

HIGHLIGHTS

January 2010

A Monthly Newsletter for projects of Habib University Foundation

Table of Contents



page 2

Secretary for Sports and Youth Affairs Visit iACT



page 3

INSPYRE Learning and Teaching



page 5

Engaging iACT Alumni



page 6

ILEAD Activities with Partner Colleges



page 8

Networking and Partnerships



INSPYRE and ILEAD are public-private partnership projects of the Youth Affairs Department, Government of Sindh and Habib University Foundation (H.U.F.) with technical support being provided by the British Council.



Inspiring Leadership, Empowerment and Development in Youth

- ILEAD focuses on promoting a healthy life style, leadership & personal development in youth through sports education and community service
- ILEAD will build partnerships with 5 colleges and 25 schools in Karachi and Hyderabad
- ILEAD aims to develop a sports education curriculum, organize sports weeks, summer camps, sports festivals, coaching camps etc. for youth



Inspiring Pakistani Youth to Reach Excellence

- INSPYRE aims at providing youth with a platform for their personal growth, career enhancement and social development
- INSPYRE provides free of cost career education to youth for their career building in Information Technology, Retail Management, Digital Media, Call Center Industry, Fashion and Textile Designing
- Internships are an essential component of the INSPYRE learning experience



Youth Affairs Department
Government of Sindh



Habib University Foundation

Technical Partner



Foreword

This is the first issue of HIGHLIGHTS in 2010. We have all embraced a new year and a new decade of this century with the aspiration to create a better world for ourselves. The beginning of this year creates an opportunity for all of us to forget, let go and bury any grievances, animosities and grudges borne against each other during this past year. It is time to give a new face to our relationships based on love, compassion and acceptance. This can make 2010 a true new year for our lives.

ILEAD and INSPYRE have also greeted 2010 with plenty of new ideas and inspirations. January brings a new cohort of excited and energetic INSPYRE students to iACT, and takes freshly recruited ILEAD sports faculty to ILEAD partner colleges. This issue of HIGHLIGHTS will update you on activities that

took place during the last month of 2009, and plans for the first month of 2010.

ILEAD and INSPYRE teams wish everyone a peaceful 2010 with a sincere prayer that God may bless us all with a stronger spirit, thoughtful minds, compassionate hearts, healthier bodies and endless love for humanity.

We open-heartedly welcome your opinions and suggestions vis-à-vis both projects. Please share all of your thoughts at yasmeenbano@huf.org.pk. Hope you will enjoy reading this issue of 'HIGHLIGHTS'!

Yasmeen Bano
Head Research and Projects

INSPYRE Highlights

Facts and Figures

- Around 2000 students from all parts of Sindh applied for the second INSPYRE cohort, out of which 155 were selected
- On average, 13 applications per seat were received
- There is a relatively equal distribution of girls and boys who were admitted to the second INSPYRE cohort, the ratio being 45:55

Secretary for Sports and Youth Affairs Visit iACT

Mr. Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui, Secretary for Sports and Youth Affairs and Mr. Khurshid Ali Shaikh, Project Director for INSPYRE and ILEAD and Director Youth Affairs Department visited the Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents. They visited the ILEAD and INSPYRE construction site, where Mr. Siddiqui met with the site engineer and contractor and urged them to expedite the construction process.

INSPYRE and ILEAD teams updated the visitors on the projects' ongoing activities, highlighting the successes and challenges faced by them. Mr. Siddiqui appreciated the dedication of the INSPYRE team, especially regarding its efforts to secure internships and jobs for INSPYRE graduates. He also admired the quality of the monthly newsletter HIGHLIGHTS.

H.U.F. team made a presentation about an innovative youth project named Youth Empowering Space (YES) to Mr. Siddiqui, who admired its concept and suggested various ways of realizing it. YES will be a diverse, flexible, open and creative space for youth to:

- EDUCATE them about issues of their own and social life
- ENGAGE them in a variety of activities to foster leadership, creativity, volunteerism and active citizenship
- EMPOWER them to think for themselves and for their society
- ENLIGHTEN them with their potential and power



INSPYRE Highlights

INSPYRE Learning and Teaching

Most of the INSPYRE learning and teaching activities revolved around the admissions process for INSPYRE Cohort II. The process was initiated in November, and came to a close in December 2009. The admissions tests and interviews for all shortlisted candidates from Karachi were conducted at the Institute of Advancing Careers and Talents (iACT), Malir. Tests and interviews of other shortlisted applicants were conducted at the two test centers established in Hyderabad and Sukkur.



INSPYRE - Inspiring the Youth

INSPYRE began engaging youth from July 2009 by offering two courses to its first cohort. The program received a good response: an enthusiastic group of 75 young people enrolled in INSPYRE's Call Center Agent Training and introductory IT course. Cohort I graduated in November 2009, when the process of inviting applications from all parts of Sindh began once more for INSPYRE Cohort II.

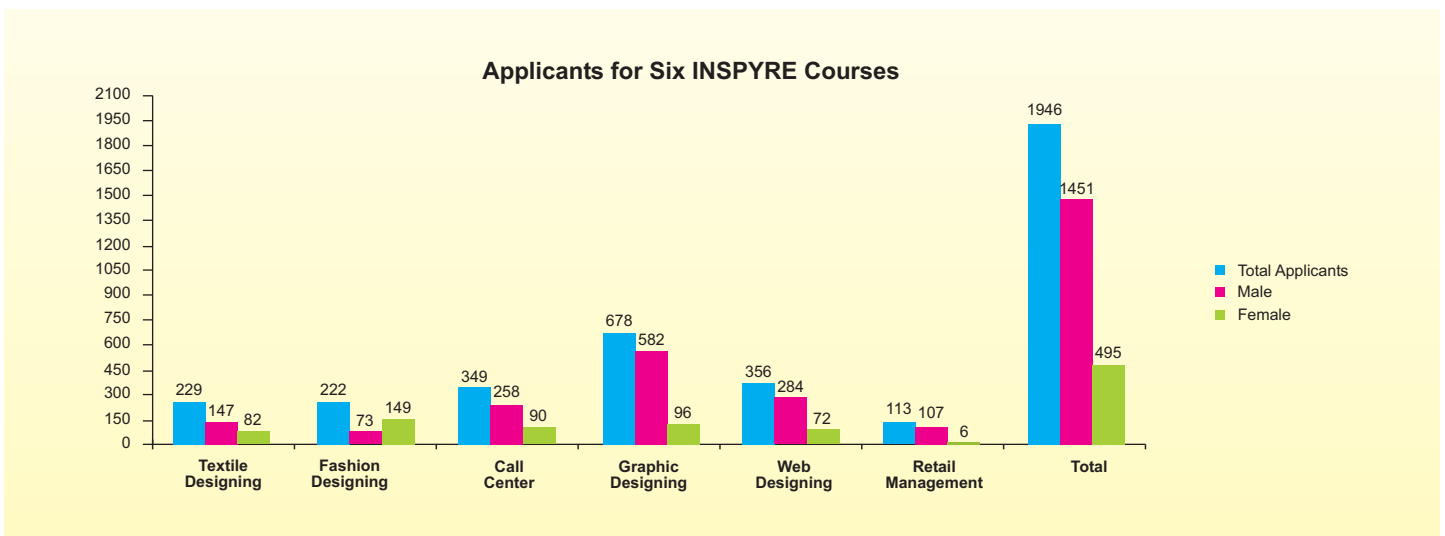
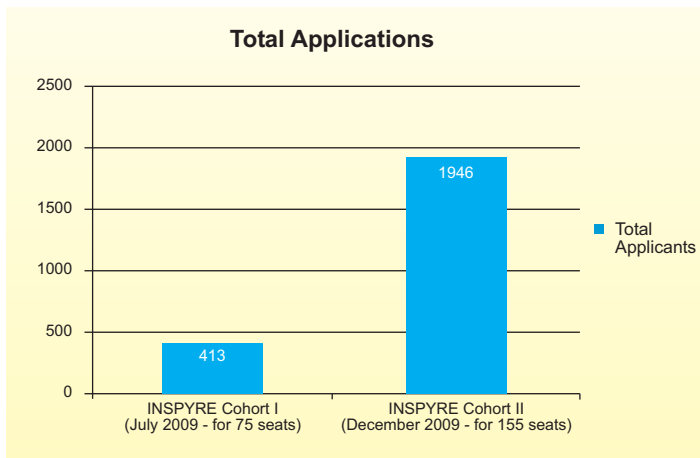
Six courses were announced for the second INSPYRE cohort that aroused plenty of interest among youth, resulting in an overwhelming response.

As compared to its first cohort, the number of applicants for the second INSPYRE cohort increased almost fivefold. The first cohort averaged five applications per seat, whereas the current cohort averaged 13 applications per seat.

The applicants, totalling 1,946 young people, came from various parts of Sindh. Applicants came from all districts of Karachi but were predominantly from Malir District (roughly 60%). Applications were also received from Hyderabad, Larakana, Sukkur, Khairpur and Dadu.

INSPYRE Cohort II courses attracted both genders, with 1,451 males and 495 females submitting applications.

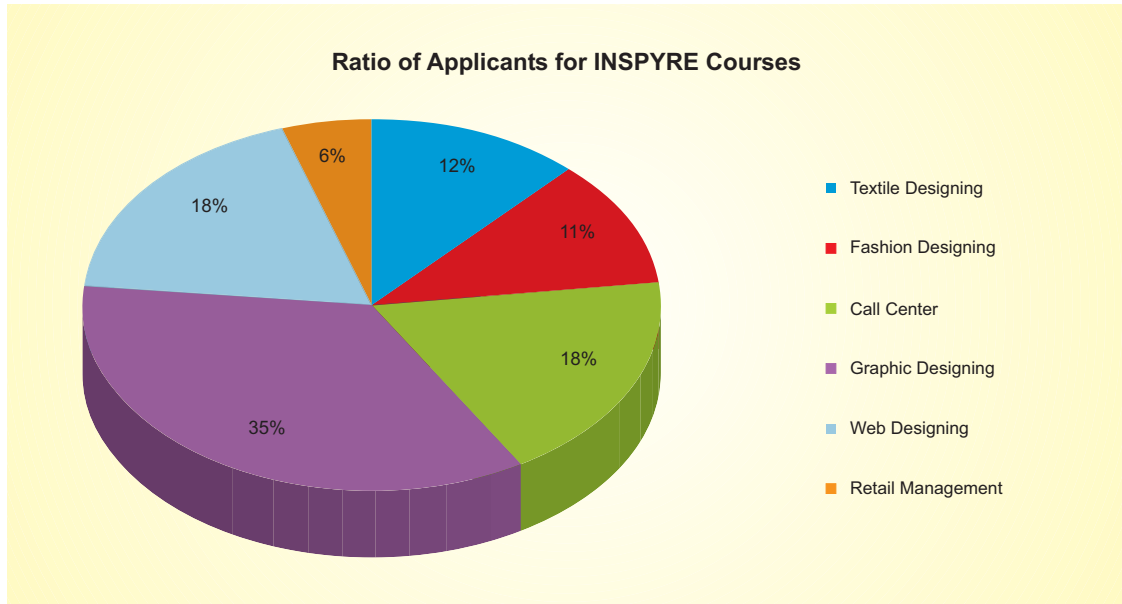
There is female representation for all courses including Retail Management. However, the overall response by females was quite low for retail Management.



INSPYRE Highlights

Popular Career Choices of Youth

Youth response to INSPYRE courses also depicts their awareness and interest in various emerging career fields. The graph shows that as a career field, Digital Media is quite popular among youth.

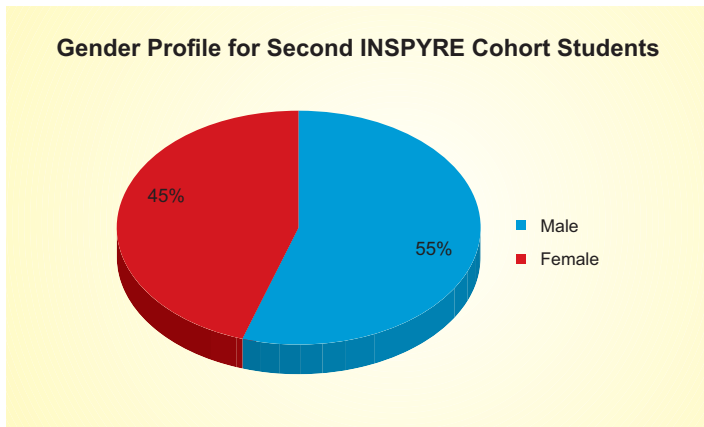


The data also reveals that Retail Management has not yet attracted the attention of our youth as a potential career field. Career counseling of youth would help them explore and understand the emerging trends in various careers fields in order to diversify their career choices.

For the second INSPYRE cohort, 13 applications per seat were received on average

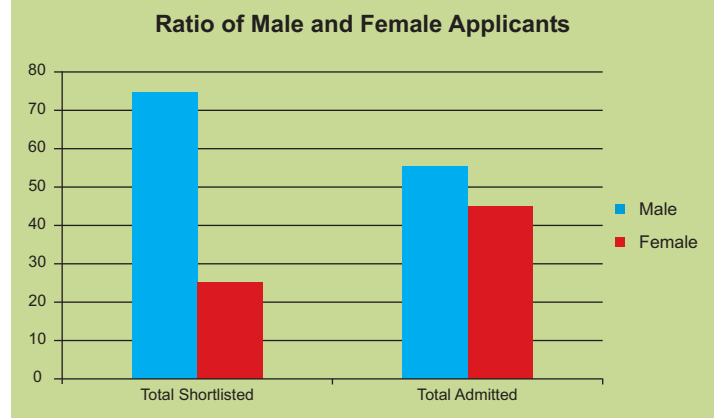
Maintaining the Gender Balance

The final selection of the second INSPYRE cohort comprises of 155 students from Karachi and other parts of Sindh. iACT has maintained a well balanced gender ratio for the second INSPYRE cohort, as it did for its first cohort.



Girls Outperform Boys!

In the admissions of the second INSPYRE cohort, girls performed better than boys. The ratio of male to female applicants was 75:25 but the ratio of boys to girls who were successfully admitted is 55:45.



INSPYRE Highlights

Youth Development Activities

Engaging iACT Alumni

The continuous professional development of iACT graduates plays a vital role in building youth communities and constructing a sound relationship between iACT alumni and the Institute. A follow-up session was organized for INSPYRE Cohort I graduates of IT and Call Center Agent Training, paying special attention to those who are looking for jobs. The main purpose was to help them set proper goals and to refine skills required for effective interviews and job searches. The session helped alumni understand SMART goals, and the essentials of writing a professional resume.

Graduates of the first INSPYRE cohort who recently completed their internships shared their experiences of the workplace with their colleagues and iACT faculty. Students also shared their ideas about searching for employment, job interviews, career development options and the scenario of job market with faculty.



Awareness of Active Citizens Program



British Council has launched “Active Citizens Program” and has partnered with the Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents (iACT) for its implementation. The program aims to facilitate around 200 youth of Malir to understand the concept of active citizenship. It will also support youth in building skills for undertaking community development initiatives.

On the days when the tests and interviews for the second INSPYRE cohort were conducted, awareness sessions for the program were also arranged to introduce youth to it and encourage them to participate. Sessions for more than 300 youth were conducted, and approximately 50 young people registered for the program within a week.

The program will commence from January 2010, and as a part of their learning experience, all INSPYRE students will participate in it.

ILEAD Highlights

Formalizing Partnerships with ILEAD Colleges

ILEAD has identified its partner colleges and is in the process of acquiring the approval from various stakeholders in education department to formalize the partnerships. To complete the process of obtaining NOCs, several meetings were held in December with officials from Karachi and Hyderabad. During these meetings, officials were introduced to ILEAD and areas were identified where their support is required. Meetings were held with the following individuals:

- Mr. Ahmed Nawaz Niazi, Department of Education (Headquarters), Karachi
- Mr. Shabbir Ahmed Jokhio, Department of Education (Secondary and Higher Secondary, Male) and Ms. Khursheed Fatima, Department of Education (Secondary and Higher Secondary, Female), Karachi
- Mr. Sagar Samejo, Deputy Director Inspection, Regional Directorate Colleges, Hyderabad
- Mr. Ilyas Bhatti, Department of Sports, Hyderabad

All the officials assured their complete cooperation with ILEAD to formalize partnerships and for organizing sports events and activities.



ILEAD Activities with Partner Colleges

ILEAD team has initiated work with its identified partner colleges. In this regard, the following key activities took place last month:

Meetings to Finalize ILEAD Agreement Draft

A draft version of the ILEAD agreement was shared with partner colleges. Meetings were held with the colleges to discuss the clauses of the agreement and to clarify any points of concern they had regarding it. The partner institutes offered valuable feedback, which has now been incorporated into the agreement.



Appointing ILEAD Sports Faculty at Partner Colleges

The process of appointing the sports faculty at ILEAD colleges has been initiated. A systematic process has been designed for recruiting new faculty. As part of the process, these positions have been advertised on the Habib University Foundation website. The following steps are being taken to finalize the appointments:

- Receiving and scrutinizing applications
- Conducting interviews of shortlisted applicants by using a specific tool. The panel of interviewers consists of two representatives from the ILEAD team and two from the partner college
- Compiling results of the panel to reach a mutual consensus

35 sports coaches/teachers were interviewed for three institutes in Karachi to select 6 faculty members

The recruitment process has been completed for partner colleges in Karachi, and the identified faculty members will join the colleges in January 2010. Sports faculty hired for the Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents (iACT) joined in December. The hired faculty members were given an orientation on ILEAD, and they have already begun planning a sports week. They have initiated the process of selecting five partner schools for the Institute.

ILEAD Highlights

Selection of Partner Schools

One of the important features of ILEAD is cultivating partnerships between ILEAD colleges and five schools present in their vicinity. ILEAD will be piloting this exciting model of mutual collaboration and learning at the Institute for Advancing Careers and Talents (iACT), which has embarked upon the process of identifying partner schools. iACT's sports team visited several public and private schools located in the vicinity of the Institute and introduced them to ILEAD.

Though many schools responded warmly to the initiative, the team felt it would be a challenging task to engage their students in sports and other physical exercises due to lack of sports facilities and space available in these schools. Also, several schools do not have a faculty member dedicated solely for physical education. iACT's sports team is actively working on creating alternative solutions.



Sports Education Curriculum

Current Status of Sports Education at the College Level: First Draft of Situation Analysis Report

The first step of curriculum development was to understand the existing setup of sports education in colleges. The Center for Educational Research and Planning (CERP), a project of Habib University Foundation, undertook a systematic and extensive situation analysis. Upon data collection, the first draft of the report was developed and is now being reviewed before its publication. The report highlights the following aspects:

For most institutes, the ultimate purpose of sports participation is to compete and win the competition.

Furthermore, sports and education are conflicting fields for many institutes rather than complementary ones. Therefore, the general view is that either one can become a good student or a sound player.

- Overall status of sports infrastructure in Pakistan
- Concept and scope of sports education at colleges
- Current status of sports facilities, sports equipment, sports budget, sports HR and sports activities at various colleges
- Challenges and issues that hinder the promotion of sports education for youth
- Recommendations for promoting sports education

The findings of the situation analysis revealed several important

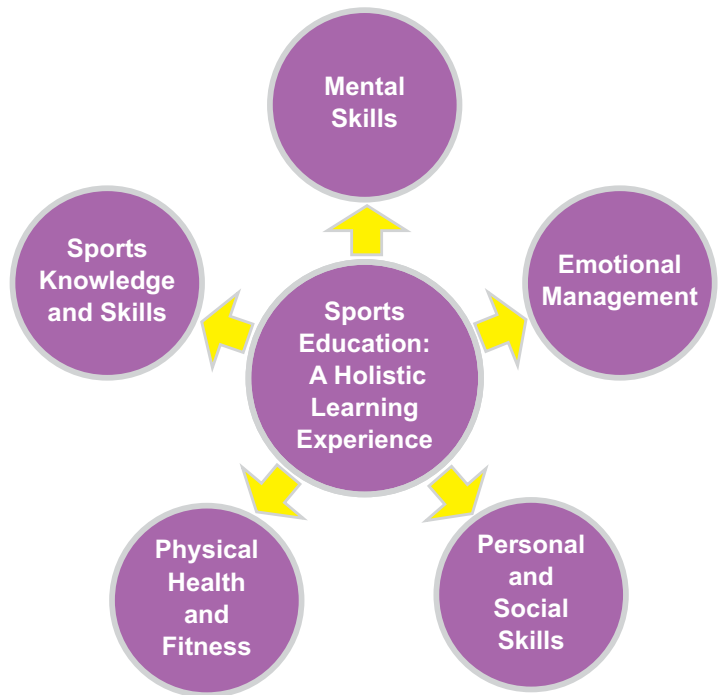
perceptions about sports which play a critical role in shaping sports for youth. The most striking perception is the importance both colleges and students attribute to victory, and the disinterest

For public colleges, the annual sports fund is Rs. 40 per student

demonstrated by them regarding other aspects of sports while developing sports related programs. These findings will prove useful for the ILEAD team in designing the curriculum.

Sports Education Framework

One of the key deliverables of ILEAD is to develop a Sports Education Curriculum, for which the Center for Educational Research and Planning (CERP) has developed a framework. The framework was developed based on a thorough literature review and the findings of an in-depth situation analysis study. The following diagram reflects the key aspects of the curriculum and its structure:



CERP has initiated the process of sharing the framework with various experts in the fields of education and sports to acquire their feedback for its refinement and finalization.

ILEAD Highlights

Networking and Partnerships

Sports Advisor from British Council, UK Visits Habib University Foundation



Mr. Andy Hansen, Sports Advisor British Council United Kingdom visited Pakistan in connection with a sports project called International Inspiration II. During this visit, he met with the teams of Habib University Foundation and ILEAD. The ILEAD team gave an in-depth presentation to Mr. Hansen about the project's scope and its deliverables. Mr. Hansen appreciated the ILEAD approach to sports, and the Sports Education Curriculum that the team has developed. He was of the view that the curriculum is comprehensive and addresses all essential elements of sports education. He also ensured support in helping ILEAD build partnerships with some of the leading sports organizations of the United Kingdom, specifically Youth Sports Trust.

ILEAD Team Meets with Athletic Director, Karachi American School

ILEAD team had a meeting with Mr. James Scott Johnson, Athletic Director for Karachi American School. The ILEAD team explained the ILEAD framework to Mr. Johnson, while he outlined his school's approach towards Physical Education and Sports and the key features of the curricula that it follows. He explained how the overall curriculum integrates Health Education, Physical Education and Sports effectively to help children learn how to live a healthy life. Possibilities of future collaboration were also explored during the meeting.

Upcoming Events & Activities

- Orientation session for second INSPYRE cohort and commencement of classes
- Graduation ceremony for first INSPYRE cohort
- Second professional development session for iACT alumni
- Commencement of Active Citizens Program for youth at iACT
- Launching of ILEAD sports activities at iACT and its partner schools
- Signing of agreement with ILEAD partner institutes
- Initiating ILEAD sports activities at partner colleges
- Second meeting of ILEAD Resource Persons Group

Habib University Foundation
147, Block 7 & 8,
Banglore Cooperative
Housing Society,
Tipu Sultan Road,
Karachi - Pakistan
Phone: +92-21-34301051-55
Fax: +92-21-34301056
Web: www.huf.org.pk