



# NEWSLETTER

## PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

### In the lives of CA students, all the exams are as important as any.

Next month, students of AFC and CFAP/MSA would be taking their exams. While I will discuss the exam strategies and tips at a later stage, this month I would particularly like to talk to CFAP/MSA students about the importance of maintaining proper balance between your articleship and studies. Many times, students get caught up in the tasks assigned by their managers and forget that they have yet to complete their CFAP/MSAs. While



articleship is very important, no amount of completed audit reports can compensate for unqualified Chartered Accountancy. I very strongly urge students to transition their focus to studies and seriously and rigorously put all their efforts into their studies. Keeping this in mind, we will also be releasing a series of videos about exam tips and preparations techniques which will assist you a great deal in preparing for the exams as well as taking them.

Next, I would like to say few words to the students of AFC. These exams and this course has been a very big leap for you as your Alevels/FSc. syllabi were spread over a period of two years with annual exams. Enrolling for CA over the summer and taking your final exams just few months after surely sounds intimidating but I assure you that PAC will more than

prepare you for your exams. The class tests and especially the mock exams that you will take during the month of November have specifically been designed for you. These will identify your weak areas so you can work on them and highlight your strong areas so you can polish them further. I urge you to not get complacent during this last month of your AFC classes. Consult your teachers and coordinators for guidance whenever you feel overwhelmed.

Third, I would like to talk to students who have completed their CAF and to get inducted into firms for their articleship. At PAC, we conduct seminars and individual sessions for students through which we help prepare them for interviews and tests of firms. These seminars are a result of meticulous research and many years of experience that we have gathered under our umbrella through our experienced faculty and our alumni working in top firms not only in Pakistan but throughout the world. I urge the students to attend those sessions as they will help them perform better in their interviews. While I understand the sentiments and aspirations of the students to work in top firms, I assure you that what matters more than the name of the firm attached to our articleship is the value you add to the work of the firm you do your articleship from. Many of the most qualified chartered accountants of this country did their articleship at local firms and with their dedication, work ethic and hard work, have reached the epitome of success.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish the very best of luck to students who have appeared for CAF exams in September and now await their results. Your result week will be crucial in helping you decide your next paper combinations. If you need counseling deciding the subjects for spring 2020 attempt, you should meet PAC coordinators.

In the end, I would like to commend the staff and students of PAC for holding an activity packed month of October. Many seminars, trainings, and co-curricular activities were held this month. I've always encouraged these activities and I always urge students to actively participate in them as these are the building blocks of the lifelong memories that we take with us at the end of our student life. I am sure that these activities will help develop your character and personality

### Counseling session for AFC students

PAC regularly holds counseling sessions for its AFC students to help them decide the best CAF combinations that suit their aspirations and help them complete CAF in planned time. In the session held in October by Mr. Jafar



Husain, AFC students inquired about their CAF journey and how to optimize and best utilize their time effectively. In addition, Mr. Jafar advised the students on how to opt for combinations wisely for their remaining attempts of CAF. Moreover, he also showed a way of increasing chances to get inducted into high ranked firms by clearing CAF with balanced combinations in least possible attempts. The session helped students get insight into the kind of strategy they should adopt and the papers they should opt for in the subsequent attempts. Students were also encouraged to enroll for CAF Special Section, which is a fast track section for the first 2 papers of CAF. Mr. Jafar pointed out that the students of these sections have consistently performed better than students that enroll in regular CAF sessions.

### Mind your Interview held at PAC

Interview is the most important step in a student's or any job seeker's life. It's the beginning of your professional life and you need some motivation and a piece of advice in order to present yourself in a good way.

PAC not only focuses on academic accomplishments of students, it also focuses on skills

which are now a days compulsory to start a career. A Session named 'Mind your Interview' was held at PAC's Ishfaq Ahmed campus located in Gulberg, Lahore.

In this special session, Mr. Jafar Husain, Central Principal PAC, encouraged students by sharing his personal experiences with some helpful tips to prepare for Induction. The session was 2.5 hour long and a large audience comprising mainly of students attended it.

Mr. Jafar shared Interview techniques, guided students about how they should prepare themselves to cope with difficult questions. He shared personality techniques including how to dress up for interviews. The other things he discussed were the importance of doing prior research about the firm before interview and proper dressing, confidence and body language.



### Workshop on Stress Management by Mr. Farooq Wasi

PAC organized a workshop on stress for the students of CFAP & MSA. The session was given by Mr. Farooq Wasi, Executive Vice President, MCB Bank, who highlighted the major stress issues faced by students during studies. To minimize stress he advised students to have direct connection with God, think less about the negatives, focus on the positives and do more, try to remain positive in every situation.



### Stress Management Workshop

PAC regularly arranges skill development & personality development workshops for its employees. This month, a workshop was held on 12th October 2019 on 'Stress Management'. It was presented by renowned Psychologist Dr. Ibrahim Siawash who is one of the top psychologists of Pakistan.



Mr. Ibrahim discussed with the audience everything related to stress. He explained what stress is & how it can be eliminated. He defined

stress as a psychological, emotional and physiological state where the individual perceives that the external requirements are more than internal resources. He said we can manage stress by taking two main actions.

- 1) Letting go
- 2) Radical acceptance

Audience gave positive reviews about the session & concluded that this workshop was beneficial for them.

### Seminar on Self Development techniques based on Quranic Principles at PAC Islamabad & Rawalpindi Campus

Moral values are extremely important to become a true professional. Keeping this in mind, PAC has started a series of monthly lectures on self-development based on Quranic principles. This month's lecture was arranged on 25th Oct 19. The lecture started with the recitation of Holy Quran. Miss Sara, a member of the staff, performed the role of stage secretary. She shared her views with the audience about importance of character building based on principles of Quran.

Guest speaker for the event was Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad Gondal who is a prominent scholar,

seasoned academician, professional trainer and motivational speaker. Speaking on this occasion, principal of PAC highlighted the prominence of ethical and moral values for professional accountants. He shared the stories of scandals of Enron and World.com with audience & told them that Auditing & Accountancy is very important to keep investors' money safe from frauds, scams & scandals. He said that our Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) spent 65% of his life teaching about morality. He recited and translated few verses of Surah Tul-Hujurat & explained to the audience how these verses are applicable in today's world. He also encouraged students to think positively and behave courteously not only with Muslims but with every human being regardless of their religion, sect, culture, nationality and color.

At the end of the event, students appreciated the worthy and pragmatic principles of the guest speaker.

### CAF FREE SESSION ON BMBS SYALLBUS CHANGES

In light of the new changes introduced by ICAP in CAF-04 BMBS syllabus, PAC School of Online learning took the initiative of holding a free session by Mr. Attiq Ur Rehman on the changes brought about by ICAP, and the new strategy students should adopt for the said paper. The session was viewed all over the Pakistan via the internet. The session received tremendous response and was highly successful as students greatly appreciated the efforts of Mr. Attiq and the platform of PAC-School of Online Learning.

### Awareness Seminar on 'Breast Cancer' and 'Say No to Plastic Bags' at PAC Gulberg Lahore Campus

Inner Wheel Lahore Sharqi conducted an educational seminar to raise awareness on two very important topics, 'Breast Cancer Awareness' and 'Say No to Plastic Bags' at the Professional Academy of Commerce. Dr. Alia Bashir, Professor Services Institute



of Medical Sciences and Dr. Kashifa Ehsan, Cancer Awareness Coordinator of Shaukat Khanum Lahore were the speakers, who delivered breast cancer awareness lectures. The seminar was attended by about 35 ladies including President and members of Lahore Garrison and Secretary and members of Lahore Main.

### AFC Orientation

PAC College Gulberg Campus organized its Orientation on Wednesday October 23rd, 2019 for the students enrolled to appear in AFC March attempt exams. The purpose of this orientation was to welcome the newly enrolled students for the academic session 2019-2020. The Director of Professionals' Academy of Commerce, Mr. Talha Ahmed introduced newly arrived students about life at campus. Students were shown the future prospects and scope CA holds. They were briefed about the subject combinations to make to secure good results



by having a sense of consistency, regularity and self-study evident by the high achievers in the history. Also, Mr. Haider Ali Khan shed light on global perspective of CA by educating students on how to perk up CA certification by increasing mobility worldwide. Along with that, he showed students a way to start up own accounting firms and be independent of job-life troubles. Moreover, students were acquainted with benefits attached to CA like rewarding career, global mobility, excellent salary, self-sustainability and job security to name some. In the end, Mr. Haider talked about social connectedness of CAs which is seen mainly in ICAP House's encouraging networking opportunities where ICAP members continue to inspire each other.

### CAF (C1) Orientation by Mr. Jafar Husain

CAF C1 orientation was given by Mr. Jafar Husain on 7th October, 2019. The orientation was attended by huge number of students. In the orientation, Mr. Jafar discussed different combinations for CAF level.

CAF C1 level subjects were also discussed in the session. Mr. Jafar Husain provided brief explanation of CAF (C1) subjects to the students, helping them decide their future roadmap.



In the session he discussed how CAF is different from AFC level and how students face difficulties while studying the subjects of CAF (C1). Introduction to Accounting, Economics and Company Law. He also discussed how many hours are required for each subject's preparations. Similarly he explained the necessity of regular tests conducted by PAC for CAF level as they increases students' probability of passing the exams.

He also explained the importance of PCSC as without attempting PCSC students cannot take the writing exam and hence students become ineligible to apply for articleship at firms. At the end, Mr. Jafar discussed the time tables with the students. The session lasted for one and a half hour and students left with a feeling of motivation.

### AFC Trip GT Campus

Extra-curricular activities are as important for a good student as studies. The famous quote 'All work and no play makes jack a dull boy' can be used to describe students who do not participate in any extracurricular activities. To fulfill all extracurricular needs of students, PAC garden town Lahore campus arranged a trip for students to Mushkpuri top.

Buses left GT campus Lahore on night 4th October 2019 for Islamabad. It took them 5 hours to reach Islamabad. All the students & staff enjoyed the commute. They loved the scenic mountains of Kalar Kahar and the view on offer when their eyes first caught the glimpse of magnificent Margalla Hills. First stop for students was Faisal Mosque. Students were in awe of the majestic architecture of Faisal Mosque.

After a good refreshing stop at Faisal mosque, students headed towards the next stop; mushkpuri hill. Students hiked on mushkpuri trail to reach to the top.



They reached the top in 5 hours approximately. Climb to the top was physically exhausting but the view from top was absolutely breathtaking. Students took photos from mushkpuri top of the surrounding area. They sat in groups & talked in most casual & lovely spirit, they walked and enjoyed on mushkpuri hill top.

After a couple of hours of stay at Mushkpuri top, all students headed back to bus stand. Bus stopped in Murree where all students ate a good dinner & then stayed in a hotel.

In the evening on the way back, buses stopped at Monal in Islamabad where students enjoyed another delicious meal & saw an iconic view of Islamabad from one of the most famous restaurants in Islamabad.

Busses headed back to Lahore on 5th October 2019. Students enjoyed the trip a lot because they were not able to find time for vacations for a long time, so getting an opportunity to visit so many beautiful places in just 2 days made them very happy. They all hoped to resume their studies with a reenergized spirit.

### Recreational Field Trip of CAF

PAC Lahore arranged a trip on October 21st, 2019 for students of CAF level to 'Naran, Kaghan & Babusartop.

The trip started at 9:00 pm when buses left Gulberg campus. Buses first stopped at Bherra where students enjoyed some refreshment at local hotels. Then buses reached their next destination, Abbottabad, at 11:00 am. Students stopped there to have morning breakfast.

All of students sat in buses again & reached their next stop of Naran & Kaghan where students stayed at Rose Valley Hotel. Rooms were comfortable & everybody rested for a while. All of students sat in buses and started their journey towards Saiful Malook Lake. Students took pictures and enjoy the view of the lake.



At night 9 30 pm everyone got back for dinner. The dinner included grilled chicken, chapli kabab, fried Rice, Chapaties, bottles and firni. After

the dinner, bon-fire was arranged for students where they enjoyed music, coffee and played games like antakshari.

Next day students sat in buses and headed back to Lahore. They reached Lahore on 23rd October 2019. Students enjoyed the trip a lot.

### Trip to Samandar Katha Lake for students of PAC Islamabad and Rawalpindi Campus

"Traveling—it leaves you speechless, then turns you into a storyteller." — Ibn Battuta. PAC Islamabad arranged a trip to Samandar Katha Lake on 17th October 2019. Students were enthusiastic and passionate about this trip. Student & staff packed buses left Islamabad campus at 8 am in the morning and reached Mushkpuri top at 11:30 am. Students enjoyed a lot during travelling; they took photographs and also enjoyed tasty

meals at refreshment centers.

The trip then headed to its final destination & buses started moving towards Samandar Katha Lake. Trip buses reached Samandar Katha in afternoon. It was an exotic location with amazing scenery. Students took a lot



of photographs at this lake. After staying there for more than 4 hours, all buses headed back to Murree where everyone stopped one last time to hang around the Mall road & enjoy

cool weather of Murree again. All students and staff had the last meal of trip together at KFC Mall Road Murree.

It was an outstanding trip and it will be cherished as a pleasant memory in the minds of students for a long time to come. Students shared their reviews on Trip to Samandar Katha Lake and said it was an amazing recreational experience whose value is not payable in any amount.

### Highlights of the activities at PAC Khyber Campus

- Certificates were distributed among the high achievers of ACCA Foundations Diploma (AFD) Mock exam.
- Orientation session for Foundations Diploma (AFD) & Assessment of Fundamental Competencies (AFC) 3rd batch was held.
- Foundations Diploma (AFD)-19 batch celebrated their one year completion at PAC Peshawar.
- PAC Job placement cell conducted interviews of students for various vacancies with collaboration of ACCA Peshawar office.

### Free Medical Camp by PAC Islamabad & Rawalpindi Campus

A team of experienced doctors examined 200 patients and distributed free medicines among them. The administrative staff and students of PAC participated in the event with a lot of energy and charitable spirit. Free lunch was distributed among the patients and their families.

Chief Guest for the event was Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gillani. Chairman Gallup Pakistan. All the distinguished guests appreciated the efforts of medical team which treated women and children of local community. Chief Guest distributed participation certificates among the students.

At the end of two days event, Principal PAC Islamabad Campus extended gratitude to the medical team and all staff who arranged this medical camp.

### Welcome Party Event

On October 17th, 2019, PAC gave a rapturous welcome party to new students on board of AFC. The Campus Principal PAC Garden Town Lahore Mr. Salah-ud-Din and Director Mr.

Talha Ahmed welcomed new students. Event started off with the recitation of Holy Quran followed by national anthem. Mr. Salah-ud-Din made an opening event speech in which he appreciated students for indulging in the event. Students enjoyed cultural festival



represented by volunteers wearing each province's cultural dress which stimulated cultural values among diversified provinces. Moreover, scripted comedy based plays Khichri, Shugal-e-Azam and impersonation of famous political members by AFC students gained widespread audience interest. Further, Ghazal and live singing by Ali Raza, Syed Fahad, Areej Shahid, Mohid and music icon Ehtisham brought immense pleasure to audience. Also, a piece of poetry on Kashmir by AFC student addressed the



sensitivity of matter; it was an awakening call to audience to stand in support. The Principal, Director, faculty and staff members had the welcome cake cutting ceremony with students

followed by the photo sessions of all AFC sections. Lastly, the essence of closing speech made by Mr. Talha was such events shall continue alongside



academic session to enhance social connectedness and the journey at PAC will help students to carve out a beautiful future. Later, students enjoyed eating Halwa Puri, BBQ and desserts. In the end, students jumped right in at the stage and were mesmerized by folk music bhangra dance. Excellent joint efforts of PAC team made the event exceptionally memorable.