



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY



March 2022 | Issue: 6 | Network of Quality, Teaching and Learning

AKU Teachers' Academy to be renamed as The Haile T. Debas Teachers' Academy in recognition of Dr. Debas' contribution to promoting Academic Excellence at AKU

The Haile T. Debas Teachers' Academy

Renaming of the Teachers' Academy by the Chancellor (2 min read)



"I am very pleased to inform you that the Chancellor announced that the AKU Teachers' Academy will be named the Haile T. Debas Teachers' Academy to recognize Dr. Debas for his contributions to the University, and particularly for promoting the highest standards of teaching and learning." **Memo, President Sulaiman Shahabuddin, 12 December, 2021**

The Haile T. Debas Teachers' Academy comprises of a prestigious group of outstanding teachers at AKU who are recognized for their excellence in teaching, mentorship, and leadership in higher education. Currently, there are 19 members of the AKU Teachers' Academy, of which 16 have HEA fellowships.

Dr. Debas continues to serve as the Teachers' Academy Advisory Body (TAAB) Chair. He is the founder of The Haile T. Debas Academy of Medical Educator at the University of California San Francisco, the first-ever Academy in the world. Dr. Debas plays an instrumental role in leading the agenda of the Haile T. Debas Teachers' Academy and thus raising the profile of teaching and learning at AKU.

On Monday, 7th March 2022, the **Giving in Gratitude** Faculty and Staff Campaign was launched, with the aim of celebrating and strengthening The Haile T. Debas

Teachers' Academy.

In the words of Provost Carl Amrhein:

"I hope you will join us and help meet our goal of 100% participation by faculty, staff, and we hope students too, who Give in Gratitude to enable others to benefit from the Academy's resources.

Remember, it's participation that counts, and every gift, no matter the size, makes a difference." **Memo, Provost Carl Amrhein, 7 March, 2022**

[To make your Gift Click Here.](#)

New Members of the Teachers' Academy! (1 min read)

Congratulations to the new Members of the Teachers' Academy



Dr Lena Jafri
Medical College, PK



Dr Rehana Rehman
Medical College, PK



Dr Saniya Sabzwari
Medical College, PK



Ms Saleema Gulzar
SONAM, PK



Dr Sadia Muzaffar
Bhutta, IED, PK

QTL_net is proud to announce the admission of 5 new members into the Haile T. Debas Teachers' Academy.

- Dr Lena Jafri, Associate Professor & Section Head, department Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Medical College Pakistan
- Dr Rehana Rehman, Associate Professor, department of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Medical College Pakistan
- Dr Saniya Sabzwari, Associate Professor, department Family Medicine, Medical College, Pakistan
- Dr Saleema Gulzar, Assistant Professor, SONAM Pakistan
- Dr Sadia Muzaffar Bhutta, Associate Professor, IED Pakistan

We now have a total of **19 members**, of which **15 have already gained Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy**.

Appointment of Teachers' Academy Inaugural Chairs (1 min read)



QTL_net is delighted to announce the appointment of two Teachers' Academy inaugural Chairs for the Membership and Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Committees of the Haile T. Debas Teachers' Academy.

Please join us in extending our congratulations and good wishes to **Dr. Sadia Fatima and Ms. Shanaz Cassum**, for success in their roles.

[Learn more about the Haile T. Debas Teachers Academy](#)

Rewards and Recognition



Zairi International Award
FOR EXCELLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Award of Excellence for Disruptive Education

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TOP 3
SHORTLISTED INSTITUTIONS**



**AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY,
PAKISTAN**



ADA UNIVERSITY, AZERBAIJAN



**UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA,
SPAIN**



AWARD SPONSORED BY



Cengage



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Zairi International Award for Excellence in Higher Education

AKU has been shortlisted as a **top three nominee** for the very sought after and competitive **Zairi International Award in Higher Education 2022** in the category of **Award of Excellence for Disruptive Education** based on the work of QTL_net in supporting quality teaching and learning. The award is supported by UNESCO and also sponsored by Advance HE in the UK. AKU was selected from among 90 universities globally.

Teaching Excellence Awards at Convocation 2022



Congratulations to all AKU faculty members who received awards of Excellence in Teaching, innovation, and research at the AKU Convocation Ceremony 2021. We are proud that **22** of these faculty members are **Higher Education Academy fellows** and **Haile T. Debas Teachers' Academy members**.

AKU Innovation Impact Award of Distinction 2021 Recipient: Ms Azra Naseem

Congratulations to Azra Naseem, Director Blended and Digital Learning of QTL_net on receiving the AKU Award of Distinction 2021!

MS. AZRA NASEEM
AKU Innovation Impact Award of Distinction



Dr Tashmin Khamis, Vice Provost Quality, Teaching and Learning recognized for 'Leading by Example'

"As a Leader you are only as strong as your team!"
Dr. Tashmin Khamis

QTL_net is proud to share that this year, Professor Tashmin Khamis, Vice Provost Quality, Teaching and Learning is recognized by the Honour Board for receiving the top three highest numbers of applauds in the past six months for the category of "Leading by Example".



BEHAVIOUR CHAMPION

Applaud Honour Board

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Leading by example is having a sense of self-direction and motivation. By delivering to their best potential, those who lead by example hold themselves to account and are aware of the impact of their actions on the development of their teams and the organisation at large.

 Irfan Valliani Administrator, Administration - KHR	 Dr Tashmin Khamis Vice- Provost, Provosts Office	 Ambreen Noorani Head Nurse, Administrator - KAR
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[Click here to applaud a colleague who is leading by example](#)

aku.edu

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning UnConference 2021

The SoTL 'Un'Conference (2 Min Read)



'I enjoy being part of things at AKU. It is such a special place. I found the opening ceremony really moving - seeing the journey AKU has come on was truly inspiring.' **Dr. Eileen Hyder** , Moderator of the Accredited TEACH CPD scheme

QTL_net hosted the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning UnConference entitled **'Reimagining Learning Centred Teaching in a COVID-19 world'** on November 29 and 30, 2021, where QTL_net engaged some **800 participants**, mainly faculty and students, across the AKU and AKDN from **South and Central Asia, East Africa, Europe, and North America**.

In the SoTL UnConference 2021, participants were promised an 'Un'Conference-like experience, with no zoom fatigue, through a myriad of synchronous and asynchronous activities on offer like the Global Solutions Café and Co-creation Learning Labs with student-faculty collaborations; fun reflection through Quarantine Teaching Bloopers and Pecha Kucha stories and faculty development opportunities by participating in Flipped Learning Master Classes and Peer-Reflective Studios. The evaluations showed that **88% of participants found the sessions engaging, with effective teaching methodologies that they intend to apply in practice**.

Opening Ceremony with President Sulaiman Shahabuddin(1 Min Read)



President Sulaiman attended the Opening Ceremony of SoTL UnConference 2021 and addressed the audience, talking about his support for faculty and the importance of focusing on students and a learning-centered experience.

Addressing the faculty, he said: ***“It is my sincere hope that this event will kindle your determination to advance the art and science of Teaching. I know how much it means to you to see your students learn and grow.”***

Prof. Tashmin Khamis, Vice Provost Quality, Teaching and Learning, draped a Hunza shawl around the President as a gesture of QTL_net’s welcome to the new President. She also presented the President with a Hunza Cap, the feather representing his role as the Chief of the Academy.

QTL_net has prepared a video showcasing the six year journey of the transformation of teaching and learning practices at AKU and to acknowledge the pivotal role Dr. Haile Debas has had on our journey. Enjoy the [Tale of Teaching Transformation at the Aga Khan University.](#)

Faculty and Students share Quarantine Teaching Bloopers and Pecha Kucha



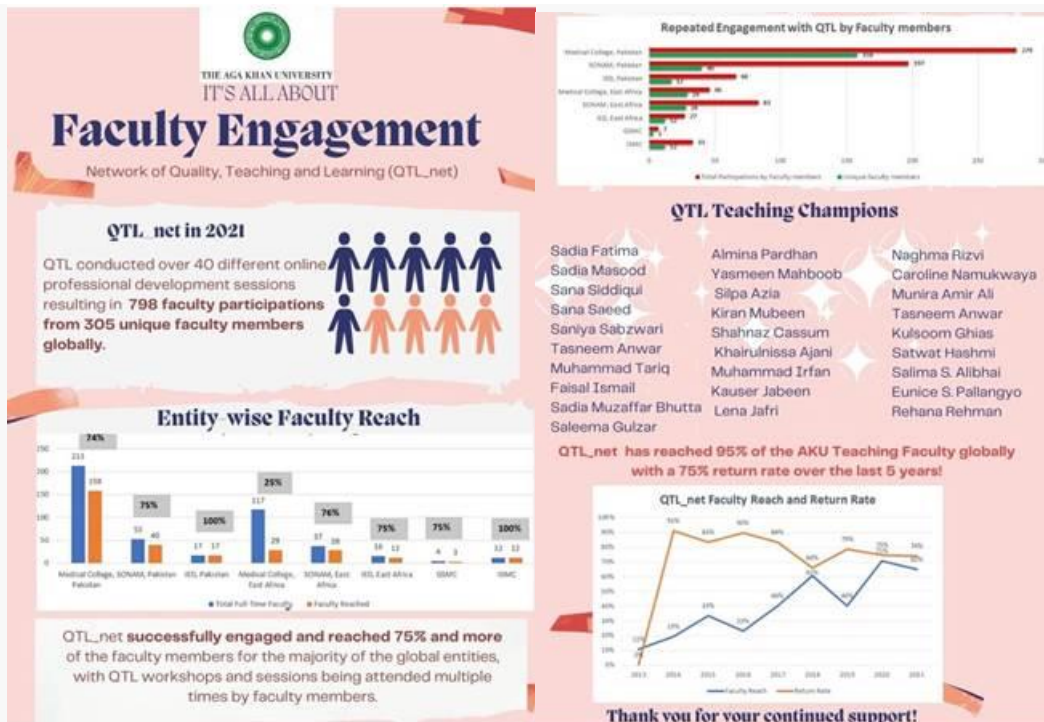
To honor and acknowledge all those who ensured that learning continued through the Pandemic despite lockdowns, QTL_net invited faculty and students to reflect on their experiences through vodcasts on ‘Quarantine Teaching Bloopers’ and Pecha Kucha sessions at the SoTL UnConference.

[Click here to watch the Bloopers.](#)

[View the Pecha Kucha Submissions here.](#)

Regular Features: Professional Development

Faculty Engagement with QTL_net in 2021 (1 min Read)



In 2021, QTL_net conducted over 40 online professional development sessions, resulting in 798 faculty participations from 305 unique faculty members globally. The Network successfully engaged and reached 75% and more of the faculty members for most of the global entities. Over the past 5 years, QTL_net has cumulatively reached 95% of the faculty, with a return rate of 88%, with QTL workshops and sessions being attended multiple times by faculty members. We are thankful for the continued support of our Deans and the Teaching Champions, including HEA Fellows and TA Members who support teaching excellence at AKU.

(Please find the flyer attached in the email)

Online Teaching in Higher Education | An Online Professional Development Programme

The Network of Quality Teaching & Learning (QTL_net)

Online Teaching in Higher Education

Online Teaching in Higher Education (OTHE) is aimed at supporting educators in designing, developing, and facilitating online learning based on proven practices such as Inclusive Teaching, Universal Design for Learning, authentic assessment and active learning and facilitation techniques. OTHE aligns to various dimensions of the UK Professional Standards Framework.

Courses

<p>Reconceptualising Online Teaching and Learning</p> <p>May 9 – June 3, 2022 Registration deadline: April 12, 2022</p>	<p>Inclusive Online Teaching</p> <p>June 20 – July 15, 2022 Registration deadline: May 20, 2022</p>
<p>Assessment in Online Courses</p> <p>August 1 – 26, 2022 Registration deadline: July 1, 2022</p>	<p>Facilitating Online Courses</p> <p>September 12 – October 7, 2022 Registration deadline: August 12, 2022</p>

Are you looking for ways to enhance online teaching based on proven practices?

Online Teaching in Higher Education (OTHE) is aimed at supporting educators in designing, developing, and facilitating online learning based on proven practices. The OTHE programme comprises four courses, each focusing on a particular pedagogical element essential for online course design and teaching.

(Please find the flyer attached in the email)

[Click here to Register](#)

New Appointments



Appointment of Aly Jafferani as Teaching and Learning Associate

It is a privilege to play a part in faculty development and I hope my prior experience of mentoring teachers to enhance their student-engagement in online, as well as in physical settings through the use of experiential and game-based learning will benefit the faculty here. I am grateful for this opportunity and look forward to the journey ahead!

Email: alyjafferani.ahsan@aku.edu **Extension:** 69817



Appointment of Alice Muraguri as Instructional Design in Blended and Digital Learning

My role as an Instructional Designer enables me to support faculty in designing and developing course content for online and blended learning, a need that has since arisen drastically during the COVID-19 pandemic. I also train faculty on the effective use of the VLE and related Educational Technology tools.

Email: alice.muraguri@aku.edu **Extension:** 2420

Upcoming Events Year 2022– View our full Calendar [here](#)

EdTech Lounge	Every 2nd or 3rd Wednesday of the month
Digital Bootcamps	Every 2nd or 3rd Thursday of the month
SoTL Grants Call	April
ReThinking Teaching Workshop (RTT)	12, 13, 16 and 17 May
Reconceptualising Online Teaching and Learning	May 9 to June 3
Inclusive Online Teaching	June 20 – July 15
Assessment in Online Courses	August 1 – 26
Facilitating Online Courses	September 12 – October 7
Teaching and Learning Enhancement Workshop (TLEW)	November

One on One consultations are available for faculty. Please make an appointment with our team

[Contact Us](#)

Network of Quality, Teaching and Learning

QTLnet@aku.edu | www.aku.edu/qtl