

# Society for International Education

*Learning with the world, not just about it...*

Newsletter

October - December 2012

## Message for iEARN Pakistan..



From the moment I walked into the conference hall at Margalla hotel, Islamabad at the iEARN Youth Tech conference, I knew there was something very different about this group of people. There was a nervous energy found among the students attending this conference. The kind of energy one usually feels when faced with boundless curiosity. I spoke for one session the first day on 'Social Media and its Tools' and found myself peppered by question upon question; such was the young participants' drive to learn. On the second day I trained on wordpress and how to blog and we did most of the training in a practical hands-on manner. However what made this whole experience even more fascinating was the fact that after my sessions, during the breaks and even after the conference had concluded for the evening the students kept coming up. YES alumni have the international exposure and the confidence to want to associate with their trainers after the formal session as well and this was very apparent. I believe these are individuals who are going to go on to make a difference in their surroundings and to this country. I am just proud to have been a small part of this family, and to have monitored and helped in their end of the conference project.

These people are the hope of tomorrow and Farah Kamal and Saleem are really doing all they can for them. My kudos to them as well as to my fellow educators.

Faisal Kapadia  
Social Media Consultant & Trainer  
Editor, Global Voices Urdu

## KL-YES 10th Anniversary Kick Off Celebrations

December 12, 2012, KL-YES 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration events were organized in 9 different city chapters all over Pakistan here on Wednesday. Alumni of the K-L YES program and staff at iEARN Pakistan gathered to cut the cakes, reminisce over the past and cherish their memories while joining their counterparts in 45 countries. The alumni also participated in the online activities of the kickoff party during the previous week leading up to the event, sharing their memories, the lessons they learnt and life changing experiences that YES had brought to them. Director, YES Programs in Pakistan, Ms. Farah S. Kamal celebrated the anniversary with staff and alumni at iEARN Centre in Karachi. Hyderabad alumni gathered and celebrated the event. The 22 Lahore alumni got together for an intense live-tweeting party at the Lahore University of Management Sciences while the Rawalpindi and Islamabad alumni celebrated the occasion at the iEARN Centre in Islamabad. A K-LYES 2008-09 alumnus and Youth Programs Coordinator at iEARN Pakistan, Mr. Hassan Seed and



15 other alumni from Peshawar got together for a cake-cutting ceremony as well. Alumni chapter from Khair Pur, Sindh also participated actively by getting together for cake-cutting and connecting to rest of the alumni on Facebook and Twitter.

The alumni from Gilgit, Chitral, Quetta and other cities have been actively involved in the virtual party on social media and plan to hold their chapter celebration events within the next few days.

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## Photojournalism2.0: Images of Social Change' Program Orientation

An orientation session was arranged by iEARN Pakistan for the new project 'Photojournalism 2.0: Images of Social Change' on Wednesday 28 November, 2012 at iEARN Centre, Karachi. The two hour session was attended by school principals and lead teachers from five new schools selected for this project. Principals and teachers from seven GCE (Global Connection and Exchange) Journalism 2.0 Program schools, who are already working on GCE project, also joined and shared their project participation experiences and its positive impact on their students and



schools. Ms. Farah Kamal, Executive Director, iEARN Pakistan shared the project goals, important program components, outcomes, program expectations and timeline with the partici-

pants. The participants gave very positive response and were very enthusiastic to participate in this program. 'Photojournalism 2.0: Images of Social Change', is a project carried out through collaboration among iEARN Pakistan, iEARN USA and US Department of State-Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs. This project will enable educators in Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Tajikistan to use photography and technology skills to address social issues and to make positive contributions to their communities.

## Graduation Ceremony of the Access Program Karachi (2010-12)

To honor the students of the English Access Microscholarship Program (2010-12) implemented in Karachi by the Society for International Education (SIE), a formal yet cheerful and colorful graduation ceremony was held at the Beach Luxury Hotel on Sunday, 14th October, 2012. More than 1300 students who completed the two year program received certificates issued by the U.S. Embassy, Islamabad. Mr Michael Dodman, Consul General Of the US Consulate, Karachi i and officials from the Public Affairs Section of US Embassy Islamabad and Consulate in Karachi also attended the event and interacted with students.

## Access Award Ceremony in Hyderabad

The Access Award Ceremony was held in Hyderabad on Tuesday, 18th December, 2012. One hundred students gathered for receiving the certificates bearing the U.S. of Ambassador's signature as an acknowledgement that they have been selected to receive an English Access Microscholarship award.

Ms. Kristin Haworth, the Cultural Affairs Officer of the US Consulate, Karachi gave away the certificates. In her remarks she said, "The Access Program is much more than a language learning program. It also involves learning life skills, democratic values, communi-

ty service, and leadership skills." Later, Ms. Kirstin Haworth also made an exciting presentation introducing the Trace Effect games and gave a display of one of the game on the multimedia. Students were really captivated by what they saw on the screen. The CDs of these games will be used as supplementary learning resources in the Access classes in Hyderabad, Karachi and Rawalpindi.

## The Empower Access Program

Society for International Education is pleased to announce The Empower Access Program (EAP). This is a bilateral, professional exchange program for individuals, organizations and offices working directly with people with disabilities. 15 international fellows from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Tajikistan will travel to the United States of America in April-May 2013 to undertake a month-long intensive, tailored fellowship at U.S. host organization. The Empower Access Program will enable up to 15 Americans to participate in a reciprocal visit to their Fellows' host countries. The Empower Access Program is sponsored by the US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. EAP is administered by American Councils for International Education. For Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Tajikistan.

## English Access Microscholarship Program Rawalpindi Award Ceremony

English Access Microscholarship Program Rawalpindi Award ceremony was held in Islamabad on December 8, 2012. One hundred students received the award for participating in two-year English Access Microscholarship Program Rawalpindi (2012-2014). Ms. Joëlle Uzarski, Director, Regional English Language Office, US Embassy, Islamabad gave the awards to the students.



## Youth Empowerment and Leadership Program (YELP)

Society for international education has launched its new project in collaboration with CREATIVE under Karachi Youth Initiatives "Youth Empowerment and Leadership Program (YELP)". YELP aims to engage youth in at-risk areas to run clubs and raise awareness among peers and communities at large on importance of peace, tolerance and diversity. YELP will particularly be working in three areas that are Korangi, Lyari, and Sultanabad, where youth leaders selected after the selection process will be train at youth leadership summit at Islamabad that will be week long training. These leaders will then form clubs in their local communities to spread the message and disseminate their learning to peers and their communities. This is a five month long project that will benefit as many as 1500 youth in different areas of Karachi.



## International Education Week

The KL-YES alumni celebrated the IEW by conducting presentations throughout the country as part of International Education Week from 12-19th November 2012. These presentations were designed to address the students of various schools, communities and college. In Karachi, the alumni visited different schools and conducted sessions on basics of community service projects. Whereas, a Career Counseling project was executed in Lahore College of Arts and Sciences (co-ed) on Nov 16th, 2012 lead by senior YES alumni. The project focused on issues such as exploration of academic opportunities, career change, personal and academic career development, and other college admission related is-

sues. YES Alumni KPK organized two workshops at two different high schools in Peshawar in the spirit of the International Education Week. These work-



shops covered the aspects of *team building* and *leadership*.

## K-L YES Alumni KPK Workshops in November

In the month of November, K-L YES Alumni Peshawar conducted three workshops in the spirit of International Education Week to raise awareness about *cooperation and team work* among the students and help them define their future goals. In early November, the K-L YES Alumni Peshawar addressed sixty-five students at Peshawar Model School in a 2-day workshop focusing on Communication Skills, Effective Reading, Creative Writing, Online Education and Team Building, etc. The students along with the facilitating teachers applauded and appreciated the efforts by the Alumni. During the second week of November, K-L YES Alumni Peshawar addressed two-hundred students at Frontier Model School and Peshawar Excellence School (all girls) about K-L YES Program and traits of Communicating Leadership in order to celebrate the International Education Week. This had a profound impact on the girls as they showed interest in writing and putting their skills to use for *Young Peshawar* Newsletter



## IEARN & I...

In October 2010, I joined Society for International Education (SIE) as a coordinator for the Access program. Since then my journey with the



most dynamic 'Dream Team' has been full of excitement, totally diversified and worthwhile.

Throughout these two years and a couple of months, I've been provided with ample opportunities to learn and grow in my profession. I feel privileged to have worked for the largest Access program in the World, the program that has served as a turning point in the lives of many students from underserved communities. I feel proud when I get to know about the success stories of Access students and alumni. It gives me a feeling of accomplishment and self-satisfaction.

In between, I also got a chance to train more than 100 teachers from Karachi and interior Sindh as a part of 'Connecting Classrooms'. Working for this project enhanced my skills in developing and conducting training sessions for teachers and students.

Now, I am working a Program Officer for 'The Empower Access Program', yet another unique, exciting and interesting project run by SIE. It has been an absolutely memorable and exciting journey so far. Thank you SIE for this amazing experience. I am sure that there is a lot more to come.

Cheers!

Sidrah Niaz  
Program Officer

## Plan your year with iEARN Projects



A workshop on "Planning Your Year with iEARN projects" was conducted by iEARN Pakistan on December 1, 2012 at iEARN Centre Pakistan. The aim was to introduce participants to different iEARN online projects by integrating them with International days celebrations. A resource booklet developed by iEARN Pakistan "Plan your year with iEARN projects, Celebrate UN International Days" was also introduced in which various lesson plans and activities were shared month wise to give teachers a quick start. These lesson plans and activities mostly include Language Arts, Creative Arts, Science and Community Service projects. The hands-on activities helped them choose appropriate projects for their students and gave them a better understanding. They also made action plans to implement these activities in their schools. The participants received their copy of the booklet "Plan your year with iEARN projects, Celebrate UN International Days" during the session. This booklet is a good resource for teachers to start with and is available at [http://www.earnpk.org/PD/UN\\_Days\\_2012.pdf](http://www.earnpk.org/PD/UN_Days_2012.pdf)

During session, the participants made posters and gave presentations to observe World Aids day celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> December. For more information on establishing iEARN club in school, contact [alema@earnpk.org](mailto:alema@earnpk.org).

## iEARN GCE Journalism Reporting labs

After successful implementation of Global Connections & Exchange (GCE) Journalism: 2.0 program, iEARN Pakistan has set up Journalism reporting labs in 7 schools in Karachi that participated in this program. Besides organizing training of teachers and students, online courses, and internship for students, the setting up of reporting labs in schools is one of the components of this program. These labs are equipped with latest technology tools and resource materials to develop students' skills and help capacity building by engaging them in using media and technology to explore local and global issues and connect with peers abroad. This lab includes HP Laptop ProBook 4530s CORE i3, Laptop backpack, Canon Powershot Digital Camera, Tripod Stand, Internet EVO Unlimited, Headphones/USB Speaker, Webcam 16 Mega Pixel and USB Flash drive 16 GB. Seeing the interest of students, iEARN Pakistan has plans to engage these students in future program and activities.



## Children's Council launches Educating Community Project in Orangi Town

Child Rights Club members from Orangi launched "CC Educating Community Project" on November 27, 2012.

Education is a key tool in preventing child labour while child labour acts as an obstacle to children attending school, therefore to the center has been established to eliminate child labour by providing education to the deserving children who are forced to work during day. The evening school has been established in collaboration with Shaheen School located in the same area where 15 girls and boys are attending classes being conducted by the CR Club members. In order to establish the school, members of the CR Club Orangi Town conducted a survey in their community to find out causes that were hampering children's education in their area. The team went door to door to meet parents and briefed them about the "Educating Community Project" and convinced them to send their children to schools.



## Child Rights Clubs Celebrates International Day of Girl Child

Children's Council Child Rights Clubs celebrated first International Day of Girl Child on October 11, 2012. The International Day of the Girl Child was designated by a resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly to recognize girls' rights and highlight the unique challenges girls face worldwide. The girl members shared their stories of successes and struggles with the other club members. Focus group discussions were held during the session to highlight the importance and role of girls in the society. Members recorded their messages and shared them through social media to spread awareness about girls' rights.



International Education and Resource Network  
Pakistan

(A Project of Society for International Education)

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