from the Postgraduate Medical Education programme and the Institute for Educational Development in East Africa.*

There was song and dance at Aga Khan University's campuses throughout East Africa as 470 students graduated from various programmes in the fields of Nursing, Medicine and Education, in colourful ceremonies attended by students, their families, members of the University's Board of Trustees, vice-chancellors, senior government officials, diplomats, national and international academicians, donors and prominent citizens.

At the Nairobi ceremony, held at the Aga Khan Pavilion, the first students to complete the four-year Postgraduate Medical Education programme from Aga Khan University Hospital, Nairobi, were awarded Master of Medicine degrees. The chief guest, Professor Joseph G Massaquoi, Director, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science & Technology in Africa and UNESCO Kenya Representative, asked the new graduates to consider remaining in East Africa, calling the movement of health workers to developed countries a disappointing trend. These graduates stood alongside 179 Advanced Nursing Studies (ANS) programme graduates, 85 of whom earned Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees, 76 received Diplomas in General Nursing and 18 were awarded specialist Diplomas in Accident, Emergency and Disaster Management.

In Uganda, the University held its sixth ANS graduation ceremony

at the Kampala Serena Hotel. The guest of honour, Dr Kenya-Mugisha Nathan, Director of Health Services, Clinical and Community, Uganda,



warmly congratulated the graduates. She read a speech on behalf of Dr Stephen Malinga, Health Minister, Uganda, who commended the ANS

programme and noted that it has made a significant contribution towards improving the quality of nurses and midwives in Uganda.

Relatives and colleagues cheered the 113 students graduating from the ANS programme – 55 with Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees and 58 with Diplomas in General Nursing.

AKU held its fourth graduation ceremony at the Diamond Jubilee Hall in Dar es Salaam, with 172 graduates. Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Director, UN-Habitat, Professor Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, who was the chief guest at the ceremony, noted that in recent years, Africa has experienced the highest urbanisation rate in the world growing at 3.3 per cent. Despite this, access to health and education remains poor. UN-Habitat considers access to health and education among the key indicators of progress to sustainable urban development and the fight for sustainability has to be won in the cities. She urged graduates to apply their knowledge and skills and to champion change towards making local communities more equitable, economically vibrant and environmentally sustainable. Seventy-four students graduated with Diplomas in General Nursing and 76 with Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees. For the first time in Tanzania, Master of Education degrees were conferred on 21 graduates and a Master of Medicine on one physician.

# The Fruits of Scholarship

*Dr Babar Shaikh, Programme Director, and Ms Ghazala Humayun, Senior Programme Officer, Health Policy and Management Programme, share the successes of Afghan alumni.*



Welayatee is the National Programme Manager/Technical Officer in WHO Afghanistan's Department of Communicable Disease Surveillance and Response and Dr Sayed Ataullah is the Manager, Mental Health Project, AKU in Afghanistan.

Currently, the programme has one Afghan student enrolled in the MSc EB programme, who will graduate in 2009. Two more are enrolled in the MSc HPM programme, and intend to graduate in 2010.

In their current positions, these AKU graduates have had opportunities to be involved in decision-

*Afghan alumni are fine examples of how a university can play a role in building the capacity of the public health work force in under-developed and developed countries.*

AKU

The University's Afghan Students Scholarship Programme, initiated in 2004, has helped public health practitioners access graduate programmes in Health Policy and Management (MSc HPM) and Epidemiology and Biostatistics (MSc EB) at the Karachi campus. Graduates have returned to senior public health-related positions in both government and prominent NGOs working in the country.

Of the four graduates from the MSc HPM programme, Dr Rehmatullah Niazmal is working as the Disaster Management Specialist

for the Afghan National Disaster Management Authority North. The other three work for the Ministry of Public Health: Dr Najibullah Safi as the Programme Manager, National Malaria and Leishmaniasis Control Programme; Dr Mir Islam Saeed is the Manager of the Afghan Public Health Institute's Department of Public Health and Management Training; and Dr Mohammed Hafeez Rasooli is the Head of the Department of Policy, Strategy and Curriculum Development.

Two other candidates have completed MSc EB degrees: Dr Basir

making in developing national curricula, training health professionals, conducting research, surveying communicable diseases, being involved in technical management, monitoring and evaluating various projects and liaising between donors and development partners. They are a fine example of how a university can play a role in building the capacity of the public health work force in under-developed and developing countries in order to strengthen the national health system and to shape national policy and frameworks.



## MacJannet Award

The University's Urban Health Programme, part of the Department of Community Health Sciences has won first place in the MacJannet Prize for Global Citizenship, awarded by the Talloires Network (France) and MacJannet Foundation (US). It recognises exceptional student civic engagement initiatives among Talloires Network member universities from around the world and contributes financially to their ongoing public service efforts.

The Urban Health Programme started in 1985, when medical training was limited to hospitals and public health efforts in communities received little attention in Pakistan. The Programme focuses on provid-

ice projects that cover issues like illiteracy, environmental degradation, domestic violence and women's issues.

As the programme has evolved, residents in these settlements, with a combined population of 85,000, have been motivated to form their own community-based organisations, initiate micro-credit and cottage industry projects, invest in girls' education and women's skill development, and advocate with local authorities for clean water and sanitation with the help of the students. The Programme is a model for sustainable university-based civic engagement and has inspired similar community-based programmes at other local universities.

tation that helps shape their perspective, and create leaders who can make informed decisions in the future," said Dr Parvez Nayani, Head, Community Health Division and Senior Instructor, CHS.

## New Departments

At the end of 2008 the Medical College and University Hospital announced the formation of a new Division of Maternal and Child Health, headed by Dr Zulfiqar Bhutta, which will encompass the current Departments of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and Paediatrics and Child Health. The new Division will focus on the continuum of maternal, foetal and child health, with the potential to enhance education, clinical service and research opportunities in these areas. The new approach will be practised in both the AKUH and Aga Khan Health Service, Pakistan facilities.

## Faculty Changes

**Dr Yasmin Amarsi** has been appointed as Foundation Dean, Nursing and Midwifery, East Africa on January 15, 2009. Dr Amarsi is well known in the East African nursing community through the role she played in establishing the Advanced Nursing Studies programme in the region. She was one of the founding faculty members of the School of Nursing, the first PhD nurse in Pakistan and Dean of the

School in Pakistan from 2002 to December 2008. Though Dr Amarsi will move away from Karachi, her tenure at the University is far from over.

**Dr Mohammad Khurshid** completed his tenure as Dean, Medical College at the end of 2008 and returned to the Departments of



Basic health awareness session in the Rehri Goth katchi abadi.

ing primary health care and socio-economic support in *katchi abadis* (squatter settlements) in Karachi by requiring medical and nursing students, residents, interns and national and international elective students to spend part of their practicum in the settlements. Students provide basic health care services and engage with communities for research and serv-

Many graduates of the University, encouraged by their hands-on work through the Programme, now serve in ministries of health, national and international organisations and academia, continuing their commitment to public health and poverty alleviation. "No matter what professional path they choose, our students have an orien-

AKU

Pathology and Medicine. Under his leadership, research was further integrated into the curriculum; Aga Khan Health Service, Pakistan, facilities were brought into the University Hospital system to serve as practical training grounds for medical students; two new Master-level degrees, in Bioethics and Clinical Research were introduced and plans for a state-of-the-art Skills Laboratory were completed. May he continue with the contributions he has made to AKU since he first joined in 1985.

**Dr Farhat Abbas** has been appointed as the Interim Dean, Medical College, from January 2009. Dr Abbas joined the University in 1985 as a resident in the Department of Surgery and is currently a Professor of Urology. He has served in leadership positions at the University in the past, including Medical Director, Associate Dean Clinical Affairs, Acting Dean Medical College, Associate Dean PGME and Chief Operating Officer, AKUH, Karachi.

**Dr Rozina Karmaliani** was appointed Interim Dean, School of Nursing, in January 2009. Dr Karmaliani, a graduate from SON, RN '87, BScN '91, also has an MScN from the University of Minnesota, and has worked with the University since 1988, most recently as an Associate Professor at SON, as well as the Department of Community Health Sciences. She was also Director of SON's MScN Programme.

**Dr Khurshid Khowaja**, Director, Nursing Services, AKUH, Karachi, and a gold medalist of the Diploma programme, 1984, has completed a postdoctoral fellowship at McMaster University, Canada. Dr Khowaja focused on new patient safety concepts and strategies to make health care safer. The fellowship gave her insight into various issues like monitoring error rates, systemic approaches towards reducing errors, best prac-

tice guidelines, clinical indicators and promoting a safety culture among others. Dr Khowaja is the first nurse in Pakistan to complete the fellowship – the highest qualification in the nursing profession. She envisages making the University's Hospitals safer through a multidisciplinary approach.

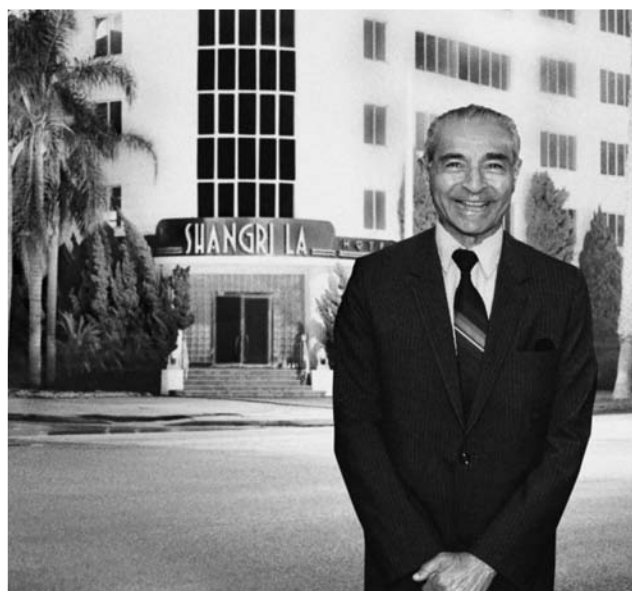
## Ahmad Adaya Fellowship

The Ahmad Adaya Cardiothoracic Research Fellowship has been established by the Adaya family in memory of Ahmed Adaya (1927-2006) at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center and Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. It aims to support cutting-edge cardiothoracic research in heart and lung failure, transplantation and thoracic oncology (cancer). The Fellowship is an opportunity for outstanding young doctors from Pakistan to achieve the foundations for graduate education in cardiothoracic surgery, encouraging a generation of outstanding young doctors to aspire to the ideals of excellence, compassion, humanity and public service.

Born in Bantva, Kathiawar (present day India), Mr Adaya immigrated to Pakistan in 1947, where he completed his education at Karachi University in 1950 and went into the textile industry. On a trip to California in the 1970s, he had a heart attack and remained in the US. Mr Adaya was the founding partner of the IDS Real Estate Group, a prominent California real estate company. He also established the Meridian Group, another full service real estate company. Mr Adaya was a generous philanthropist

of various social, religious and political causes. He was instrumental in establishing the New Horizon Schools, a progressive Islamic educational institution with four branches in southern California in 1984. He also sponsored Islamic art exhibitions at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and funded a publication on Islamic artifacts. His life and generosity have impacted a generation of Muslims in both the US and Pakistan. Mr Adaya passed away in 2006 after a courageous battle with heart disease.

The Fellowship will be directed by AKU alumnus Faiz Bhora (MBBS '92), Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. It will provide the annual salary of one recipient for a year. Recipients of the Fellowship will be expected to present their research at national and international meetings and publish their work in top-tier journals. Candidates will be expected to join a surgical training programme at the end of the fellowship. Jawad Latif, the first graduate of this programme, matched successfully into a categorical general surgery programme in 2009.



Ahmad Adaya

*Class Notes highlights important news and events in the lives of alumni.*

## 1988

Yasmin Khan, MBBS '88, is working hard to start a trust hospital in Bahawalpur.

## 1994

Sabeen Askari (Khalid), MBBS '94, sends warm wishes to classmates, alumni and her teachers. She lives in Minnesota with her husband Askari (Department of Surgery, AKU) and their sons, Bilal and Adnan, 12 and 8 respectively, who are both great baseball players. Sabeen practises Surgical Pathology/Cytology and Transfusion Medicine while Askari practices Emergency Medicine. She completed fellowships in Surgical Pathology and Transfusion Medicine and now works as Director of Transfusion Medicine/Blood Bank Service, Pathology Residency/Fellowship Site Director at Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center. She is also the Assistant Professor of Pathology at the University of Minnesota, and continues to be impressed by the reputation AKU graduates have in the Minneapolis/St. Paul twin cities. She and her husband both miss and cherish the time they spent at AKU.

## 1995

Rakhshinda Meher, MEd '95, works as an instructor at AKU-IED in the Strengthening Teacher Education in Pakistan (STEP) project. She is a member of the IED Unit Working Committee and has been involved with a number of projects including the Balochistan Mentoring Programme, NGO/CBO educational capacity strengthening initiatives, IED Professional Development Centre, Northern Areas, and the USAID Links to Learning (ED-LINKS) project.

Saeed Nasim, MEd '95, is a Tutor at AKU-IED and serves as a mathematics team member in the ED-LINKS project. He has worked

as an academic staff member for a USAID project and as part of a team at IED which ran certificate and advanced diploma courses for teachers in underprivileged areas of Pakistan.

## 1996

Iram Shaikh Farrukh, MBBS '96, is working towards completing an MSc in Public Health at Luton University, Bedfordshire, UK.

## 1997

Atif Zaheer, MBBS '97, completed his radiology residency at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical School, and a fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School. He is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiology, Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

## 1998

Takbir Ali, MEd '98, coordinates the STEP project and is involved with teaching and research activities. After graduating, he joined the Professional Development Centre, Northern Areas and received an IED scholarship for doctoral studies. He completed a PhD from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto in 2007.

## 1999

Muhammad Nadim Farooqui, MEd '99, is an instructor at IED and currently works at the Reform Support Unit, Education and Literacy Department, Government of Sindh; providing technical assistance in planning courses for Sindh education sector managers.

Nadeem Asghar Kirmani, MEd '99, currently works with IED as a Professional Development Teacher in the ED-LINKS project, on developing instructional material for the Master in Mathematics. He also

serves as a member of the Education Sector Reform Assistance (ESRA) project.

Nighat Fatima Naqvi, MEd '99, works in IED's STEP project as the Head of the Department of Science. She has managed different Aga Khan School programmes, worked as a programme associate at community-based schools and was involved in conducting impact studies of the school system-based Visiting Teacher Programme.

## 2000

Manzoor Hussain Changazi, MEd '00, has worked as a Programme Officer for the ED-LINKS project since February 2008 and is one of the pioneers of the Afghanistan project. He enjoys writing poetry in Urdu and Persian languages.

Saima Zareen Ahmed, MEd '00, works as a teacher educator for The Educators – a Beaconhouse School System project.

## 2001

Ayesha Adnan Shaikh (Ashi) is enrolled in Emory University's Family Medicine residency programme in Atlanta.

## 2002

Hamid Bashir is pursuing Rheumatology at the Washington University School of Medicine, but dabbles with music as a favourite past time. His latest song Drops of Rain sends a powerful message of raising awareness about issues affecting young children in developing countries. The song can be accessed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33-LZjWoOkw>. Should he keep his day job, or will he be the next big lead singer of a famous band – you decide for yourself!

Mahboob Alam is a Fellow in Cardiology at Baylor College of

Medicine in Houston, and plans to pursue Interventional Cardiology.

Muhammad Yusuf, MEd '02, coordinates IED's STEP activities in the District of Thatta. After graduating he worked with different educational development programmes in Sindh, the Punjab and NWFP, serving as a teacher educator, manual writer and programme evaluator.

Nadeem-ud-Din Qureshi, MEd '02, completed an advanced diploma in English Language Teaching in 2000 from IED. He currently works with IED as a district coordinator for the STEP project. He worked as a Senior Programme Associate for the United Education Initiative and with UNESCO as a Provincial Coordinator, Sindh.

## 2004

Junaid Ahmed Memon, MEd '04, works as the District Coordinator, STEP project. After completing his MEd he worked as Vice Principal, Academic Coordinator and Teacher at Mehran Education Foundation in Karachi, Senior Programme Associate/Acting District Coordinator in the United Education Initiative in Sukkur and as Assistant Director National Education Foundation in Larkana.

Shahzad Shah is in Hershey, Pennsylvania completing his first year of a cardiology fellowship and plans to get married this summer – congrats!

## 2005

Ambreen Kazi completed her residency in Community Medicine from the Department of Community Health Sciences and joined AKU as an instructor. Her interests are in mental health and environment and she has developed a stress scale (registered) for measuring stress among pregnant women. She is now the Chair of the Mental Health and Research Forum.

Saleem Abubakar (Khanani) completed his residency and later became a faculty member at AKU between 1987 and 1992. He moved to the USA in 1992 to complete another residency and fellowship and currently practices haematology/oncology at a teaching hospital in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Yureeda Qazi, MBBS '05, is a postdoctoral research fellow in ophthalmology, at John A. Moran Eye Center at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. She is working on alternative splicing of the Flt gene using morpholinos, gene therapy in corneal and choroidal neovascularisation, and microarray analysis of Fuchs Dystrophy. She is also a member of the Student Advisory Committee.

## 2007

Abdul Latif Burfat completed an advanced diploma in Education Leadership and Management in 2007. Presently he works at IED as a Professional Development Teacher for the ED-LINKS project's Head Teacher Programme. After graduating, he worked with the Education Foundation as an Academic Coordinator for the ESRA project and as a Social and Academic Coordinator for Model School project.

Mehwash Nadeem joined AKU as an intern in 2007. She still considers herself a part of the AKU community and misses home. What she learnt at AKU has helped her cope with many challenges in life. She cleared FCPS-1 surgery and is currently doing her residency in surgery.

## 2008

Dhani Bux Shah, MEd '08, works as a consultant for the ED-LINKS project, planning and developing material and conducting sessions in Educational Leadership and Management.

Sarfraz Masih, MScN '08, is one of four male nurses with MScN degrees in Pakistan. As a student in the BScN programme, he achieved a Merit Award in Research. He is one of the first nursing educators at Liaquat National College of Nursing, a visiting nursing faculty member at St. James Institute of Nursing and Health Sciences and Karachi Kings College of Nursing. Furthermore, he is a member of Pakistan Nursing Council, Rho Delta Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International, the Honour Society of Nursing at SON. He participates enthusiastically in workshops, seminars and conferences for both his personal and professional development.

Zahid Ali Jatoi, MEd '08, works as a Professional Development Teacher at IED. He has a certificate in English Language Teaching from the British Council, Karachi. His thirst for teaching has led him to work in the ED-LINKS project as an Academic Staff member.

Zaigham Aizad Malik, MEd '08, works as a Professional Development Teacher in the ED-LINKS project. She has a Master's degree in English Language and Literature from the National University of Modern Languages in Islamabad. Her areas of interest in research include the life histories of teachers, material development in English language teaching and female literacy, with special reference to Pakistan and the developing world.

*Please send your updates to section editor, Faiz Bhora, [fybhora@aol.com](mailto:fybhora@aol.com), or the Editorial Office, [alumni.nachapter@aku.edu](mailto:alumni.nachapter@aku.edu). The suggested maximum length is 150 words. Pictures are welcome, but must be sent separately as high resolution JPEG digital files.*

# NRMP MATCH RESULTS

NAME	CLASS	SPECIALITY	CATEGORY	PROGRAMME	LOCATION
Imran Khalid	2003	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Harlem Hospital Center	New York, NY
Erum Hashmi	2004	Obs/Gyn	Categorical	Nassau University Medical Center	New York, NY
Nausheen Ahmed	2004	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Univeristy of Connecticut	Farmington, CT
Abdul Waheed	2005	Family Medicine	Categorical	Penn State-Milton S. Hershey	Hershey, PA
Ammara Aziz	2005	Internal Medicine	Categorical	St. Francis Hospital	Chicago, IL
Ayesha Sajid	2005	Psychiatry	Categorical	Indiana University	Indianapolis, IN
Fareeha Cheema	2005	Internal Medicine	Categorical	UMDNJ-Newark	Newark, NJ
Muhammad Ali Khan	2005	General Surgery	Categorical		
Murtaza Shakir	2005	General Surgery	Categorical	The University of New Mexico	Albuquerque, NM
Nyla Hazratjee	2005	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Cleveland Clinic	Cleveland, OH
Ailiya Welayat Ali	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	West Virginia University	Morgantown, WV
Ali Ahmed	2006	General Surgery	Categorical	New York Medical College, Sound Shore Medical Centre	New Rochelle, NY
Ali Raza Randhawa	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, OH
Ameer Ali Khowaja	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Hennepin County Medical Center	Minneapolis, MN
Anita Naushir	2006	Anaesthesia	Categorical	University of Arkansas	Little Rock, AR
Aqueel Pabaney	2006	Neurosurgery	Categorical	Henry Ford Hospital	Detroit, MI
Ekmini Wijesinghe	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Albert Einstein, Jacobi	Jacobi, NY
Fahad Waqar	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, OH
Farah Salahuddin	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Harbor Hospital	Baltimore, MD
Fawad Taj	2006	Psychiatry	Categorical	Harvard Medical School	Boston, MA
Hadi Khan	2006	General Surgery	Categorical	University of New Mexico	Albuquerque, NM
Haq Nawaz	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, PA

# NRMP MATCH RESULTS

NAME	CLASS	SPECIALITY	CATEGORY	PROGRAMME	LOCATION
Imran Ahmed	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Buffalo-SUNY	Buffalo, NY
Kashif S.Shaikh	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	The University of Texas Medical School at Houston	Houston, TX
Maham T. Siddiqi	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	William Beaumont, Beaumont Hospitals	Royal Oak, MI
Malick Islam	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Loiusville	Louisville, KY
Monaa Zafar	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Newark Beth Israel Medical Center	Newark, NJ
Muhammad Rizwan-ul-Haq Khawaja	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Indiana University School of Medicine	Indianapolis, IN
Munsif Ali	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Weiss Memorial Hospital	Chicago, IL
Nazish Hashmi	2006	General Surgery	Preliminary	University of Pennsylvania	Philadelphia, PA
Nida Rizvi	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Penn State-Milton S. Hershey	Hershey, PA
Pashtoon Murtaza Kasi	2006	General Surgery	Preliminary	The University of Texas at San Antonio	San Antonio, TX
Rizwan Siwani	2006	General Surgery	Preliminary	Mayo Clinic	Rochester, MN
Saad Hashmi	2006	General Surgery	Preliminary	Yale University	New Haven, CT
Salman Saleem Allana	2006	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Madison, WI
Shadmeen Rafique Aarbi	2006	Psychiatry	Categorical	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	Dallas, TX
Umber Zaheer Khan	2006	Psychiatry	Categorical	New York Medical College, Valhalla	Valhalla, NY
Mustafa Raof	2006	General Surgery	Categorical	University of Arizona	Tucson, AZ
Abdullah Ladha	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Hennepin County Medical Center	Minneapolis, MN
Afrasyab Khan	2007	General Surgery	Preliminary	University of Florida	Gainesville, FL
Ahsan Sattar	2007	Neurology	Categorical	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Madison, WI
Ali Hashmi	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Baylor College of Medicine	Houston, TX
Ali Imran	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, PA
Ameer Zaighum Rasheed	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Brooklyn Hospital Medical Center	New York, NY
Ammara Naveed	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Temple University	Philadelphia, PA

# NRMP MATCH RESULTS

NAME	CLASS	SPECIALITY	CATEGORY	PROGRAMME	LOCATION
Faraz Khan	2007	General Surgery	Categorical	Wayne State University DMC	Detroit, MI
Faria Nasim	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Mount Auburn Hospital Harvard Medical School	Cambridge, MA
Hajra Zehra Shah	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Connecticut	Hartford, CT
Hina Khawar Jamali	2007	General Surgery	Preliminary	Huron Hospital	Cleveland, OH
Iram Aqeel	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Albert Einstein, Jacobi	Jacobi, NY
Mahim Akmal	2007	General Surgery	Preliminary	The University of Tennessee	Memphis, TN
Muhammad Ahsan Zafar	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, OH
Muhammad Ameen Rauf	2007	General Surgery	Preliminary	UMDNJ-Newark	Newark, NJ
Rashid Zaheer Syed	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	New York Medical College	New York, NY
Sahar Fatima Zafar	2007	Neurology	Categorical	Baylor College of Medicine	Houston, TX
Saira Aziz	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Mount Auburn Hospital Harvard Medical School	Cambridge, MA
Sameer Khan	2007	Psychiatry	Categorical	Long Island Jewish Medical Center	Long Island, NJ
Samiullah	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	UMDNJ-Newark	Newark, NJ
Sana Farooq Khan	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, OH
Sana Sheikh	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Caritas St. Elizabeth	Boston, MA
Sana Syed	2007	Paediatrics	Categorical	Duke University	Durham, NC
Sana Waheed	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, OH
Sarah Khalid Khan	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Louisiana State University Health Sciences Centre	Shreveport, LA
Sumaira Sheikh	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Wisconsin	Madison, WI
Tauseef Ur Rehman	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Hennepin County Medical Center	Minneapolis, MN
Zarina Ehsan	2007	Paediatrics	Categorical	Indiana University School of Medicine	Indianapolis, IN
Zohair Raza	2007	Internal Medicine	Categorical	Penn State-Milton S. Hershey	Hershey, PA
Momin Saulat Siddique	2008	Internal Medicine	Categorical	West Virginia University	Morgantown, WV
Wajeaha Yousuf	2008	Internal Medicine	Categorical	University of Cincinnati	Cincinnati, OH

