

Recruitment Drive for OPEN Karachi SZABIST Chapter

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The recruitment drive kicked off on February 10, 2013 communicating to SZABIST students and encouraging them to be a part of the biggest network of entrepreneurs in Pakistan. It initiated with the EB and associated members being active on social media platforms and sharing details with students on how to be a part of the society. The forms were made available at SZABIST 100 Campus photocopier shop. Standees and panaflex promoting the motives of OPEN were placed at all campuses.

A show on GEO tv (Voice of America) also played an important part in the promotion of society by answering various questions on what the society is all about and the chapters in and outside of Pakistan which are associated with OPEN was posted on social media forums of SZABIST Students. Promotional miniature flags were pasted on all the campuses to capture attention of students. Word of mouth also spread like fire and helped to market the society between peers. There was a vivid sense of excitement and curiosity amongst the students regarding OPEN SZABIST Karachi Student Chapter as a fresh society in the university.





OPEN-IBA Student Chapter organized a seminar on “Online Entrepreneurship”

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The importance of Internet in today’s world of business cannot be emphasized enough. It is a gateway for huge sources of revenue for many businesses, both small and big. Keeping this in mind, OPEN-IBA Student Chapter organized a seminar on “Online Entrepreneurship”. The seminar was held on the 21st of February, 2013 at the Centre for Entrepreneurial Development building at IBA, Main Campus. One of the Guru of Internet Entrepreneurship, "Amir Anzur", Dean Webpreneur Academy, was invited to share knowledge on the topic. Amir holds over a decade’s experience as an internet entrepreneur with his portfolio including clients such as Amazon, Google, Intel, and Samsung,

Addressing to the audience of approx 100 participants, Mr. Anzur, shared his commendable experience and successful entrepreneurship ventures which left the audience greatly inspired.



GUEST SPEAKER SESSION AT PAF- KIET:

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Guest Speaker Sessions and Seminars provide an opportunity to the students to benefit from the experience of prominent corporate executives and technology professionals. OPEN Karachi organizes guest speaker sessions at its student chapters on a regular basis in order to provide students the opportunity to interact with the leading industry experts and gain their viewpoint on academic concepts that are actually practiced in the industry.

On February 26, 2013 Mr. Asadullah – Manager Export Marketing, Lucky Cement & Member Executive Committee - OPEN Karachi, was invited as a guest speaker at PAF Kiet to enlighten the students with his experience and knowledge on “Exporting as an Entrepreneurial Act.” The feedback was phenomenal as the students loved the opportunity to network with and learn from Mr. Asadullah and his tips on the subject.



OPEN Karachi Launching ceremony

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Imran Sayeed, Chairman OPEN Global, formally announced the launch of OPEN Karachi as the first chapter outside the US in the presence of a large gathering of Pakistani entrepreneurs and business leaders. OPEN stands for the Organization of Pakistani Entrepreneurs of North America.

Addressing the audience, Imran explained, “OPEN is the largest Pakistani-origin leadership and entrepreneurship organization in the world that has many accomplishments to its credit.

Seminar on "Entrepreneurial Ecosystem of Pakistan" held at the Iqra University





Event: HUM Start up Challenge 2013

Date: November, 2013

Venue: Dot Zero

Pictures: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.712037802161980.1073741834.380104898688607&type=3>

Description:

OPEN Startup Challenge 2013 (OSC 2013) was arranged by OPEN Karachi to encourage the youth into the field of Entrepreneurship and to provide a sustainable platform to them in their startups. The competition was spread around one month in which around 200 teams from all over the country took part. The participants of the competition were divided into two categories i.e. contemporary entrepreneurs having running businesses for less than 5 years i.e. 'Startup category' and potential entrepreneurs having a business idea and are looking for a platform for appreciation of their ideas i.e. 'Business Idea Category'. After a twin phase scrutiny by the evaluators, Top 10 teams from each category were selected as the final contestants. The teams were introduced to the whole nation in HUM Morning Show "Jago Pakistan", were trained on the contents of the business plan and presentation skills, and were given opportunity to present their business plans in front of the panel of judges. There were 11 different prizes in different categories for the winners and certificates of Top 20 teams.

Event: OPEN Karachi Annual Conference 2013

Date: 21st December, 2013

Venue: KSBL University

Pictures: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.628514813878295.1073741830.478266005569844&type=1>

Description:

OPEN Karachi, Organization of Pakistani Entrepreneurs, organized its second successful annual conference, "Building Bridges through Networking", on 21st December 2013 at Karachi School of Business & Leadership, KSBL. KSBL is proud to be an academic and venue partner for this auspicious event.

The first conference, "Creating Value through Collaboration" was a successful effort to instill the value of collaboration amongst the youth that were now going to contribute to the economy through entrepreneurship. This year, we set the scale higher by talking about "Building Bridges through Networking" and how each active industry in Pakistan could benefit from the solutions presented in the panel discussions.

Mr. Hussain Dawood, Patron, OPEN Karachi and Chairman, KSBL, delivered the Key Note Address on Entrepreneurial Ecosystem for the first session. He is best known to leave his audience awed with the information he shares, and this keynote was no different. His keynote was followed by a guest speaker session by the acting U.S. Consulate, Ms. Anu Prattipati. She also emphasized on working together with different partners to build the Entrepreneurial Eco System in Pakistan. This discussion included Dr. Zakiuddin Ahmed, (President OPEN Karachi) as the moderator where the participants, Mr. Shaban Khalid (Director Sales & Marketing at Ittehad Steel Industries), Ms. Azra Maqsood (Executive Director at INJAZ Pakistan), Mr. Haroon Qasim Managing Director, PharmEvo Pvt. Ltd), Mr. Idris Kothari (Former President, OPEN Silicon Valley), Mr. Faraz Khan (A UK-based Pakistani social entrepreneur), Mr. Asad Badruddin (Co-founder of Pakathon) and Mr. Mohammad Arif added value to the discussion with their suggestions to overcome the obstacles and their solutions to achieve success.

This year, OPEN focused on 5 different sectors contributing to the Pakistani economy, where the most important one was Agriculture. OPEN Karachi and Sindh Enterprise Development Fund collaborated to discuss the challenges and opportunities within the Agriculture sector and how the youth could be attracted to "Agripreneurship". The Keynote Address was delivered by Dr. Shahid Qureshi (Entrepreneur), Mr. Zahir Syed (Board member- OPEN Karachi and CEO, Cambridge Advisors Network), while the panelists included Mr. Mehboob-ul-Haq (Sindh Enterprise Development Fund (SEDF)), Muhammad Ismail Kumbhar, Mr. Ali Rizvi (Center for entrepreneurial Leadership & Incubation), Mr. Amir Dhedhi (C.E.O /founder of Reliance Aqua Farms (pvt) Ltd), and Mr. Toofiq Pasha (30 years of experience in horticulture, floriculture, landscaping) who moderated the panel. The idea of this panel was to discuss the initiatives SBI has taken to provide subsidies to those entrepreneurs who wanted to invest in this sector and all the information they needed for the initiative. This was OPEN's first initiative in this sector and it was only possible due to the vision of Mr. Mehboob-ul-Haq and SEDF.

The next topic of discussion was the booming IT industry of Pakistan. Mr. Javaid Iqbal, Enterprise Transformation visionary & adviser at Salesforce.com, delivered the Keynote address while Ms. Narjis Ali (President & CEO at Sure Secure solutions) was the chairman. The panelists included Mr. Adnan Shahid (management consultant), Mr. Amir Anzur (Webpreneur), Mr. Jawwad Farid (Director / Chief Executive at Alchemy Technologies), Mr. Raja Sabri (Civilian and Military Aerospace industry), Ms. Jehan Ara (PASHA) and Mr. Azhar Rizvi (CEO of Tech Angel Network (Guarantee) Ltd), Board members OPEN Karachi. All these gurus discussed the new emerging talents in IT sector that have made Pakistan proud globally while they focused the discussion on developing technological entrepreneurship framework for Pakistan. How technological entrepreneurship can help bring about the national productivity and competitiveness that entrepreneurship is said to provide.

The highlight of the event was the panel discussion on “Industry and Academia Gap”. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Mobshar Hameed, (CEO and founder of Caliber Vantage), and Dr. Shaukat Brah (Dean at KSBL), chaired the panel discussion. The panelists included Dr. Shoaib Zaidi (Dean of the School of Science and Engineering at [Habib University](#)), Mr. Afaque Ahmed (Founder and Chairperson BOG of KITE), Mr. Hafeez Malik (General Secretary of KASB Foundation), Mr. Aftab Tapal (Founder Tapal Tea) while Mr. Wali Zahid (International Consultant) moderated the discussion. Mr. Mobshar in collaboration with OPEN Karachi announced and presented a solution to bridge this ever increasing gap by a platform called, “Tameer”.

The heart of every OPEN Karachi conference happens to be the discussion on Social Entrepreneurship. A subject every Pakistani is extremely passionate about. This session started off with Dr. Bari Khan’s, keynote address (Founder Indus Hospital) which was followed by a panel discussion with Farrukh Khan (CEO of BMA Capital), Sikandar Sultan (Founder Shan Foods), Benji Williams (Cofounder Acumen Fund), Rehan Allahwala (CEO Super Technologies), Nazir Tunio (Director Block by Block) and Junaid Qureshi (CEO SSJD Group) as panelists. The audience was keen to hear new approaches to social entrepreneurship while discussing examples like Akhuwat as a successful model.

“Building Bridges Through Networking” was attended by over 300 people including a mix of top-notch CEO’s, corporate personnel, employees, deans, professors and university students apart from other organizations supporting us to build the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem. The event also provided a platform to connect the students with the people heading prestigious organizations and industries in Pakistan as well as in USA.

This event was organized in partnership with HUM TV, MAP, DOT Zero, MIT Enterprise Forum, Deplilex, Aman Foundation, International Development Institute, City and Guild, I2I, CSR association of Pakistan, Young Entrepreneurs Forum, Akhuwat, and Tameer Bank while the sponsors of the event were **KITE, Sindh Enterprise development Fund, Caliber Vantage, 21st Century Real State, Habib University.**