

OPEN Karachi at ITCN Asia 2012

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OPEN Karachi actively participated in ITCN Asia, 18th to 20th, September - 2012 with two adjacent stalls in Hall no 1. OPEN Karachi claimed success in getting everyone's attention at the event and had fruitful interaction with the visitors and exhibitors. Marriam Ahmed (General Secretary), Muhammad Saad (Coordinator), Zeenat Nasir and Zainab Nasir (volunteers) briefed OPEN Karachi's role to the visitors including students and highlighted the importance of entrepreneurship in Pakistan.

Overall, many board and executive committee members made this event a success by participating and giving their valuable input on how to reach out to people. This event paved the way for OPEN Karachi's participation next year at ITCN Asia and many other events to come.

PAF-KIET MOU signing ceremony

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The MOU signing ceremony took place at the OPEN Karachi pavilion at ITCN Asia. The director of PAF-KIET Mr. Adnan Anwer signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with OPEN Karachi president, Dr. Zakiuddin Ahmed. Mr. Ashraf Kapadia (Chairman OPEN Karachi) and Mr. Sohail Aziz (Member, Board of Directors) attended the ceremony.

OPEN Karachi also arranged a mentorship session for students who wanted to initiate their own business. Marriam Ahmed and Eram Abbasi (Member, Executive Committee) mentored the interested students who applied online for mentorship session. The mentored students also took part in elevator pitch competition held on **20th September, 2012**. One of mentored student also became member of OPEN Karachi.



Elevator Pitch Competition - September 20, 2012

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Organization of Pakistani Entrepreneurs of North America (OPEN) – Karachi, successfully organized an Elevator Pitch Competition at ITCN Asia 2012 on September 20, 2012. The objective of this event was to train and mentor the students on how to present their business idea to a potential investor and/or client.

The event was inaugurated by Mr. Ashraf Kapadia, Chairman OPEN Karachi, who also gave a presentation on how to do an elevator pitch. This was followed by a training and mentoring session by Marriam Shafi Ahmed, Gen. Secretary EC – OPEN Karachi. Later, the audience was introduced to the concept and ideology behind OPEN Karachi's existence, its objective, its U.S. Chapters and its members by Dr. Zakiuddin Ahmed, President OPEN Karachi.

The participants represented leading universities of Karachi and showed immense interests in the proceedings of the competition and participated actively. The Elevator Pitches were judged by Mr. Sulaiman Farooqui, Vice President Kalsoft, Mr. Ashraf Kapadia – Chairman OPEN Karachi, Dr. Zahir Ali Syed – Vice Chairman OPEN Karachi, Dr. Zakiuddin Ahmed – President OPEN Karachi, Mr. Sohail Aziz – Director OPEN Karachi and Ms. Erum Abbasi, Member EC, OPEN Karachi.

Hassan Pervez, representing NED, held the 3rd position, Haseem uz Zaman, Rise Wise, representing IBA, secured the 2nd runner up position while Qaanita, Pick and Print, representing IBA, secured the first position. The event was concluded with a plaque ceremony, vote of thanks and group pictures.





NED MoU Signing Ceremony

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The MoU signing ceremony took place at the NED University. The registrar of



NED, Engineer Javed Aziz Khan signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with OPEN Karachi Chairman, Mr. Ashraf Kapadia. Mr. Shoaib Zaidi (Professor & Dean, Electrical & Computer Engineering NED, Member Executive Committee OPEN Karachi) Ms. Sundus Ali (Member- OPEN Karachi, Lecturer- NED) and Ms. Eram Abassi (Member Executive Committee OPEN Karachi) attended the ceremony.

OPEN Karachi Hi Tea

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After the huge success of our **Annual Conference 2012**: “Creating Value through Collaboration” OPEN Karachi organized hi tea for all its Executive Committee Members and Student Chapters who actively participated in making the annual conference a big hit.

Hi tea was sponsored by Mr. Yusuf Jan, Board Member OPEN Karachi at Lal Qila on Friday January 4, 2013. It was an intimate gathering of the board members, executive committee and all the student chapters of OPEN Karachi. It provided the students a terrific opportunity to meet the industry experts in a relaxed, informal setting to build relationships and get valuable business and career feedback.





OPEN Karachi Annual Conference: “Creating Value through Collaboration”

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OPEN Karachi or the Organization of Pakistani Entrepreneurs of North America organized its first Annual Conference under the title of **“Creating Value through Collaboration”** on 22nd December, 2012 at Karachi School of Business Leaders (KSBL).

People from different sectors were invited as keynote speakers and panelists to discuss the different panel topics and provide their solutions while answering questions of the audience.

The event kickstarted with the recitation from the Holy Quran, after which Hussain Dawood, Patron OPEN Karachi, inaugurated the conference with his words of wisdom followed by an introduction to OPEN Karachi by Zakiuddin Ahmed, President OPEN Karachi. Master of the ceremony, Marriam Ahmed - VP OPEN Karachi, carried the event forward which was divided into four different panel discussions, each with a moderator, keynote speaker and panelists. For the youth, being our prime focus, OPEN Karachi organized an inter-university debate competition where our student chapter members participated enthusiastically and their ideas were communicated to the corporate professionals at the event.

The entire team of OPEN Karachi left no stone unturned in ensuring the event’s success, thus the Annual Conference turned out to be a huge success followed by a crowd of 200+ audience including 150+ corporate people and students.

OPEN Karachi would like to thank everyone who was a part of the event including all the board and EC members who took part in organizing and planning the annual conference. We also cordially thank the sponsors for their valued support in the event. Last but not the least, a special thanks to all the speakers and panelist who enlightened the audience with their valuable knowledge and experiences. Being our first annual flagship event, it was a huge success which gave us far more ideas to incorporate in our 2013 annual conference.

To send us your feedback or make suggestions, write to info@openkarachi.org

