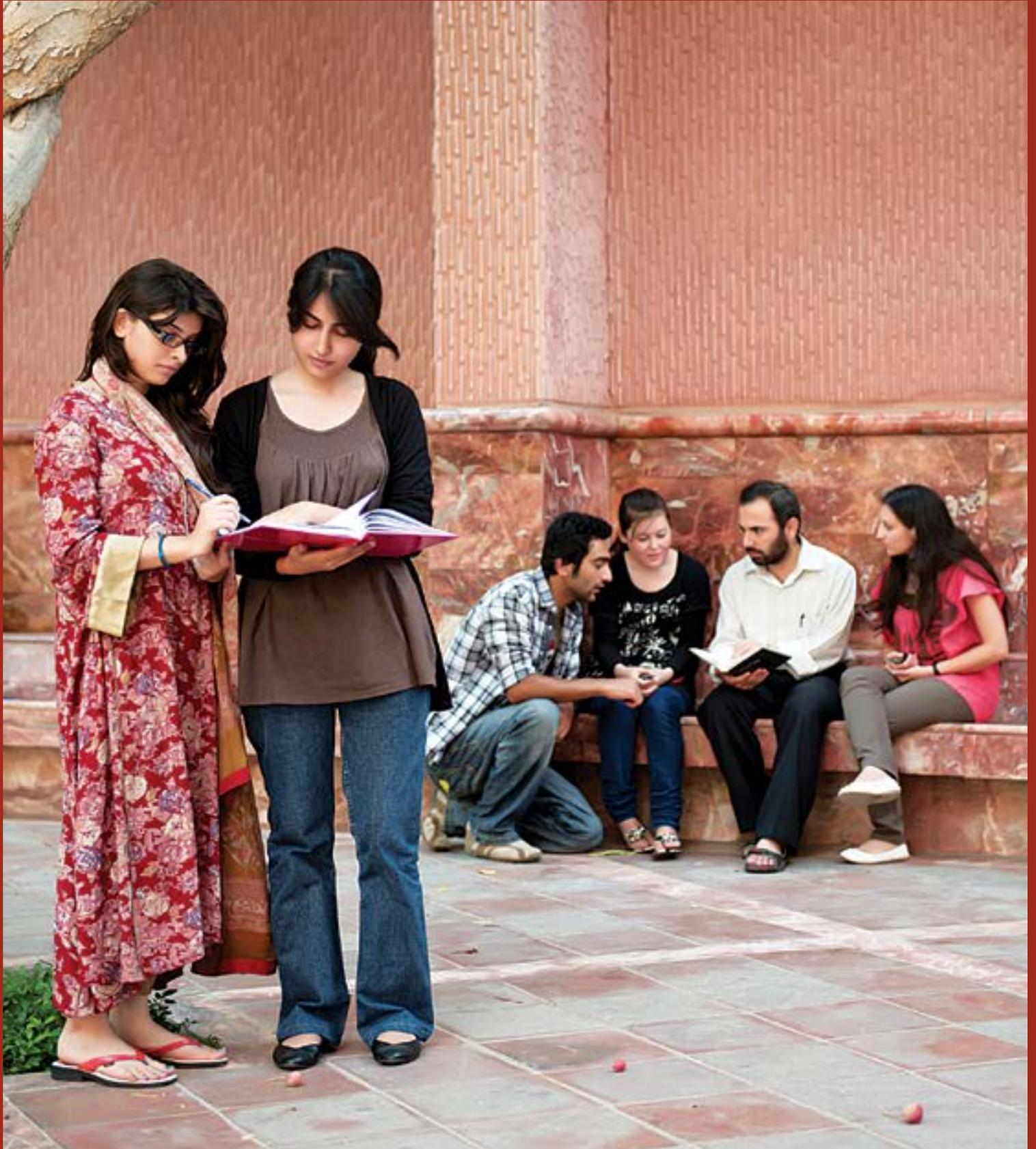


AKU-NAMA

Aga Khan University Newsletter and Magazine for Alumni

2012, Vol. 5, Issue 1





Dr Farhat Abbas with Medical College alumni during a visit to Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore on July 5, 2012
Abdul Haq Wahedna

Cover: AKU-SONAM students at the Rafiqiyah Al-Islamiya courtyard / Kashif Dossani

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AKU-NAMA Goes Green

Responding to the on-going requests and growing preference for an eco-friendly format for the *AKU-NAMA*, future editions of the newsletter will primarily appear in an e-version. Make sure you've subscribed to receive your copy! Send your email address to AKU Alumni Affairs at alumni@aku.edu and also include your name, degree and year of graduation.

A limited number of hard copies will still be produced for those who have a preference for a printed format. If you would like to continue receiving a printed copy, please complete an online form available through the “Update Your Information” link at www.aku.edu/alumni/Pages/home.aspx or contact the Alumni Affairs office.

We thank you, for your suggestions and feedback, and look forward to receiving your contributions that help produce a newsletter worthy of AKU's top-notch alumni!

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are of the individual authors alone and do not necessarily reflect the views or policy of the Editorial Board or Aga Khan University.

Editor-in-Chief

Adeel A. Butt
aabutt@gmail.com

Editorial Staff

Shain Amershi, Executive Assistant
alumni.nachapter@aku.edu

Associate Editors

Sadaf Khan,
Medical College, North American Chapter
skhaners@gmail.com

Rahila Zakir,
Medical College, European Chapter
rahila.zakir@gmail.com

Tazeen Jafar,
Medical College, Pakistan Chapter
tazeen.jafar@aku.edu

Noureen Karamali,
School of Nursing and Midwifery
noureen.karamali@aku.edu

Parveen Ali,
School of Nursing and Midwifery
parveen.ali@aku.edu

Manzoor H. Changazi,
Institute for Educational Development
manzoor.hussain@aku.edu

Nilufar Shariff,
Advanced Nursing Studies, East Africa
nilufar.shariff@aku.edu

Balkis Rouached,
Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations
balkis19hope@yahoo.ca

Marie Andrades
Postgraduate Medical Education
marie.andrades@aku.edu

Advisory Members

Firoz Rasul
President

Louis R. Ariano
University Registrar

Abdul Haq Wahedna
Manager, Alumni Affairs

Dhunmai Cowasjee
Director, Public Affairs

Shariq Haroon
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A New Beginning

Adeel A. Butt, MBBS '90

Starting in 1980 with just a single faculty and a single school in Karachi, the Aga Khan University now has schools, colleges and institutes in Asia, Africa and Europe. From one campus in Karachi, the University has grown and added many campuses across three continents, with ambitious expansion plans that cover new disciplines and encompass even more geographical territories. This is remarkable success for a University in a short span of 32 years – and testimony to the vision of the University's leadership, made possible by the unwavering commitment, focus, discipline and dedication of its leaders and faculty. However, the most significant asset of a University is its end product, its alumni. For Aga Khan University, its alumni currently number in the thousands, and hail from and are present in at least five continents across the globe.

While the growth of the alumni

body has been a source of pride and joy for all, managing the affairs of the alumni – a diverse body with such a vast geographic spread – is an immense challenge. What was once a very small and intimate group of friends at the Stadium Road campus in Karachi, has become a large network. The University as well as the alumni have painstakingly worked at remaining connected over the years. Formation of regional alumni chapters and their increasing success, and the unanimously positive response to *AKU-NAMA* is evidence that a significant proportion of the alumni want to retain some form of relationship with their alma mater.

This year is of great significance to the alumni of Aga Khan University. After nearly three years of hard work by numerous alumni from all academic units, we have finished drafting a new Constitution and By-laws for the global alumni

community. These were presented to the general alumni body and ratified according to the existing By-laws, which were written nearly 20 years ago. Input was sought from all alumni whose contact information was available as well as the University leadership, the Legal Affairs department and our own independent legal advisors. The final document is printed in this issue of *AKU-NAMA* in its entirety. As the person entrusted to lead this effort, I am greatly indebted to all members of the drafting committee, as well as all alumni who provided valuable input to the process. My special thanks also to the University leadership for their continued material and moral support, without which this would not have been possible.

I look forward to Aga Khan University reaching greater heights and contributing increasingly to improving the lives of people it touches in so many ways.



(Left to right) Saira Ahmed '00, Saima Adil Haider, Zara Sultan '98, Alia Sharif '00, Namirah Jamshed '96 and Umbar Shah '96 at the AKU Alumni Reunion at APPNA in Washington, DC on July 6, 2012

Faisal G. Qureshi/ Adil Haider



Organising Committee members Namirah Jamshed '96 and Faisal Qureshi '93 at the conclusion of the event at APPNA in Washington, DC

Adil Haider

Positive Pakistani: Beyond the Call of Duty



Dr Junaid Razzak '94 spearheading the development of emergency medicine in Pakistan

Audiovisual Department AKU

Think of an ambulance and the first image that comes to mind is a white Suzuki Bolan (a minivan) painted with a red crescent. No wonder then that the Aman Foundation's sleek, bright yellow ambulances stand out among the fume-spewing buses, noisy rickshaws and death-defying motorcyclists on Karachi's chaotic roads.

You must often have spotted one tearing through unrelenting traffic, rushing the sick and injured to a hospital. In a city rife with medical emergencies, where road accidents are a daily occurrence, these vehicles save many precious lives. How this network of ambulances was established is an inspiring story that starts with a talented individual, Junaid Razzak, who rose from humble origins.

Today, Razzak is a renowned emergency medicine expert,

Chairperson, Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, Aga Khan University (AKU) and the Executive Director of the Aman Foundation. His entire schooling was in Karachi; starting from a humble primary school in Lyari, a low income area in Karachi, to completing his secondary education from Nasira School in Depot Lines. Not one to be held back, the hard-working student subsequently attended Adamjee Science College where his impressive grades and unbounded enthusiasm won him a scholarship at the prestigious AKU, the top private medical institution in the country.

It was in his fourth year of medical school that Razzak discovered his true calling: emergency medicine. "Fourth year is the time when you choose your field. Most of my fellow students

went abroad for internships, but I stayed back and spent time in the emergency room at Aga Khan University Hospital," he says.

It was time well spent. When he saw the sorry state of emergency medicine, Razzak was driven to bring about changes in the field. He graduated from AKU in 1994, but his interest in emergency medicine only grew.

In collaboration with the Edhi Ambulance Service, an arm of the philanthropic Edhi organisation and the largest volunteer ambulance network in the world, he researched and analysed road traffic injuries and emergency cases. Edhi had a mountain of documentation for every call and every case it had handled in the last two decades. The downside? None of it was digitised, so he spent days sifting through it manually.

The experience stayed with him,

and the data revealed a disturbing pattern. Gruesome injuries, often suffered by the poorest members of society, were often improperly handled by well-meaning doctors, simply because of a lack of know-how. These mistakes frequently, and literally, led to loss of life and limb.

Yet, Razzak soon realised that he needed more professional training and specialisation courses before he could progress further. He sat for the US Medical Licensing Exams (USMLE) and went for observations at the Beth Israel Medical Centre, New York, and the Yale-New Haven Hospital, Connecticut. In 1996, he started his residency and training programme at the Yale School of Medicine and in 1999, was given the “Best Trainee” award by the State of Connecticut.

On the personal front, Yale was also important for the doctor since he met his future wife there. Following graduation, the two stayed in the US for a few years, always looking forward to the time when they would return home. “The plan was always to come back,”

says Razzak. “That’s why we never bought a house, never completely settled in.”

Before they could come back, Razzak did his PhD in Public Health at the world-renowned Karolinska Institutet in Sweden, where he focused on the use of ambulance data for monitoring road traffic accidents. Finally, in 2005, the studious boy from Lyari returned to Pakistan as a successful, qualified expert in emergency medicine.

He joined his alma mater, AKU as a faculty member and went on to successfully found Pakistan’s first emergency medicine service (EMS) training programme at the university. “There were many doctors who were awarded their degrees without ever administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation as it wasn’t a requirement,” he reveals.

This changed when his EMS programme became a mandatory rotation that all students had to serve. Subsequently, Razzak went on to build and head a new emergency department. Yet, the battle was just half won. Students in the new department faced a

dilemma, similar to the one Razzak had as a student. They were required to go abroad, to the United Kingdom or elsewhere, to sit for their exam, otherwise they would not be considered qualified.

“We had trainees, but no exams here,” he says. “If these students couldn’t sit for their exams here, they weren’t qualified on paper and therefore couldn’t be hired as consultants.” Determined to remove, for others, the hurdles that he himself had crossed only after much toil, Razzak collaborated with the College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan to organise a curriculum for this specialised field. The first batch for this course was enrolled in 2010. Now students wanting to specialise in emergency medicine are able to obtain certification in their chosen field, without having to travel abroad.

“I consider this a major achievement,” he says with a smile. “I don’t think there is any country that requires this specialisation more than us, with all the natural disasters, deteriorating law and order situation and terrorist attacks that we face.”

At just 40, this medical expert has achieved what most people can only dream of in a lifetime, but he still has big plans for the future. Razzak will shortly launch a tele-health service for Aman Foundation and dreams of building a second world-class health facility in Pakistan. It seems that nothing is impossible for this inspirational doctor.

Adapted from *Positive Pakistani: Call of Duty* by Mahnoor Sherazee, with permission from *The Express Tribune, Sunday Magazine*, December 4, 2011.



Dr Junaid Razzak '94

Audiovisual Department AKU

(Re) Emergence of Black Sidi Sufis

Sameer Noorani, MA '09



Sidi goma tour in Delhi and Calcutta, sponsored by the Ford Foundation

Amy Catlin Jairazbhoy 2005

Sameer Noorani is currently working as an independent researcher and cultural consultant. His interests include social anthropology and sociology of religion.

Sufism, as a devotional and mystical current within the Muslim tradition(s), has been experiencing evolving trends of rejuvenation across Muslim societies. The Indians of African origin present a unique case study, showing the resurgence of traditions and ethnic identity.

The descendants of Africans in South Asia are part of a wider 'community' that arrived from

many different parts of Africa over the past millennium. They came as traders, merchants, soldiers, sailors and even slaves, sailing across the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea. In India, they are found in different states, speaking a spectrum of languages including Gujarati, Kannada and Hindi/Urdu.

In the state of Gujarat, they are dispersed throughout the land, creating a homogenous Muslim

community of an estimated 15,000 individuals, an ethnic group of African descent addressed by various names, such as Sidi/Sidi Badshah/Siddi/Sidhi or Habshi/Habsi but most commonly referred to by the name, Sidi.

The majority of the Sidi population in Gujarat live in poverty on the outskirts of villages and in slums in the cities. In villages, Sidis are generally labourers in farms or

wood-cutters in forest areas and in urban settlements they are engaged in different types of working-class jobs. To a large extent, they have integrated into the communities, both in terms of social integration and cultural norms – their dress, food and language – exhibiting a remarkable level of assimilation within the local society.

But the community identity of the Sidis themselves is generally derived from a common belief in the African ancestor-saint Baba Gor, whom they revere in syncretic rituals combining African ceremonies with South Asian Sufi influences.

The Black Sufis of Gujarat stand out for their unique ritual performances like *Dhamāl* which remains the only connection they retain of their African lineage.

And it is the *dhamāl* that is providing a route to their resurgence.

For quite some time, Black Sidi Sufis have been living in invisibility and namelessness. One of the social challenges for them is non-recognition, and correspondingly little communal or political representation.

But there is a growing Sidi revival and renaissance. The first has been through visual media – television – which has enabled them to identify and relate with a larger African community and African diasporas around the world.

The second, one of its kind Black Sufi cultural groups are witnessing a re-emergence due to the academic interest of scholars in their dance and music, both in India as well as abroad. Some groups have participated successfully in international cultural gatherings. They have performed in front of global audiences at universities and other similar settings in the United Kingdom, France, Spain, Denmark, as well as at a homecoming tour of East Africa in 2003 and USA. These renewed contacts between the Sidi

cultural groups and East Africa have enabled them to connect with their ‘African-ness’ both in terms of dress and in their performances.

As the *dhamāl* becomes a new avenue for social and economic mobility, like any traditional art performance it is acquiring a more commercial form, undergoing a series of changes with ritual presentations adjusting to suit contemporary audiences.

New inventions are emerging within the traditions, like the use of animated dress and painted face, visually portraying newly gathered ‘African-ness’. Today the *dhamāl*, the designated Sufi dance, is being used for the ritual participation of men as opposed to the more traditional community participation at shrines.

The ritual performance of *dhamāl* has also seen a marked shift in attire, from common cultural clothing to plain white by some male members of the communities, to specifically designed and tailored attire for staged performances.

This re-emergence of Black Sufis will eventually re-fashion the historical cultural heritage of the Sidi community, with ritual performances morphing under the demand of global audiences, giving new direction to the future of this traditional art form.

The write-up is adapted from the author’s Master’s thesis at AKU-ISMC.

Nominations Wanted!

The *AKU-NAMA* Editorial Board seeks nominations for distinguished alumni profiles from all programmes, departments and entities.

Please send a short profile of your nominee to: alumni@aku.edu

Request for Contributions

The editors of *AKU-NAMA* invite you to contribute to the next issue of the magazine.

Your story may highlight interesting career options, unique job experiences, ground-breaking research, innovative public service initiatives or other materials of particular interest to the alumni. You can also contribute opinion pieces on trends in education and modern technology, book reviews and travelogues. Letters to the editor are also welcome.

Article length should be approximately 500-600 words. Images must be 300 dpi resolution digital photographs (JPEG files over 1MB).

Submit articles at www.aku.edu/alumni/article-submissionform

Class Notes provide you an opportunity to make announcements and share your successes with other *AKU* alumni. Submit your class notes at www.aku.edu/alumni/classnotessubmission-form

Do you know any alumni still not on the *AKU-NAMA* mailing list? Direct them to www.aku.edu/alumniinform

Thank you for all your previous submissions, feedback and suggestions. Now let’s keep the ball rolling for the upcoming issue!

Marching Ahead with Pride



Uganda

Sixteen students were awarded Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees at the 9th Convocation of the Aga Khan University School of Nursing and Midwifery in Uganda held on February 11, 2012.

Top left: BScN students: (left to right) Wanda Proscovia, Ashabahebwa Domitilla and Bwedindwa Teddy

Middle left: BScN students: (left to right) Senait Mulugeta Weldesenbet and Rose Apio at the convocation

Bottom: BScN students rejoicing at the ceremony

Below: Henry Modi receiving his BScN degree from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Ambassador Saidullah Khan Dehlavi

Sam Omara, Andrew Digital World





Kenya

The Aga Khan University awarded 18 students with Master of Medicine degrees and 29 Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees at the 8th Convocation in Nairobi held on February 15, 2012.

Top left: BScN graduates: (left to right) Nancy Njeri Gaiho and Ann Wangui Gathuni and MMed graduates: Miriam Mutebi and Mudola Vuhandali Manyano at the ceremony

Top right: Dr Nilufar Shariff, Assistant Professor, Advanced Nursing Studies, Nairobi, carrying the AKU Convocation Blazon

Samuel Nyakondo



Tanzania

The Aga Khan University awarded 24 students Master of Education degrees and eight students were conferred Diploma in General Nursing at the 7th Convocation in Tanzania held on February 9, 2012.

Bottom right: Diploma in General Nursing graduates at the ceremony held on February 9, 2012 at Diamond Jubilee Hall, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Mary Martin Mgedzi (first row centre), is AKU's 10,000th alumni

Bottom left: MEd graduates with AKU Senior Management at the Convocation in Tanzania

Alkarim Pir Mohammed

A Strategic Partnership

Maternal and child mortality rates in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia are alarming. These regions account for 87 per cent of global maternal deaths. In Sub-Saharan Africa, one in seven children dies before the age of five and the risk of a mother dying is 1 in 30 as compared to 1 in 5,600 in developed countries.

Aga Khan University and The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International (Rotary) have invested considerable effort to improve maternal and child health in the developing world. In 2011, in an effort to further the impact of their individual efforts, Aga Khan University and Rotary have partnered to improve mother and child health in East Africa. The focus is on raising the quality of basic healthcare and education in East Africa, by raising professional academic standards for nursing and midwifery and by developing graduates as leaders and change agents for local communities.

The partnership provides scholarships and mentoring for nursing and midwifery students enrolled in AKU's School of Nursing and Midwifery programmes. Last year, 24 AKU nursing and midwifery students from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda were selected as Rotary Scholars and are being mentored by local Rotary Clubs. Another 24 Rotary Scholars will be selected in 2012.

Rotary members are encouraged to form Vocational Training Teams (VTTs) to support the professional development of AKU's nursing faculty. VTTs from Nigeria and San Diego, USA have visited the University's programmes in Kampala and Nairobi over the last year, enthusiastically sharing their experiences with faculty.

Kiran Qureshi is Communication Strategist, Department of Public Affairs, AKU, based in Karachi.



Mike Maina

“ A lot has changed in my life since I was offered this scholarship. I am able to study well without having to worry where my school fee comes from. I am more determined to work hard and to excel in my education because I don't want to disappoint the people who have offered their time and resources to make my life better. ”

Grace Ndirangu, Kenya
Rotary Scholar



Kenya Rotary Scholars with Martha Loeffler (extreme right), Assistant Professor and Project Manager, ANS Programme, East Africa

Zahur Ranji

“Are You Man Enough to be a Nurse?”

Amy Deedar Ali with support from Zara Rafiq Sajwani, BScN '11

Gender stereotyping has always been a problem with the nursing profession worldwide. The cultural value given to women in society is naturally reflected in nursing. Values such as caring for the sick, self-sacrifice and nurturing are naturally attributed to women which labels the nursing profession as feminine. Practically speaking, if there is nothing in this world that men can do and women can't, then why is the opposite not true? Why are caring characteristics only associated with women, when men and women are equally blessed with such feelings?

People often ask me as to why I chose this field as a career, since there is a general perception that nurses are only women. My answer to them is simple: what is it in nursing that I cannot do? Am I by any means less deserving than any of my female colleagues working in hospital settings?

This stereotyping has its roots in the time when Florence Nightingale

founded the nursing profession and set a unique example of how the feminine values of caring and support could be used. She considered nursing a suitable job for women since nursing, at that time, was an extension of a woman's domestic role. Nursing was prevalent in homes where women used to extend their support to nurse soldiers injured in the wars. Today, like any other profession, nursing has diversified and this change has made room for both genders to contribute according to their capacity and ability.

This gender stereotyping has compelled men to pursue their nursing career in hospital administration rather than in bedside nursing, which is a great loss. At times, nursing requires a considerable amount of physical labour and effort such as lifting obese patients, positioning, ambulating patients and shifting patients on bed, work which may

be somewhat easier for males. However, this is not meant to diminish the critical role of women in nursing, but to encourage a more visible role for male nurses.

As an example, I graduated in November 2011 from AKU-SONAM with a BScN degree and received the “Best Nursing Practice” award which is given to the student who shows extraordinary potential in nursing practice throughout his four years of study. Our Dean noted that I was the only male in the history of AKU-SONAM to have received this honour. Hence, I proved that yes, there is so much space for men to excel in this profession.

AKU's nursing school has played a significant role in putting an end to this stereotyping by admitting male nursing students which will hopefully set an example for other such institutions and elevate the role of male nurses and their respect in society.

A Decade of Dedication

The Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing, has presented its Rho Delta Chapter, at AKU, with three awards recognising its contribution in advancing leadership and scholarship in the field of nursing.

The Chapter Spirit of Philanthropy Award recognised the Rho Delta Chapter's efforts in successfully maintaining and sustaining its philanthropic efforts and also in actively engaging a large number of its members in various community service activities.

The second award, the Chapter Communication Award acknowledged the Chapter for its exceptional efforts to communicate

with its own members as well as its external publicity efforts.

The Chapter Key Award was given for activities ranging from membership recruitment and retention to publicity of the chapter as well as promoting professional and leadership qualities in its members.

Salima Farooq and Rozina Roshan received the awards on behalf of AKU's Rho Delta Chapter at the 41st Biennial Convention in Grapevine, Texas, USA.



(Second left) Salima Farooq RN Dip'92, Finance Chair and (third left) Rozina Roshan, RN Dip'96 President Elect, Rho Delta Chapter with delegates at the 41st Biennial Convention

Alumni Receptions, USA

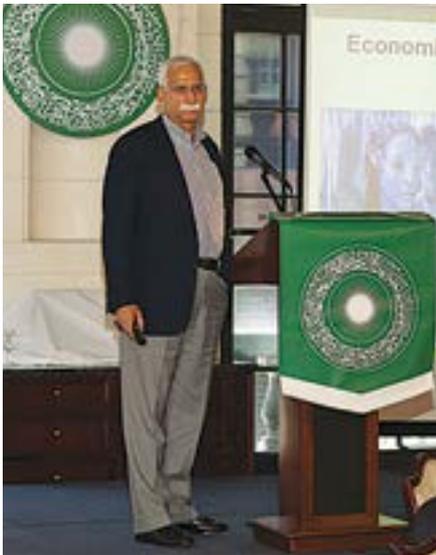
As part of the University's on-going efforts to give alumni an opportunity to reconnect with AKU and to get together with class fellows, receptions were held in Houston, Dallas, Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles and New York during June.

Led by President Firoz Rasul, the AKU delegation met both formally and informally with School of Nursing and Medical College alumni, updating them on developments underway at the University's campuses and on the alma mater's future direction. In addition to the excellent turnout of the University's graduates, a number of former AKU employees were welcomed to the receptions as "alumni".

The AKU video, *The Difference We Make*, was screened at each of the receptions and the new AKU Signature Music was shared for the first time (since it was presented to the Chancellor) with the alumni during the six events from coast to coast.



Dr Rabia Agha '89 and Dr Faiz Bhora '92 share a light moment at the Alumni Reception in New York on June 23, 2012
Chris Fargo



President Firoz Rasul updating alumni on University developments during the Alumni Reception
Chris Fargo



Nursing alumni at the Alumni Reception and Dinner in Chicago on June 11, 2012

Anwar Merchant

People in New Positions

Dr Keith Cash has been appointed Dean, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Pakistan. He brings with him international experience as a nursing educationist, practicing nurse and researcher. He has held several professional and nursing leadership positions at Durham University and Leeds Metropolitan University. There, for 11 years, Dr

Cash has designed and implemented nursing programmes at the graduate and diploma levels. From 2007 to 2009, he has worked as Professor of Nursing at the American University of Beirut. Additionally, Dr Cash has worked as a consultant for organisations like the World Health Organization, The European Union and the University of Liverpool. He holds a PhD in Nursing from The University of Manchester, UK

and MSc in Advanced Educational and Social Research Methods and BA in Psychology from Open University, UK. Dr Cash also holds a strong publishing record in international journals.

Sheikh Ali Hussain has been appointed Director, Resource Development. With over 15 years of experience in the higher education and hospitality sectors,



Automated Lab System at the Sopariwala building at Aga Khan University Hospital, Karachi
Audiovisual Department AKU

he will be responsible for planning and implementing all aspects of fundraising for AKU in Pakistan. Prior to joining AKU, he has served as Director, Resource Development and Alumni Affairs at Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS). Hussain holds a master's degree in Economics from Government College University, Lahore and an Executive MBA from LUMS.

Dr Mohammad Khurshid has been appointed the Founding Chair of the Department of Oncology. He will be responsible for providing a long-term vision for cancer care at AKUH by bringing together the surgical, medical and radiation disciplines. Dr Khurshid joined AKU in 1985 as Founding Chair, Department of Pathology. From 1985 to 2000 he served as Director of Aga Khan University Laboratory Services setting up a modern scientific clinical laboratory at the University and establishing its Clinical Haematology and Oncology sections. He also held the position of Associate Dean Clinical Affairs in 2000 and was Dean, Medical College from 2003 to 2008. Dr Khurshid holds several international fellowships and is also a Member of the Royal College of Pathologists, UK. He was awarded the Pride of Performance in 2003.

Automated Lab System Launched

A state-of-the-art, fully automated biochemistry laboratory system capable of processing 8-10 million blood chemistry tests annually has been launched at the Aga Khan University Hospital, Karachi. This milestone in diagnostic testing in Pakistan will increase the clinical laboratory's capacity two to three-fold.

"The automated system has improved the analysis of blood samples, increasing not only our capacity but our efficiency as we can provide improved quality, a reduction in lab errors and a shorter and more predictable turnaround time," says Dr Farooq Ghani, Director Outreach, Department of Pathology.

The lab will benefit not only patients within the University Hospital but also within the wider community in Karachi.

AKU's Musical Voyage

The newly launched University Signature Music is a three-minute instrumental starting off with the evocative tones of the sitar later transitioning to the rhythmic beats of African drums, horns and background vocals. All put together, it emphasises the University's evolution, its expansion to new geogra-

phies and three continents, and a celebration of its diversity. Composed by the Pakistani composer, Nizar Lalani, the melody evokes an image of the voyage of the University through time, from leaving 'port' to current times and into the future, encompassing all its travellers – its listeners – in its journey.

The recording involved more than 50 musicians playing a variety of instruments including the bassoon, cello, clarinet, contrabass, djembe, drums, electric bass, flute, horns, oboe, percussion, piano, sitar, tabla, timpani, trombone, trumpet, tuba, viola, violins and more. Performed by the University of Cape Town (UCT) Symphony Orchestra, the music was conducted by Darryl Andrews, a music lecturer and doctoral candidate at UCT.

The Signature Music was one of the initiatives carried out by the University to celebrate its 25th anniversary (1983-2008) and is to be played at special events. It is not a replacement for the Convocation Music, which will continue to be played exclusively at the convocation and graduation ceremonies.

New Face on the Web

The University's website has been completely redesigned, with a new homepage that offers a broad range of information about the University and gateways to Pakistan, East Africa and the UK. Separate sites for the University Hospitals, *hospitals.aku.edu* and the Examination Board, *examinationboard.aku.edu* are also available.

It promises easier, more intuitive navigation and access to the most trafficked pages. A product of two years of intra-university cooperation, the website is the result of many people contributing and collaborating across campuses and countries.

Based on a content management system, the AKU CMS, this is a step towards a smoother and quicker management of the flagship website.

School of Nursing and Midwifery, Pakistan

1985

Almas Punjwani, RN Diploma, Post-RN BScN 1993 is living in Toronto, Canada where she has had the opportunity to work in the OB/GYN for the past 10 years. This past June, she joined the Toronto Public Health department. Almas has three children. The first was born in AKUH (and a month ago he finished university); her second son is in grade nine, and the youngest daughter is in grade seven.

1993

Rozmin Badruddin Jiwani, RN Diploma, is currently pursuing her PhD from the University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio. Her research topic is the study of self-management strategies in South Asian (India, Pakistan and Bangladesh) immigrants with established coronary heart disease.

1994

Mehnaz Rehmatullah, RN Diploma writes to inform us that she has returned to studies after 17 years. Mehnaz says that with the encouragement of her husband and children she is working to complete the one-year Nurse-Midwife course being offered at the Liaquat National Hospital.

1995

Nargis Ali, Post-RN BScN, after completing her BScN, completed a Master of Applied Science and a Master of Philosophy at the University of Karachi. She believes that AKU's strong learning environment helped her in continuing her education.

2001

Shahina Pirani, BScN, is currently

working on her Master of Science in Nursing at AKU. She would love to hear from colleagues, class of 2001.

2006

Rozina Kashif, RN Diploma, STET is now living in Melbourne, Australia where she completed her BScN studies and is working as an RN. She has been married for four years now and still misses AKU.

Sana Farrukh Khan, BScN, has been working as a registered school nurse and health educator in The City School International, Dubai for the past two years. She is responsible for health promotion, health education and immunisation among school students.

2007

Navita Rahim, RN Diploma is currently pursuing Post-RN BScN studies. As a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, she has received four online certificates.

Shujaat Said, BScN, MBioeth 2011, recently graduated with a Master of Bioethics from AKU and is currently working with *Medecins Sans Frontieres* (Doctors Without Borders) as a national nurse supervisor. Shujaat reports that she got married in September 2011.

2008

Saira Amir Ali Khimani, BScN, was selected to participate in cardiac mission team at French Medical Institute for Children (FMIC) Kabul, Afghanistan. She reports that the work is challenging but very rewarding and included teaching the local staff about congenital heart medical and surgical management with post-operative nursing care of patients.

2009

Gulzar Habibullah, Post-RN

BScN, is working as a lecturer in Postgraduate College of Nursing Peshawar and as visiting faculty in Khyber Medical University where she has introduced modern teaching methodology like problem-based learning and reflective practices.

Medical College, Pakistan



Dr Naveed Yousuf receives FACR degree from Dr John A. Patti, Chairman, Board of Chancellors, American College of Radiology

Naveed Yousuf, MBBS '88 is currently the Director of Bloomington Radiology (Illinois). Dr Yousuf was recently awarded Fellowship of the American College of Radiology (FACR). This prestigious degree was awarded at a formal convocation in Washington, DC in April 2012 and Dr Yousuf proudly wore the green and white colours of AKU. Dr Yousuf is the first AKU alumnus to receive this distinction.

1992

Faiz Bhora, MBBS, has been elected as the President of the New York General Thoracic Surgical Club and, in 2012, was selected as the Most Distinguished Young Attending at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center by his peers. Faiz was been selected as America's Top

Surgeons in 2011 by the Consumer Research Council. He has been appointed Director of Thoracic Surgical Oncology and Co-Director of the Airway Program at St. Lukes-Roosevelt Hospital Center and Continuum Cancer Centers of New York. He has recently been elected to the Society of University Surgeons, and has served on the Executive Council of the Association for Academic Surgery. He lives in New York City with his wife Naveen and their twin boys.

1995

Adeela Masood Alizai, MBBS, is currently practicing ophthalmology and neuro-ophthalmology at Saint Anthony Memorial Hospital, Michigan City, Indiana. Dr Adeela lives in Valparaiso, Indiana with husband Asad Ansari (MBBS '94) and three daughters Marium, Aida and Hala (9, 8 and 7 years).

1998

Muhammad Raza Khalid, MBBS is assistant professor of medicine at UAE University, Al Ain and consultant, infectious diseases and critical care medicine at Tawam Hospital, Al Ain, Abu Dhabi.

1999

M. Rizwan Khalid, MBBS, is currently assistant professor of medicine and cardiology at King Saud University for Health Sciences and Director, Research, Advanced Cardiac Imaging and Nuclear Cardiology and consultant interventional cardiology at Prince Salman Heart Center, King Fahad Medical City, Riyadh.

2000

Ghulam Haider Akhund, MSc Epi/Bio, just completed health sector strategy for Department of Health, Government of Sindh. He is currently working

as Programme Director, Health Systems Research Unit at Provincial Health Development Centre, Sindh, Jamshoro.

2003

Syed Johar Raza, Internship 2003 Residency 2011 is currently Fellow in Uro-Oncology at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital & Research Center, Lahore. In May 2012, he completed a short fellowship in Robotics and Laparoscopic Urology at Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, New York, made possible due to a travel grant sponsored by the Société Internationale d'Urologie.

2005

Aisha Malik, MBBS, is finishing her neurology residency at the University of Tennessee, Memphis and will be joining the neurophysiology and neuromuscular fellowship at the University at Rochester, New York. Dr Aisha is married to Dr Mohsin Malik (Oncology) and has two lovely kids, Ayaan (3 years) and Mina (1 year).

Institute of Educational Development, East Africa

2007

Anthony Gioko, MEd, has been invited as a Fellow at Project Zero's Future of Learning Institute, Harvard Graduate School of Education. He will participate in the Faculty Forum, attend all plenary sessions, interactive courses, meetings and receptions and support the learning group leader and learners assigned to him.

2008

Aikynai Dardakovna Yusupova, MEd, is working with the USAID Quality Learning Project as a

coordinator of the components on pedagogical leadership, mentoring and monitoring. Aikynai works with the heads of district education departments and school administrators and reports that their partners, Kyrgyz Ministry of Education and Science, Kyrgyz Academy of Education, Teacher Training Institutes are great to work with.

Institute for Educational Development, Pakistan

2003

Sawan Khaskheli, Adv Dip is working as Project Manager for Laar Humanitarian and Development Programme, Sindh.

2008

Salima Rahim Baig, MEd, is currently working on her Master's in Early Childhood at Monash University, Melbourne under the Australian Development Scholarship Programme 2012.

2011

Following the completion of his MEd, **Muhammad Ali** has served as a project manager for ITREP Pakistan and more recently has been given the responsibility of Theme (Department) Head and has contributed three articles to Dawn on educational and social issues. He reports that as a proud alumni of the MEd programme, it gives him a great sense of satisfaction that he has been able to utilise the knowledge and skills acquired at AKU-IED.

Rahim Khan, MEd, joined AKU-IED-PDCN as a Professional Development Teacher on January 1, 2012.

Approved at the General Body Meeting of the Aga Khan University Alumni Association, Stadium Road Campus, Karachi, December 15, 2011.

ARTICLE I: Preamble and Name

We, the alumni of the Aga Khan University (henceforth referred to as the University), out of our conviction to form a cohesive and uniform platform to foster closer ties with the University, and to promote, promulgate and facilitate the healthcare, educational, research and community service missions of the University, and to support our alma mater, hereby form “**The Aga Khan University Alumni Association**” (henceforth referred to as “the Association”).

ARTICLE II: Objectives of the Association

The Association shall:

- a. Promote the welfare and interests of the Aga Khan University and the Alumni Association.
- b. Develop ways and means to contribute to the growth and development of its members and to the University by organising the resources of its members.
- c. Foster professional opportunities and educational fora for the professional, personal and intellectual growth of its alumni.
- d. Maintain a liaison between its members and the University.
- e. Serve as a platform for resource development and programme development for the University and promote the interests of the University.
- f. Be responsible for developing and maintaining communication with the Alumni through regular publications, including, but not limited to, alumni database, a newsletter and its website.
- g. Conduct other programmes the Association may consider incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objectives.

ARTICLE III: Membership

- a. Alumni shall be defined as “graduates of the AKU programmes of at least one year leading to a certificate, diploma or degree.”
- b. The membership of the Association shall be divided into the following categories:
 - i. **Active Members:** Membership shall be open to all alumni of the University who have received a degree, diploma, postgraduate training certificate,

or equivalent from any of the University’s academic programmes regardless of location, where the minimum duration of such training has been 12 months. Active Members shall have the right to vote in all elections and shall have the right to hold office.

- ii. **Honorary Members:** This shall be conferred to persons who would have demonstrated special service or made contribution(s) to the mission of the University or the Association. Recipients of an honorary degree from the University shall also be entitled to honorary membership. Honorary members may be nominated by any member of the Governing Council and shall be ratified by a simple majority of the Governing Council, and subsequently approved by the next Annual General Body Meeting of the Association by a simple majority. Honorary Members shall not have the right to vote or hold office.
- c. **Rights and obligations of members:**
 - i. Eligible persons shall fill a prescribed membership application form that shall be verified by the Office of the Registrar or the Office of Alumni Affairs, or their designee.
 - ii. Active membership shall take effect, after all dues, as prescribed by the Governing Council of the Association, are paid by the applicant.
- d. Only Active Members shall have the right to vote and shall be eligible to hold office. Active membership shall expire for the following reasons:
 - i. Upon non-payment of prescribed dues
 - ii. If the member withdraws his/her membership in writing
 - iii. If the member is convicted of any felony crime/ indictable offense in any jurisdiction
 - iv. If the member’s degree/diploma/certificate is revoked by the University for any reason or
 - v. If the member’s professional license is withdrawn/ revoked by his/her professional regulatory body.
- e. The dues of the Association shall be decided by the Governing Council and revised periodically as deemed necessary by the Governing Council. The Governing Council shall have the authority to determine a variable and tiered dues structure for alumni from various academic units and/or programmes.

ARTICLE IV: Governance and Structure

The Association shall be a registered body of the University.

- a. **General Body**
 - i. It shall consist of Active Members of the Association,

according to the provisions provided herein.

- ii. For the smoother running of its affairs, it shall delegate authority to various components as outlined herein.

b. Governing Council

- i. It shall be the legislative and policy-making body of the Association.
- ii. It shall consist of elected officers of the Association and the component societies as described in Article IV(c).
- iii. It shall fix the date and place of meetings upon the recommendation of the President of the Association.
- iv. It shall create and authorise the standing committees, upon the recommendation of the President of the Association.
- v. It shall create and authorise special and ad hoc committees as and when needed and upon the recommendation of the President of the Association.
- vi. It shall determine the annual membership dues for all categories of membership, which may be revised periodically.
- vii. The President of the University or his/her nominee and the head of Alumni Affairs shall be ex-officio Active Members of the Governing Council.
- viii. In consultation with members of the Alumni Association, the University's academic entity heads shall appoint the first members of the Governing Council on a provisional basis and they shall constitute the Governing Council in accordance with Article IV and V of the by-laws. The first members shall hold office for no longer than six months and in that period shall be charged with the responsibility to execute the functions of the Governing Council, to appoint the Elections and Nominations Committee to conduct the elections of the officers and to assemble the rest of the Governing Council. They may present themselves for election. This clause [Article IV (b) (viii)] shall be deleted from the by-laws once the first duly elected Governing Council has taken office.

c. Component Societies

- i. The component societies shall consist of the University's individual academic entities and regional chapters.
- ii. Each academic entity shall have the discretion to organise their alumni as a group. The bylaws of such groups shall not contradict the letter and spirit of the bylaws of the Association. In case of any conflict, competing interest or procedural matters, the bylaws and decisions of the Association shall supersede

those of the individual groups.

- iii. Each academic entity shall have one mandatory seat at the Governing Council. If the academic entity has its own alumni body, the elected president or the representative officer shall represent the component society at the Governing Council of the Association. If the academic entity does not have such a representative body, the Dean or the highest appointed faculty member of the academic entity shall have the authority to designate a representative from within its alumni, after consulting and seeking nominations from within its alumni.
- iv. Notwithstanding the above, an attempt shall be made to have representation at the Governing Council based on geographical location of the alumni. Any single geographical location may form a regional chapter. The minimum size of a geographical unit to be allowed to form a regional chapter shall be decided by the Governing Council and may vary according to the country where such chapter is being considered. The Governing Council shall revise the minimum membership and geographical size requirement periodically. Additionally, the geographic chapters shall not be limited to individual academic entities, but represent all alumni of the University residing in that particular area.
- v. New component societies or chapters must be approved by a simple majority of the Governing Council before they are formally inducted into the Governing Council.
- vi. Each component society shall conform to and abide by the bylaws of the Association

d. Officers

- i. The officers of the Governing Council shall be the President, President-Elect, Secretary and Treasurer of the Association.
- ii. The President shall be the presiding officer of the Association.
- iii. The Secretary shall be the recording officer of the Governing Council and the General Body.
- iv. The Secretary shall supervise all arrangements for the holding of each meeting in compliance with the bylaws and instructions of the Governing Council including sending all official notices of meetings, committee appointments, notification of election results and special committee assignments.
- v. The Treasurer shall be the manager of all recurring funds of the Association including all membership dues, assessments, and donations and such monies acquired to support alumni activities as may be due to the Association. In such duties, the Treasurer shall

be accountable, through the Governing Council, to the Association. The Treasurer shall also chair the Finance Committee.

- vi. The Treasurer shall collect, deposit and disburse all funds received upon order of the Governing Council.
- vii. The President-elect shall substitute for the President in his/her absence.
- viii. The term of office for each officer shall be two years, starting January 1.
- ix. The officers must be Active Members of the Association for at least three years (this provision is waived for the first three years after ratification of the bylaws).
- x. In the event that one or more elected officers or governors (other than the President) is unable or fails to complete his or her term of service, the President, in consultation with the Elections and Nominations Committee, shall have the power to fill such vacancy or vacancies by the appointment of a replacement. Each replacement so chosen shall hold office until the end of the term of the officer or governor whom he/she is replacing. In case the President is unable or fails to complete a term, the President-Elect shall assume the office for the remainder of the term, and then continue his/her own term for which he/she was elected.

e. Standing Committees

- i. The President shall nominate members to standing committees in consultation with the Governing Council.
- ii. The term of each committee member shall be three years provided that, in the case of the first committee constituted, one-third of the members, to be determined by lot, shall be replaced every year.
- iii. The standing committees of the Association shall be as follows and the terms of reference for each shall be provided and approved by the Governing Council:
 - a. Nomination and Elections Committee
 - b. Finance Committee
 - c. Research, Education and Scientific Affairs Committee
 - d. Resource Development Committee
 - e. Alumni Tracking Committee
 - f. Publications and Communications Committee
 - g. Constitution and Bylaws Committee
- iv. Each Committee shall present an annual report to the Governing Council and the Officers of the work done by the Committee.

ARTICLE V: Elections

- a. Elections shall be held in the second half of the year. Elections shall be concluded and newly elected officers announced by October 30.
- b. Election of officers of the Association shall be held by secret mail ballot or secure electronic methods, or any other manner as approved by the Governing Council, with a simple majority required for election.
- c. No candidate shall be elected to the same office of the Association for more than two consecutive terms. After that, at least two full terms of office shall pass before the said officer may re-seek the same office.
- d. The election process shall be supervised and conducted by the Nomination and Elections Committee. The members of this committee shall not be contestants for elections for two years preceding and following their term.
- e. The rules and methodology of elections shall be prescribed by the Nominations and Elections Committee and confirmed by the Governing Council and the contestants shall agree to abide by such rules in writing prior to their nominations being accepted.
- f. Members may self-nominate, or may be nominated by any Active Member. Supporting signatures of at least 10 Active Members shall be required for a nomination to be accepted.
- g. In case of a tie, a run-off election will be conducted amongst the candidates receiving equal votes. No new names shall be sought nor added to the list of candidates indicated on the original ballot for the post under consideration in a run-off election. Only candidates with the highest number of votes shall be included in the run-off election.
- h. The Nominations and Elections Committee shall seek nominations from the Active Members for all posts through electronic or other communications channels determined by the Committee. At least a 30 day notice shall be provided to Active Members to send in nominations.
- i. The dates of election shall be fixed by the Officers in consultation with the Governing Council. However, at least 30 days shall be given to Active Members to cast the ballot by mail or electronically. The process shall be completed at least 60 days prior to the expiration of terms of current officers.

ARTICLE VI: Meetings

Meetings shall be held at such times and places as determined by the President in consultation with the Governing Council.

- a. A minimum of one Governing Council and one General Body meeting shall be held every year.
- b. The President or the Governing Council, upon recommendation of a majority of the Governing Council, may call additional meetings of the Governing Council.
- c. Additional meetings of the General Body may be called by a majority of the Governing Council or by a majority of the Active Members of the Association.
- d. The format of the meetings, whether requiring physical presence or through electronic communication, shall be decided by the President in consultation with the Governing Council.
A simple majority of the Governing Council shall constitute the quorum for the Governing Council Meetings.
- e. The presence of at least 5 per cent of the Active Membership or a minimum of 20 Active Members shall constitute quorum for the General Body Meetings. These numbers shall be revised by the active membership at a duly called General Body Meeting within five years of ratification of the bylaws, and at least once every 10 years thereafter, to adjust to the growing alumni body.

ARTICLE VII: Operations

- a. The physical offices of the Association shall be on the Stadium Road Campus of the University in Karachi, Pakistan while the component societies may operate within their convenient physical locations.
- b. The use of the Aga Khan University name, abbreviation and logo shall be subject to agreement between the University and the Association.
- c. The fiscal year of the Association shall extend from January 1 of each year through December 31 of the same year.
- d. The Association shall maintain an account at a bank located in Karachi, Pakistan.
- e. Component societies shall be allowed to maintain their individual accounts in their country of incorporation, or other places of their choice, provided they provide annual statements of all income and expense to the Association. The Association shall not exert any control over these accounts, except to ensure proper accounting and accountability in accordance with the existing laws and its bylaws.
- f. If individual component societies elect to maintain their own account, a failure to comply with all the relevant laws of the country pertaining to such accounts, and a failure to report details of all such accounts, shall constitute grounds for termination of the component society's seat in the Association. Such action shall not affect individual membership of any of the Active Members of the component society provided the individual members continue to comply with the bylaws.
- g. Any membership dues or any other assessments or funds raised for the Association's operations shall be the property of the Association, and shall be expended by the Association according to the bylaws and the direction of the Governing Council.
- h. The Association shall hire services of professional accountants/auditors as deemed necessary to ensure proper maintenance of accounts and to comply with all pertinent laws.
- i. Contributions other than those specified in Article VII, Section g, made to the Association shall be considered to be contributions to the University and shall be utilised in consultation with the Governing Council in line with the University's priorities and needs.

ARTICLE VIII: Amendments

- a. The Association may from time to time repeal, add or amend the bylaws.
- b. Proposal for amendments may be initiated with a written request of at least 20 Active Members.
- c. Any request for amendments shall be addressed initially to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, which shall provide its recommendations to the Governing Council at the next meeting of the Governing Council.
- d. The Governing Council shall deliberate upon the recommendations of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee at the next regular meeting, or a specially called meeting upon the request of a simple majority of the Governing Council members.
- e. A simple majority of the Governing Council shall vote in affirmative on the proposed amendments for the amendments to be presented to the General Body.
- f. Once approved by a simple majority of the Governing Council, the proposed amendments shall be presented to the General Body at the next scheduled meeting, for which at least a 60-day notice and the intention to present such amendments shall be provided to the General Body members.
- g. At least a two-thirds majority of the General Body, at a duly called General Body meeting, as specified in Article VI, Section f, provided a quorum is present, shall be required to carry the amendments.
- h. The Governing Council shall provide the facility to vote on amendments via secure electronic ballot or web conference for those Active Members unable to attend the General Body meetings in person.

