



NEDAC NEWS

NED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CANADA

THIRD QUARTER 2011

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

VC MAKES HISTORIC FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO NORTH AMERICAN ALUMNI

Details inside



**VC NEDUET
ENGR. ABUL KALAM**

04: COVERAGE

NEDAC HOLDS ITS FIRST BOWLING EVENT FOR ITS MEMBERS

A brief coverage of the first bowling event organized by NEDAC for its members. It was another step forward towards providing quality entertainment to its members by NEDAC.

06: COVERAGE

NEDAC ORGANIZES AN EVENING WITH VC NEDUET, ENGR. ABUL KALAM

Coverage of the Evening with VC, an event when NEDAC members were face to face with the VC.

12: COVERAGE

VC VISITS NEDUET ALUMNI IN USA

Coverage of the visits of VC Engr. Abul Kalam to NEDAASC in California and NEDAA in New Jersey in USA.

18: SPECIAL COVERAGE

NEDAC MEMBER VOLUNTEERS HIS SERVICES FOR ONTARIO

NEDAC member, Mr. Shiraz Rehmani, volunteer his services for the Ontario Health Study project, a social services project for welfare of Ontarians.

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INSIDE THIS EDITION:

Title Page	1
Editor's Note	2
President's Message	3
Bowling Event	4
Premier's Invitation	5
Radio Interview	5
Evening with VC	6
NEDAC News	10
NEDUET News	11
NA Alumni News	12
Literary Evening	16
VC Departs	17
Special Coverage	18
Urdu Ghazal	19
Urdu Nazm	20

EDITOR'S NOTE

We all NEDAC members migrated to Canada from Pakistan earlier or later for various reasons – better future of us and our family, better education for our children, better opportunities for our growth, better quality of life in Canada, the deteriorating economic and political conditions in Pakistan. And the list can go on.

After migrating to Canada we went through the different stages that all immigrants undergo in a new country.

The first stage of immigration was the *honeymoon phase*, when everything in Canada looked good. There was excitement and there were great expectations. The second stage of immigration was the *rejection phase*, when we came to deal with problems in our new country. The culture started looking different; the people seemed not to care and the Canada became full of problems. However, at this stage, most of us became stronger and stayed. There were few who became weak and went back (physically or mentally).

The third stage was the *regression phase*, where we preferred associations with people of our home country and did not try to mix with the locals. Pakistan started looking a better country. For few of us, the fourth stage, the *recovery phase*, began when we became comfortable and happy in Canada. We started moving in local circles, started developing associations with local people.



However, the fact of the matter is that, a big majority of us have not yet entered the fourth stage. There is a tendency to remain within the confines of Pakistani culture and community.

It is mandatory that we enter the fourth stage as early as possible. We should start moving in Canadian circles and start building relations with Canadian public sector and private sector organizations.

A good example has been set by our NEDAC member, Mr. Shiraz Rehmani, in this regard, who volunteered his services for Ontario Health Study project (*see page 18 for details*).

I urge you all to come out of the Pakistani silos and become part of the Canadian culture. We have done our physical immigration, its time for the mental immigration now. It is also the key to progress and better future.

Mahmood Manzoor
Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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I am happy to state that in the last few months after the elections, we have successfully carried out many social and technical activities for the benefit of our members. Some of these activities are listed below:

1. General Body Meeting to discuss and approve amendments to NEDAC By-Laws on 26th February 2011.
2. Professional Development Seminar for Job Search on 5th March 2011.
3. On Line Survey of NEDAC members to ascertain their needs.
4. Family Bowling Event on 23rd April 2011.
5. An evening with Engr. Abul Kalam, Vice Chancellor, NEDUET on 25th May 2011.
6. 3rd NEDAC Family Picnic on 30th July 2011.

In addition, an unofficial literary sitting was also organized in response to the NEDAC Survey to explore the extent of the interest of the members in literary events. Its prime mover was NEDAC General Secretary. I am pleased to report that the response was very encouraging.

We are planning to have regular literary sittings for those who are interested in it. During the months to come, we will continue to make efforts to organize many more useful technical and social events for which members will be notified accordingly.



We are now close to our traditional 5th Annual Dinner and Musical Night to be held on Friday September 30, 2011. We are working hard to put together an enjoyable evening for our members, their families and friends. Every board member is fully charged with energy and enthusiasm to provide best possible service to the team for making the Annual Function a really memorable event for the NEDAC members.

Tickets for the Annual Function are on sale. I would encourage the members to reserve tickets for themselves, their families and friends as soon as possible to avoid disappointment at the time when the sale will be closed for every one.

In the end, I wish you Ramadan Kareem and Eid Mubarak after completion of fasting and special prayers during the holy month of Ramadan.

***Ismat Kamal, P.Eng.
President, NEDAC***

NEDAC ORGANIZES FIRST FAMILY FUN BOWLING EVENT

NED Alumni Association Canada (NEDAC) Family Fun Bowling Event was held on Saturday the 23rd April 2011 at Brunswick Zone Bowling, Mississauga.

This exciting event was attended by large numbers of NEDAC members and their families. This was a well organized and successful event in which

participants took part in bowling with great interest and enthusiasm. The participants were served with delicious Pizza and cold drinks. At the end of the events prizes were distributed among the winner.

Mr Ismat Kamal (President) and Mr. Arif Syed (Social Secretary) thanked the participant for attending and making this event a great success.



NEDAC INVITED TO PREMIER DALTON McGUINTY'S PRESENTATION

Premier of Ontario, Dalton McGuinty made a special presentation at the Westin Harbour Castle hotel in downtown Toronto on "Ontario's Plan for Jobs and Growth". The Premier outlined the efforts the provincial government was making for growth of Ontario's economy and to create new jobs such as in the green energy sector.



NED Alumni Association Canada (NEDAC) was amongst the special invitees. Mr. Ismat Kamal, President NEDAC accompanied by M/s Samir Dossal and Shiraz Rehmani, former Joint Secretary NEDAC attended this informative event. The audience comprised of many professional organizations operating in the province.

During the reception NEDAC representatives had an opportunity to meet the Premier and exchange views with him on job opportunities for engineers in Ontario. President of NEDAC, Mr. Ismat Kamal briefed the Premier about NEDAC activities and the effort NEDAC is putting forward to facilitate Pakistani engineers in getting professional engineering licenses, job in their profession, professional development and social activities for the members. The Premier was pleased to learn about NEDAC activities and the work NEDAC was doing for the engineers of Pakistani origin in Ontario.

LIVE RADIO INTERVIEW OF VC NEDUET

During the short visit of VC NEDUET to Toronto, NEDAC Board arranged an evening with him. In addition to this evening, a Live Radio Interview was broadcasted on 770 AM (Radio Saz-o-Awaz, host Ms. Arifa Muzaffar).



This interview was on-air at 6:00 PM EST, 25th May 2011, and it will also be made available on the NEDAC website for the benefit of all NEDAC members.

During the interview, live calls were also planned to be taken from NEDAC members. But the host of the interview, Ms. Arifa Muzaffar, was so much impressed by the VC that she kept on with her questions that there was no time left for the live calls. The interview which was scheduled for 30 minutes stretched for 60 minutes. The VC made a big positive impact on the host and all listeners of the interview.



AN EVENING WITH VC NEDUET ENGR. ABUL KALAM

The Editorial Board of 'NEDAC News' is extremely thankful to Mr. Fayyaz Siddiqui (BE Civil/1993) for assisting the Editorial Board in compilation this report.

Editor NEDAC News

The Social Committee of NEDAC organized an evening with Engr. Abul Kalam, VC NEDUET on 25th May 2011 at the Maple Banquet Hall in Mississauga. The VC visited Canada at the invitation of NEDAC President, Mr. Ismat Kamal, to meet and exchange ideas with NEDAC members. More than 75 members and their spouses attended this memorable evening.

Professor Dr. Iqbal Ali, former Director of NED Institute of Environmental Studies was also invited to attend and grace the occasion.



Engr. Abul Kalam, accompanied by the President NEDAC, was warmly received at the venue by NEDAC Board members. Mr. Muhammad Khalid, NED Liaison Secretary introduced the Board members to the VC.

Mr. Arif Ali Syed, Social Secretary NEDAC was the emcee of the evening. After his introductory note, Mr. Muhammad Khalid recited from the Holy Quran.

Mr. Ismat Kamal delivered the welcome address and paid tributes to the VC and thanked all participants for their attendance. The VC, Engr. Abul Kalam, addressed the gathering. He thanked NEDAC Board for inviting him and praised the valuable activities of NEDAC in Canada. He said

that he was not going to deliver a lengthy speech and would rather prefer to have an open session of questions and answers.



Dr. Iqbal Ali thanked NEDAC Board for the invitation and acknowledgement of his presence in Canada. He said that he had taught in various universities of Pakistan and abroad and his students were all around the world. However, he always enjoyed teaching in NEDUET because of the high intellectual level and good behaviour of NED students.

After the address of Dr. Iqbal Ali, the Q&A session started. Some of the interesting questions and the answers by the VC are given below:

Prospects of Co-op Training



Mr. Muhammad Khalid started the Q&A session by asking about the prospects of co-op education in NEDUET.

The VC replied that he is fully aware of the importance of the co-op program. He said that NED started a compulsory internship

program wherein third year students will have to find work in an engineering professional environment. He said that due to lack of opportunities in industries and the high number of students, it was difficult to find a co-op job for every one. NEDUET has appointed a full time Director of Industrial Relations for liaison with the industries and construction companies to assist in finding placement opportunities for the students.

Research in NEDUET



Mr. Aman Shabbar Siddiqui (Executive Member NEDAC) asked about the research facilities / options in NEDUET.

The VC replied that the NEDUET has strategically changed its goals. The first priority was to complete bachelor's degree in four years which was then taking six to seven years. The second priority was to start and enhance Master's program. At present 20 to 22 Master's programs were offered to the students in various disciplines. The next priority was to start PhD program and that was also achieved. More than 20 students have completed PhD in various disciplines and NEDUET was moving forward in producing more PhDs in Pakistan. He elaborated that every PhD students was required to study at least three years in NED to do the research. He also said that the thesis of PhD students was sent to two foreign university faculty members of repute in the field of study and it was accepted only upon favourable reviews from both these universities.

Successor of the VC

Mr. Rasool Kaleemi (NEDAC member) wanted to know who would take care of NEDUET after his term and if anyone was trained under him to lead NEDUET successfully after him?

The VC said that he would be retiring on 9th December 2012 and would not seek an extension after that date. This was going to be his last term.



He took pride in stating that he had trained two Pro-VCs and four Deans. Any of them could be the next VC. He assured the gathering that there would be no gap in leadership and NEDUET would continue to grow to meet the requirements

of engineering manpower in Pakistan.

Software Development

Mr. Arif Ali Syed inquired that if NEDUET had developed any technical software in Urdu?

The VC admitted that NED lacked in this field. However, he said that he had asked Dr. Shamsul Haq to return and take over software department. He hoped that NEDUET would soon start a Software House that would develop software for the local and international needs.

NEDUET's Expectations from Alumni



Mr. Syed Imran Ahmed (Vice President NEDAC) enquired about NEDUET's expectations from the Alumni. He mentioned that some Alumni were thinking to develop a robotics laboratory in NEDUET or to generate funds for it.

The VC replied that NEDUET was self sufficient in funds and there was no need to raise or give funds to it. Sufficient funds were available from the government and there were other resources to fill the gaps. He also said that NEDUET was disbursing 16.5 million rupees for student scholarships. He invited alumni to visit NEDUET and see for themselves its amazing growth. He emphasized that NEDUET only needed suggestions and advice after the visiting it. The institution was now quite different from the old

days. He elaborated that NEDUET already had a robotics lab and the students were doing well in this field. He said that NEDUET students participated in international competitions of robotics and performed beyond expectations.

Ranking of NEDUET and Alumni Lectures



Mr. Syed Hussain Haider (General Secretary NEDAC) asked about the lower ranking of NEDUET among universities of Pakistan. He also asked how lectures of alumni who have excelled in their fields could be arranged in NEDUET.

Engr. Kalam pointed out two flaws by Higher Education Commission (HEC) in the ranking of the universities. One was that the ranking was not based on the undergraduate education but was based on graduate and higher education. Secondly the ranking was done by the HEC which was itself the funding agency. The funding agency cannot judge the ranking because it justifies funding on the basis of the ranking. The ranking required to be done by an independent agency. He had asked his staff to contact international independent agencies, who carry out the ranking on continual basis, to determine the ranking of NEDUET on the basis of international standards.

He offered NEDAC members to give lectures in NEDUET to provide exposure of new engineering techniques to students. He suggested that before coming to NEDUET contact must be made with the university staff through NED Liaison Secretary (Mr. Muhammad Khalid) so arrangement for lecture session could be made. He assured the alumni from Canada and USA that by following this procedure they would not be disappointed.

Joint Venture with International Universities

Mr. Sameer Dosal (NEDAC member) asked if NEDUET had any program of joint ventures with

renowned universities to raise the educational standards.



Engr. Kalam replied that NEDUET did not have joint venture programs with other universities of the world. He mentioned that there were many difficulties in doing this, for example, there was a large gap in the fee structure of NEDUET and other international universities, and there was visa problem for students to travel to these countries. However, he hoped that some time in future NEDUET may be able to work in this direction.

Language Skills of NEDians

Mr. Osaid Syed (Finance Secretary NEDAC) wanted to know how language skills of NEDians could be improved during the studies because he had found NEDUET graduates with very poor language skill especially in writing.

The VC fully agreed with Mr. Syed and admitted that the students were poor in this area. He said that this skill should be developed before students enter any professional educational institute. Unfortunately this was not the case resulting in its reflection on the NEDUET graduates. He said that he was trying to improve the standard of Humanities Department and agreed to give more attention on this important aspect in future.

After the conclusion of Q&A session, Mr. Ismat Kamal presented a memento to the VC and Mr. Mohammad Khalid thanked him for spending some time with the NEDAC members and answering their questions. After the Maghrib prayers a very delicious food was served to the participants which were especially prepared under the supervision of Ms. Fauzia Aslam. She is a graduate of NEDUET (Civil-86) and a joint owner of the Maple Banquet Hall with her spouse Mr. Aslam Mirza (Civil-79), the former Finance Secretary of NEDAC.

AN EVENING WITH VC NEDUET ENGR. ABUL KALAM



NEWS FROM NEDAC

NEW NEDAC MEMBERS

It is a great pleasure that EIGHT (08) new members have joined NEDAC. With this addition, the NEDAC membership has reached 372 mark.

The new members (Membership Numbers 365 through 372 in order) are Mr. ZAKI AHMED (BE Mechanical/1991), Mr. MUHAMMAD SALEEM AHMED (BE Civil/1993), Ms. NAHEED GHAZANFAR (BE Civil/1969), Mr. AFTAB MANZAR (BE Mechanical/1994), Mr. AHMED ADNAN IFTIKHAR (BE Civil/2000), Mr. SYED ZESHAN HAIDER (BE Civil/1997), Mr. SYED IRFAN HAIDER (BE Electrical/1991), Mr. JAVAID HANIF (BE Electrical/1975).

NEDAC REVOKES MEMBERSHIP OF ONE OF ITS MEMBERS

On the advice of the Special Committee appointed by the NEDAC Board to recommend suitable action on the complaints of some NEDAC members concerning the membership eligibility, the NEDAC board revoked life membership of **Syed Ahmed Junaid** (BE Mechanical/1984, Membership # 110), and decided to refund \$ 40 he had paid as life membership fee, in compliance with the requirement and eligibility of membership as stipulated in NEDAC Bylaw Article V, Section 1.

A degree/diploma from NED Engineering College/NED University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi is a must for the membership of NEDAC.

He was given sufficient opportunity and time to produce the evidence to prove his eligibility of membership but he chose not to do so. Therefore, his life membership was revoked and the privileges as NEDAC member were withdrawn.

It has been decided by NEDAC that all the applicants for new membership will now be required to be referred to by two NEDAC members and the applicant will also have to submit a copy of the degree/diploma.

NEDAC MEMBERS ACTIVE IN QATAR

Mr. Syed Naseeruddin, one of the founder members of NEDAC, is presently in Qatar. He is active in Alumni activities on the platform of 'Pakistan Engineers Forum (PEF)'. The following links show coverage of PEF activities in Qatar. (page 3 of Gulf Times June 11 issue and page 4 of Gulf Times June 12 issue):



http://www.gulf-times.com/mritems/streams/2011/6/11/2_440303_1_255.06.11.pdf

http://www.gulf-times.com/mritems/streams/2011/6/12/2_440480_1_255.06.11.pdf

In addition, an electronic copy of PEF Souvenir 2009-2011 can be requested from Mr Naseeruddin on syed_naseer@hotmail.com. This Souvenir has four (4) articles from four NEDAC members.

INNA LILLAHAY WA INNA ELAIHAI RAJEOUN

The father of Mr. Masood Anjum Khan (NEDAC Information and Publication Secretary) passed away in Islamabad. May Allah SWT provide him place in *Jannah* and help Mr. Masood Anjum Khan and his family bear this irreparable loss. (Ameen). The NEDAC Board, NEDAC members and the Editor *NEDAC News* pray for *maghfarat* of the departed soul

NEWS FROM NEDUET AND PEC

STUDENTS OF NEDUET DESIGN FUEL EFFICIENT CAR

Shell Eco Marathon is an international event that has a golden history of 25 years. The basic concept of the event is to drive high school and college student teams from around the world to design, build and test energy efficient vehicles thus striving for a greener & safer environment for the future. The event would be covered by international media around the globe with participants from all over world.

The students of NEDUET have crafted a fuel efficient car at the cost of PKR 0.5M to represent Pakistan in the event.



The 13 member team is confident about their success in the competition. They hope to do well in the contest due to their diversified expertise and sheer hard work.

The name of the team is 'Winmark' that has been selected by the organizers of the event from 30 contestants teams of different institutions of Pakistan.

The team comprises of students of Electrical and Mechanical departments of NEDUET. They are

M. Tabrez Siddique, M. Shahab Siddique, Ahsun Jawed, M. Waqar Ahmed, Osama Rehman, Saeed Ahmed (Team Advisor), Haris Rehman (Team Manager), M. Bilal Sohail, Taha Rasul Sheikh, M. Hassan Abbasi, M. Ahsan Talha Asad and Usman Mehmood.

INTRODUCTION TO CPD (CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT)

Pakistan Engineering Council under its Act has mandate for introducing and ensuring continued professional development activities amongst its growing community of engineers and has devised a comprehensive framework titled Professional Development of Engineers (Bye Laws – 2008) approved by the Government of Pakistan.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) or Continuing Professional Education (CPE) is the means by which members of professional bodies maintain, improve and broaden their knowledge and skills for developing personal qualities required in their professional lives.

The main objective is to develop competence and ability of engineers for the application of theoretical knowledge to practical situations and to evolve innovative solutions to real life problems while adhering to professional ethics and acquisition of a broader understating of their obligations to society.

As per provisions of CPD Byelaws, from July 2010 onwards, most of Continuing Professional Development activities (courses, training workshops, etc.) may be undertaken by the Professional Engineering Bodies registered with PEC as per provision of Section 16 of PDE Bye-Laws 2008. Until the SRO becomes effective in July 2010, PEC will continue conducting CPD activities / courses without any credit points. After July 2010 onwards, CPD activities may be undertaken by PEC in view of need/ availability of resource person(s) on a particular subject/field.

PEC ELECTIONS 2011-2013

Pakistan Engineering Council has announced PEC Elections 2011-13. For detailed advertisement, nomination procedure and list of eligible voters please visit the following link page on PEC website:

http://www.pec.org.pk/Elections_2011.aspx

NEWS FROM NEDUET ALUMNI IN NORTH AMERICA

NEDAASC ORGANIZES ITS ANNUAL DINNER AND MUSICAL EVENING

Pakistanis in the United States often pride on their 'American' identity. But not many of them share the American zest for fostering education and technology that has served as a single stimulus to the all-round economic and social change in the United States. The NED Alumni Association of Southern California (NEDAASC) and a small group of visionaries, provide a glaring exception to this disconcerting 'Pakistani - American' trend.



In the short span of five years, the successes of NEDAASC have been many and, what is more, these are sustained. Outgoing President Mr. Ahmed Ali proudly asserts the accomplishments 'as nothing short of extraordinary'.

The number of scholarships given to NED students alone has quadrupled during the period 2008-2011. Besides, quite a few well-meaning initiatives have been taken to induct a wholesome change in the teaching program of the NEDUET.

A function at the Cerritos Sheraton, Cerritos, CA, USA on Saturday, 19th June, to 'meet and greet' VC Engr Abul Kalam, turned out to be a rare concourse, spotlighting the NEDAASC's sincere strivings to give a much needed fillip to technical education in Pakistan.

Described as a 'transformational figure' by Mr. Ahmed Ali, the octogenarian Vice-Chancellor truly deserved the compliment. In 1996 when he took over NED, there were only four (4) undergraduate programs at the NEDUET, now there are 22. In 1996, it took six years to complete

the four-year degree program, today it takes four years to complete the four-year degree. In 1996, the number of students who received the bachelor's degree was 350 to 400. On 20th February this year, 1771 students graduated. This includes over 200 who received their post-graduate degree.

VC Engr. Abul Kalam made a profound impact on the gathering with his impeccable demeanour and edifying observations. He paid glowing tributes to the NEDUET faculty, describing its members as 'solid gold', and showed appreciation for the awakening in the US that the alumni should do something for the students.

He apprised the gathering of the growing number of students graduating from the university, 1771 in 2011 of which 38.5% were girls. The VC asked the NED alumni to maintain a regular rapport with the alma mater and urged those intending to visit Pakistan to 'drop an email defining your expertise' and we will be able to arrange your lecture at the NEDUET



Mr. Ashraf Habibullah presented the evening's keynote address laced with hilarious anecdotes and witticism. He furnished fresh proof of the adage 'boys will be boys' and his reminiscences of his life spent in Pakistan led to spontaneous bursts of laughter time and again. Today he heads a leading American software company that is successfully executing prestigious projects in 150 countries of the world.

Mr. Habibullah endeared himself to the audience with his plain talking and earnestness that he owed a great deal to his teachers who 'instilled in him the quest to learn. They transformed him into

someone who was trying to learn. He proudly recalled the things that NEDUET did to him.



Before concluding his scintillating address deserving the best superlatives he announced a handsome donation of \$25,000 for his alma mater.

Dr Farhat Siddiqi, President NEDAASC, welcomed the NED alumni. For the last 17 years he has owned an engineering company in Orange County, CA. He said 'NED was short of good furniture but was never short of love and support. The Silicon Valley is full of NED alumni who founded or co-founded many technology firms.'

Earlier, Mr. Ahmed Ali, presented an introduction of NEDIANN-NA while Mr. Iqbal Ahmed furnished an introduction of NEDAASC.

Sharing impressions of his visit to the NEDUET, in the NEDAASC's newsletter, outgoing the President, Mr. Ahmed Ali, made several incisive observations: 'I came away from my tour with the belief that the alumni can make a great difference by supplementing the resources available to NEDUET.'

The dinner followed all the speeches, which was enjoyed by all the audience.



A *qawwali* presentation by the Fana-fillah group, was an enlivening feature of the evening. Aminah Chishty Qawwal has been a leading force in the art of Pakistani *tabla*. Their performance was memorable.



NEDAA WELCOMES NEDUET VC

The month of June 2011 was a historic month in the annals of NEDUET's history. For the first time in its 89 years history, the Head of this institution went on an official tour to visit its Alumni in the North America. Last year he made a similar historic visit to Toronto and Calgary in Canada. This year's trip included stops in Toronto, Edison and LA. The NEDUET Alumni of the North America are very thankful and honoured by the VC's interest and dedication he has shown by taking this trip.



The NED Alumni Association USA (NEDAA) finalized a day long event on the occasion of the visit of NEDUET VC, Engr. Abul Kalam to USA.

The event encompassed two morning seminars on 'Solar Power and Solar Industry in USA' by Mr. Asif Ansari and 'Iris Recognition – Your Security vs. Your Privacy' by Mr. S. H. Naqvi. a grand celebration and dinner on 11th June, 2011

The evening session at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Windsor Ballroom, Edison, NJ included the speech of the VC, followed by the speech of Mr. Ashraf Habibullah, CEO of CSI, the keynote speaker for the evening.

VC Engr. Abul Kalam's day started in Edison, NJ with a special meeting with NEDAA Council

members Moin Ahmed and Sharif Ahmed at the Sheraton Hotel in Raritan Parkway Plaza. VC answered questions posed by Moin Ahmed and Sharif Ahmed freely and frankly about the current educational environment at NEDUET, the progress made during his tenure and the role he played in creating a new NED University that now spans 3 campuses and 22+ disciplines.

Ha also assured that there was no need to be concerned on the part of the Alumni about NEDUET switching back from semester system to annual system as PEC was on board with this concept and has signed an agreement in the USA to this effect.



Later in the evening, NEDAA VP, Mr. Javed Riaz, picked up VC from the Sheraton and drove him to the Crowne Plaza Hotel for the evening program. Master of the Ceremonies for the evening was Mr. Sharif Ahmed, NEDAA Joint VP and ex-President of NEDAAAB.



The program started with recitation from the Holy Quran by ex-NEDAA President, Mr. Ehtisham Siddiqui. NEDAA President, Mr. Moin Ahmed, welcomed the VC, faculty, Alumni and guests to the NEDAA event. He informed the audience that in the last 10 years NEDAA has achieved unprecedented amount of success and thanked the Board, Executive Council, members and friends

for their hard work, support and encouragement during this period. He lauded the efforts of ex-Pro VC, Dr. Shams-ul-Haq, in creating NEDAN and urged all Alumni to join it.

The ex-NEDAA President, Mr. Ehtisham Siddiqui, in his address stated that NEDAA was a catalyst for the formation of the regional alumni associations as well as the annual conventions.

The VC Engr. Abul Kalam, in his address, expressed great joy and pleasure to be among the NEDUET Alumni of North America. He briefly responded to some of the concerns raised by NEDAA speakers. He stated that NEDUET is not the same university any more with 3 or 4 disciplines as many US Alumni members remember it. Today it has more than 22 disciplines with two more to be added by next year. He encouraged the Alumni to visit their Alma Mater to see for themselves how the NEDUET has grown. He also stated that positive suggestions will be welcomed from Alumni and he would see to it that they were implemented.

Ex-Pro VC, Dr. Shams-ul-Haq, lauded the accomplishments of the VC and noted that his tenure of 16 years was one of the best the NEDUET has ever seen.

Mr. Sharif Ahmed, NEDAA Joint VP, emphasised how NEDAA was a precursor in the formation of the NEDAC and NEDAAAB. He informed that NEDAC with about 400 registered members is the largest NEDUET Alumni Association in North America followed by NEDAAAB with 150+ registered members.

Keynote speaker, Mr. Ashraf Habibullah, enthralled the audience with his true but hysterical account of the good student days at NED. Hundred percent businessman in real life, Mr. Ashraf Habibullah on stage is a hilarious stand-up comedian who keeps the audience rolling in laughter throughout his routine.

At the end of the program, Sunny Diwan band of NJ performed popular *ghazals* and hit songs from Urdu and Punjabi films. The audience participated in the entertainment program by requesting their favourite *ghazals* and hit songs.

Overall the event was a huge success. About 70+ attendees were present including NEDUET Faculty, and NEDUET Alumni from USA and Canada. A Souvenir Program book was also distributed to all attendees, a copy of which can be requested from NEDAA by sending email to NEDAA



NEDAC MEMBERS ORGANIZE FIRST LITERARY EVENING

A Literary Evening was jointly hosted by Syed Husain Haider (General Secretary NEDAC) and Mr. Aman Siddiqui (Executive Member NEDAC) on 8th July 2011 as a private function for NEDAC members with interest in literary activities.

The event proved to be a success as more than 20 audience thoroughly enjoyed the literary material presented. It included *ghazals*, poems, parodies, humours and satiric prose and verses. Entertaining and thought provoking talks by prominent NEDAC members were over and above all of these.

The proceedings of the evening were started by a light article by Syed Husain Haider on Toronto's literary landscape, its rifts, its conflicts and its groupings

Rasool Ahmed Kaleemi, an acclaimed Urdu poet and columnist, presented his famous poem *Amokhta*, a *ghazal* and a satirical poem on bureaucracy. Audience loved every verse of his poetry. He also highlighted importance of literary activities in NEDAC in a short and but very well received speech.



Munawwar Kaleemi, wife of Rasool Kaleemi, is herself a well known author and famous Urdu columnist of Canada and Pakistan. She presented a sentimental and entertaining article which she wrote about the early life of her college mate Parveen Shakir and her closeness with Parveen when she was just a young college girl.

Ismat Kamal, President NEDAC, regretted his inability to present his material due to his illness

but he fully compensated by an interesting speech about his achievements in the early life in the literary field and his close relationship with many well known Urdu writers and poets of our times

Shama Qureshi was another entertaining speaker of the evening. She eloquently addressed some of the issues facing newcomers. Her motivational speech contained examples of exceptional achievements she made in Canada. Her effort to avoid English word as much as possible made her captivating speech even more colourful.



Junaid Akhtar is another acclaimed Pakistani poet of Urdu in Canada. NEDAC should be proud to have such a talented poet in its fold. His romantic and patriotic poetry was another major highlight of this evening. Audience loved his recitation and showered him with plenty of *daad* and applause.

Abid Asghar's humorous verses, *qatas*, *nazm* and even *tuk bandis* were heartily enjoyed by attendees. He changed the mood of audience by reciting simple but witty poetry and making the attendees to laugh and think.

Nauhad Ahmed presented two beautiful and very romantic *ghazals*. Everybody appreciated his kalam's *pukhtagi*. He disclosed that these *ghazals* were from his early days and he has many more. It will be pleasure to listen to them in future events.

Ishrat Hasan, was last but not least. His parodies of verses of renowned poets were a big hit. Audience lauded his mastery in converting serious verses of Ghalib, Parveen Shakir and other top poets into

comical versions. His *kalam* added an important element in the proceedings of this vent.

The description of event will not be complete without mentioning *garma garam* and tasty *samosas* and sweets brought by Mr. Aman

Siddiqui, very professional photography by Mr. Sahir Zameer and hall arrangement and general care taking by Mr. Sami Ur Rehman.

Another similar function is planned just after *Eid* in September.



PRESIDENT NEDAC SEES-OFF VC NEDUET

The VC NEDUET, Engr. Abul Kalam, made a historic first official visit to the different NEDUET Alumni Associations in North America. He is the first VC of NEDUET who undertook such a visit. He was received at the Pearson International Airport, Toronto Canada on 22nd May 2011 by President NEDAC, Mr. Mohammad Khalid, NED Liaison Secretary and NEDAC member Mr. Mohammad Khaleeq Najmi. The VC had a very busy itinerary in his North American visit.

1. He attended the much appreciated ‘Evening with VC’ which was organised by NEDAC in Toronto, Canada on the 25th May 2011.

2. He was the Chief Guest in the Annual Dinner organized by NED Alumni Association (NEDAA) in Edison, NJ, USA on 11th June 2011.
3. He was the Chief Guest in the Annual Dinner organized by NED Alumni Association of Southern California (NEDAASC) on 19th June 2011.

At the end of his visit, the VC NEDUET came to Toronto and on 22nd July 2011 left for Karachi. He was seen-off at the Pearson International Airport, Toronto by President NEDAC.

AN EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE BY NEDAC MEMBER 'PUBLIC PRIORITIES FOR ONTARIO'S HEALTH SYSTEM'

Here is a brief report of the Citizens' Reference Panel on Ontario Health Services. Mr. Shiraz Rehmani, a Mechanical Engineering graduate of NEDUET of 1970 batch, made significant contribution in this regard.

Editor NEDAC News

We all Ontarians have at one time or the other complained about the Health Services we receive here in Ontario. To address this problem, PwC, in February 2011, randomly invited 10,000 Ontario households to join a Citizen's Reference Panel.

A group of 28 Ontarians from 14 of the province's Local Health Integration Networks, both genders and ages from 18 to over 70 years, was selected to deliberate on the state of Health Care System in Ontario. The mandate was 'to learn about Ontario's health system, understand the challenges and consider the choices needed to ensure the sustainability of high-quality, accessible and publicly-funded health care to all Ontarians' Mr. Shiraz Rehmani, who is a Mechanical Engineering graduate of NEDUET of 1970 batch, also volunteered to be part of this group.



The individuals in the Group volunteered three weekends to learn about Ontario's health care system from a range of experts and practitioners, and ratify health care reforms. Mr. Rehmani worked hard, spending 54 hours in group discussions and many hundred hours individually to learn about the intricacies of the Health System. The Group then came up with recommendations which represent a citizen's viewpoint.



During the process of high intensity learning that the Group went through to understand the Health System, it listened to presentations from over 20 experts each of whom was intensely questioned by the Group. The final report came out on 22nd June 2011. A link to the website to download the final report is:

<http://www.pwc.com/ca/en/healthcare/citizens-reference-panel-ontario-health-services-report.jhtml>

It is a matter of great pleasure that NEDAC



members are volunteering for public services. The example thus set-up by Mr. Rehmani is something which every NEDAC member should consider to follow.

URDU GHAZAL

By: Rasool Ahmad Kaleemi

Mr. Rasool Ahmed Kaleemi is a Mechanical Engineering graduate of NEDUET of 1967 batch. He has got a great love for Urdu literature, and he himself is a very good poet. His work has been published in his book 'Hawa-e-Dasht' His following 'Ghazal' has been taken from 'Hawa-e-Dasht'.

Editor NEDAC News

خوابوں کا کیا ذکر کریں کہ یہ سچے تو ہوتے ہی نہیں
ہم بھی ایسے پاگل ہیں کہ دیکھے بنا سوتے ہی نہیں
نازک ہونٹوں اچھی آنکھوں لمبے بالوں والے کہاں
جیسے حسین ہوتے تھے پہلے ویسے اب ہوتے ہی نہیں
جسٹ بیس کمے وہ بھی دن تھے آنکھ لہو جب ہوتی تھی
سیل غم و اندوہ میں لیکن اب تو ہم روتے ہی نہیں
ایک گلی تھی شہر میں ایسی جس میں ہم کھو جاتے تھے
پھرتے ہیں اب نگر نگر ہم اور کہیں کھوتے ہی نہیں
کھیت وہی ہیں اور وہی ہے لطفِ باد و باران بھی
پیار کی خوشبو والی فصلیں لوگ مگر بوتے ہی نہیں
یارِ کلیمی چھوڑیہ باتیں اہل ہوس کے جنگل میں
ہم نہیں کرتے عشق و محبت بوجھ یہ ہم ڈھوتے ہی نہیں

URDU NAZM

By: Shah Quarin Ahmad

Mr. Shah Quarin Ahmad is a Civil Engineering graduate of NEDUET of 1982 batch. His only son, Shah Kamran Ahmad, died in a tragic road accident on 13th February 2009. In his following Nazm, written on Father's Day 2011, Shah Quarin questions Kamran why he left him alone. Kamran then replies to him.

Editor NEDAC News

آج کچھ لوگ بڑے خوش ہیں کہ ہے یوم پدر
وہ میری ہاں تھا، مرا جسم، مرا لنت جگر
میں نے تو اس سے یہ مانگی تھی دعا، میرے رب
اگلی باتوں سے جو جھلرتے ہوں میں پھول تو پھر
کونئی تلمائے مرا چاہنے والا ہے گدھر
میں بھی زندہ نہ رہا، جب نہ رہا میرا پھر
میرے بیٹے کو بڑی دین کی دولت دینا
اگلی قربت میں، سکوں شہر مدینہ دینا
تیری مخلوق سے جو پیار کرے، ایسا جواں
اسکے ہاتھوں میں اثر، مثل مسما دینا
میں نے سوچا تھا بڑھاپے کا سہارا بن کر
اور جب ہاتھ رکھو گے میری پیشانی پر
گرچہ مہمان بھی جاتے ہیں تو کہتے ہیں وداغ
تم جو تھے باپ کا دل اور جو تھے اس کی ہاں
تم کھڑے ہو گے میرے پاس جہاں سے پہلے
ورد ہو جائیگا پھر دور دورا سے پہلے
قبل رخصت تو رنج کرتے ہیں سب شکوے گلے
اسپنے جانے سے قبل کیوں نہ گلے ہم سے ملے
تم جو اب چھوڑ کے ہم کو بدھارے ہو عدم
میرے ہر انگ میں پوشیدہ جو قوت تھی نئی
سوچتا ہوں کہ چلا جاؤں انہیں گلیوں میں
جب کے اواد سے واقف تھا نہ الفت کا شعور
میں یہ سوچوں کہ جو بنتی ہے، وہ ہے ایک وہم
پر نیا لوں میں جو جاتے ہو مسکاتے ہوئے
اشک کے دینے کو میں روک نہیں پاتا ہوں
میں تمہیں کیسے کہوں، بھول نہیں پاتا ہوں

﴿کامران کا جواب﴾

ہاں بہت دور سے ہوں آج مخاطب بابا
میں جو تھا پاس کبھی، آج گھر پاس نہیں
میں نے سوچا تھا کہ میں عرش کا تارا دوں گا
آپ کے کانپتے قدموں کا سہارا ہوں گا
آج جب یوم پدر لوگ مناتے ہیں کبھی
یاد کرتے ہیں مجھے، آپ کو دکھ ہوتا ہے
یوں تو میں نور ہوں، اور آپ سے ہوں دور کہیں
دیکھ سکتے ہو نہیں مجھ کو، یہ ہے اور ہی بات
کبھی میں دیکھتا ہوں دور سے جھنڈ بن کر
یوں تو ہے یوم پدر صرف شب و روز کی بات
اس قدر دور کہ ہاں آپ نے سوچا بھی نہ تھا
اک بھر پارے کو اب ملنے کی بھی آس نہیں
آپ کے کانپتے قدموں کا سہارا ہوں گا
میری بھر پور جوانی اسے قوت دے گی
سوؤں خاموش لہ میں، میں ہلکا کیسے ابھی
آپ کو رنج جو دیکھوں تو میرا دل روتا ہے
ہے حقیقت کہ میں ہوں، آپ سے پر دور نہیں
میں تو ہر وقت ہی رہتا ہوں جڑا آپ کے ساتھ
کبھی چھوٹا ہوں میں آپ کو خوشبو بن کر
میرا ہر لمحہ گزرتا ہے مگر آپ کے ساتھ