Connecting Educators 2024

GUIDEBOOK

presented by

Educators' Community

in collaboration with

FACTS

A nelnet Company

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About Educators' Community

The Educators' Community is an initiative to gather and support local and international community of educators, aiming to discuss, validate, promote and adopt innovative teaching and learning practices among teachers, trainers and other education professionals.

Through this community, educators from all around the world can get visibility and recognition for their innovative work, gain new national and international contacts, enhance their knowledge about existing and new approaches to teaching and learning and will also get an opportunity to participate in international projects.



Founder's Voice

Rukaiya Salman

After travelling and networking with educationalists globally and gaining valuable experience as a teacher, educationist and school leader over the past 14 years, I felt a compelling need to connect with fellow educators and solidify these relationships. It was during these experiences that the idea of forming the Educators' Community took root. The vision behind this initiative is to establish a platform where educators can come together to cultivate relationships, share research, and support one another. I firmly believe that by leveraging our collective knowledge and expertise, we can make significant contributions to both the private and public sectors. Moreover, this collaboration is essential for our own personal and professional development. Thus, the Educators' Community was born out of the recognition that together, we possess a wealth of insights and experiences that can propel us forward in our journey as educators. This is the background story behind the inception of the Educators' Community.

Advisory Board



Bello Tongo
CEO, Tongston Group of Companies



Laurel Aguilar-Kirchhoff
Digital Learning Specialist
Educational Consultant



Ibrahim Shamsi
Chairman, Cotton Web Ltd
Director, MCB Bank Islamic



Alexander Zheltov
CEO & Co-Founder,
Educate Online, Inc. (US)



Michel Thibeault
Mindfulness Director
Founder & CEO,
Coaching for Wisdom

Connecting 20 Educators 24

Lahore

Saturday 17th February, 2024

Emerald Hall, Pearl Continental

About Connecting Educators

The Connecting Educators Conference, scheduled for February 17 at Lahore's Pearl Continental, promises an enlightening exploration of pivotal themes in the educational landscape. From the comparative analysis of different curriculums in Pakistan to addressing the crucial issue of mental health in schools, the conference engages educators and professionals in vital conversations.

The event delves into innovative marketing strategies for sustainable educational operations, equips educators with tools for navigating competitive college admissions, and examines the present and future of educational technology in Pakistan. Each session offers a unique lens into the multifaceted challenges and opportunities within the educational sphere, fostering a collaborative platform for knowledge exchange and growth.

Program Schedule

9:15 am - 9:30 am	Opening Ceremony
9:30 am - 9:45 am	A Talk on Nurturing Exellence to Become an Effective Educational Leader
9:45 am - 10:30 am	Session 1 Unveiling Educational Landscapes - A Comparative Analysis of Different Curriculums in Pakistan
10:30 am - 11:15 am	Session 2 Addressing the Crisis of Mental Health in Schools
11:15 am - 11:30 am	Tea Break
11:30 am - 12:15 pm	Session 3 Beyond Brochures: Marketing for Sustainable Educational Operations
12:15 pm - 1:00 pm	Session 4 How to Navigate the Landscape of Competitive College Admissions
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	Session 5 Where Does Ed Tech Stand in Pakistan?
1:45 pm - 2:00 pm	A Talk on Transformational Leadership
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Closing Ceremony
2:15 pm - 3:00 pm	Lunch

Speaker Sessions

A Talk on Nurturing Excellence to Become an Effective Educational Leader



Riffat Sharif

School Leader, School Improvement & Quality Assurance Partner, Trainer, Curriculum Developer

Riffat Sharif is an educationist who carries over 22 years' experience of education sector. She has worked as a Principal, Quality Assurance Partner, Trainer and Curriculum developer, in Pakistan and UAE market. She is a trained and certified educationist and understands the processes and challenges related to the education sector.

As a School Improvement and Quality Assurance Partner, she has implemented the School Improvement framework in seventeen different campuses. Riffat has been involved into a cyclic process of assessment, evaluation, reporting, recommendations, supervision, supporting and monitoring the outcomes based on UAE's KHDA framework.

Session 1: Unveiling Educational Landscapes - A Comparative Analysis of Different Curriculums in Pakistan



Speaker

Iain Riley
Head of School, TNS Beaconhouse, IB Chair of Multi Programme & Synchronized Visit

Moderator

Ghazi Taimur
Adjunct Faculty, LUMS
Ed.M Harvard





Speaker

Salman Shahid
Co-Founder, International School of Lahore & Grey Matter Global

Speaker

Fareed Athar
Regional Development Manager, Pearson



Iain Riley

Iain Riley is the current Head of School at TNS Beaconhouse DHA in Lahore, Pakistan. He previously spent 10 years in Shanghai, China as a Head of school and Programme Coordinator and established a continuum school with the PYP, MYP and DP. He has previously taught in Egypt, Turkey, Japan and his home country of Scotland. Iain holds his Bachelors degree from the University of Edinburgh, his PGCE from the University of Dundee, his Masters from the University of Dundee and the Moreland University, his National Qualification for Headship from UCL and finally his Certificate in Leadership and Management from Harvard University. Iain holds a number of positions with the IB including Chair for multi-programme visits, Evaluation, Programme and Workshop Leader and online facilitator. He is also a Accreditation visitor for the Council of International Schools and the Middle States Association.

Ghazi Taimur

Ghazi Taimoor is a dynamic education leader and learning expert. As the Founding Head of the Professional Education and Policy Engagement Department at the LUMS School of Education, he has pioneered impactful programs like the Executive MPhil Education, Leadership & Management. With a background in both finance and education policy, including a Master's from Harvard University, Ghazi brings a unique perspective to his work. He has shared his insights as a three-time TEDx speaker and advised governmental bodies like the Ministry of Education of Liberia. Ghazi's passion for mentoring startups and nonprofits reflects his commitment to driving positive change across diverse sectors.

Salman Shahid

Salman Shahid is a visionary strategist and education leader. As Co-Founder and Director of Strategy at International School Lahore, and Co-Founder of Grey Matter Global, he shapes educational excellence. With a focus on consultancy and public policy analysis, Salman is dedicated to driving positive change. His multifaceted roles reflect a commitment to long-term impact and crisis management solutions, making him a respected figure in education and beyond.

Fareed Athar

Fareed Athar Shaikh has been working as a regional development manager for Pearson since March 2022 and he is based in Karachi. He works closely with schools across the region to generate awareness about Pearson Edexcel qualifications and provide them with guidance and support on curriculum implementation and assessment. Before joining Pearson, Fareed worked for the British Council for over six years, where he held various roles in exam management, school inspection, teachers training, corporate English solutions, higher education, and Study UK. Fareed has a diverse background in different fields, including industrial development, healthcare, and consumer goods. He holds an MBA degree with a focus on Brand Management from IBA, Karachi.

Session 2: Addressing the Crisis of Mental Health in Schools



Speaker

Zainab Javed

Cofounder & CEO,
The Life Clan



Speaker

Taimur Bandey

Advisor, Ed Tech
Member, National
Commission for Curriculum
Development

Speaker

Tehmina Naeem

School Head, Liberty Campus
Beaconhouse School System



Speaker

Raiha Anees

Student, Nordic
International School



Moderator

Kamil Majeed

Executive Principal & CEO,
Nordic International School



Tehmina Naeem

Tehmina Naeem, School Head at Liberty Campus, Beaconhouse School System, is a distinguished education professional with a Master's degree in Political Science and certifications in Public Policy from the University of Virginia and Education from Bradford University. With a wealth of experience in school leadership, curriculum design, teacher training, and school evaluations, Tehmina is committed to fostering educational excellence. Her leadership approach emphasizes collaboration, team building, student empowerment, and the promotion of a growth mindset culture. Tehmina's dedication to continuous learning and professional development underscores her commitment to creating a nurturing and dynamic learning environment.

Zainab Javed

Zainab has vast experience in the fields of School Administration, HR, Marketing, and Research. She has served as the Head of Administration at Nordic International School Lahore, leading various school departments, devising school policies, and training the staff to meet international best practices. She has also worked as a Research and Marketing Specialist at FINCA Microfinance Bank Limited and as a Research Associate at the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS). In 2022, Zainab Co-Founded The Life Clan, which provides personalized programs to support organizational development and positive mental well-being for individuals, companies, and schools. The Life Clan has worked with esteemed clients such as the European Union, Corteva, and Sunday Times to help them transform their culture and develop high-performing teams..

Raiha Anees

Raiha Anees, a Year 6 student at Nordic International School, is a highly motivated learner with a passion for history and science. Her dedication has earned her accolades such as the Best Delegate Award in Junior MUN and a Silver Medal in the International Kangaroo Linguistic Competition. Alongside her academic achievements, Raiha is also an accomplished basketball player, dancer, and actor. She believes in the importance of academic excellence and determination for success, and is committed to making a positive impact on her community through her unwavering dedication and passion for learning.

Tainmur Bandey

Taimur Bandey is an experienced professional in education and international relations, holding a Master's in International Relations and Political Theory from the UK, along with an MPhil in Political Science. With over 24 years of teaching experience in A Level Economics and leadership roles in education, including as former President of the Debating Society of Pakistan and former Vice Chair of the World Schools Debating Championship, Taimur is a seasoned educator and leader. He currently offers consultancy services for setting up IB schools and programs across Pakistan, advises a leading Edtech company, and contributes as a member of the National Commission for Curriculum Development.

Kamil Majeed

Kamil is a Global Leader who has a wide range of academic, research, and practical experiences in the fields of school leadership, education research & policy, mindful awareness, and corporate trainings. He is currently the Chief Executive Officer and Executive Principal of the Nordic International School in Lahore. He was selected as the best educator of the year at the GESS Awards Dubai 2022, from among 700 of the top educators in the world. He is a Commonwealth Scholar from the UCL Institute of Education (IOE), London, and is certified in Leadership and Policymaking from the Moller Centre at Churchill College - University of Cambridge, UK. He has also served as the Official Coordinator of the United Nations Global Compact for the Lahore, Pakistan Network and helped in the localization of the SDG's in Pakistan.

Session 3: Beyond Brochures: Marketing for Sustainable Educational Operations



Speaker

Aiman Bashir

Co-founder & CEO, Out-Class



Speaker

Anwar Kabir

President & CEO, Brand Spectrum, Founder, The Leaders Network, Adjunct Faculty, LUMS



Moderator

Ammaar Bin Saleem

Head of Marketing, Beaconhouse International Colleges

Aiman Bashir

Aiman Bashir is the CEO and co-founder of Out-Class, an award winning Pakistani EdTech specializing in education for K9-12 Pakistani students. Aiman is one of the leading women entrepreneurs of Pakistan, winning the Standard Chartered Women In Tech Award (2019) and in the same year becoming the Pakistan winner for She Loves Tech Global. Aiman has an MBA from LUMS, and a decade of corporate management experience in top global organizations such as the World Bank, Nestle and Coca-Cola. She turned towards launching her own edtech startup Out-Class, with the dream of giving education an equalizer.

Anwar Kabir

Anwar Kabir is a seasoned Business Leader with 20 years of expertise in Digital and Influencer Marketing, Strategic Public Relations, and Experiential Marketing. As the Founder and CEO of Brand Spectrum, he spearheads innovative, data-driven solutions for clients. Anwar is committed to networking and societal impact, co-founding "The Leaders Network" and serving on prestigious boards like the American Business Forum and LUMS Suleman Dawood School of Business Alumni Association. He is actively involved in education as an Adjunct Faculty at LUMS SDSB and President of its alumni association. Anwar advocates for tech entrepreneurship and human capital development, representing Brand Spectrum at industry forums and contributing to organizations like OPEN Lahore and TiE Islamabad.

Ammaar Bin Saleem

Ammaar Bin Saleem is a seasoned professional with extensive experience in marketing, corporate communications, and education. Currently serving as the Head of Marketing at Beaconhouse International Colleges, he drives strategic initiatives for growth and engagement. Ammaar is also the host of the popular podcast "Outloud with Ammaar," known for its insightful discussions and humor. With nearly a decade of experience and an MBA from the Lahore School of Economics, Ammaar brings a wealth of expertise to his roles.

Session 4: How to Navigate the Landscape of Competitive College Admissions



Speaker

Shanza Noorhasan Khan
Founder, Eye on Ivy

Speaker

Nazia Hashmi
Counselor, Eye on Ivy





Moderator

Taimur Bandey
Advisor, Ed Tech
Member, National Commission for Curriculum Development

Shanza Noorhasan Khan

Shanza Noorhasan is a graduate student in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School, USA. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Emory University, USA, and an Associate of Arts in Business Administration from Mount Marty College, USA. A Summa Cum Laude graduate from Emory University and a Dean's Fellow at the Kennedy School, she was inducted in the Omicron Delta Epsilon International Economic Honor Society and the Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society during her academic career. Her skill sets includes research, policy design, program management, capacity building, strategic planning, intercultural communication and impact assessments. She is passionate about higher education opportunities for Pakistani youth and started an education organization, Eye on Ivy, in 2019 that assists students with identifying their academic passion, building their extracurricular profiles with targeted internships and community service, and guiding through the entire college application process.

Nazia Hashmi

Nazia completed her Bachelors in Economics and Computer Science Engineering from UPENN, and a Masters of Science in Economics from HKUST. She worked at Goldman Sachs on large scale initiatives across New York, Singapore and Hong Kong. In 2021, she moved to Pakistan as Head of Product at Cheetay, one of Pakistan's fastest growing start ups. Nazia has always kept a keen interest in education as well, mentoring and working with students to achieve their goals.

Taimur Bandey

Taimur Bandey is an experienced professional in education and international relations, holding a Master's in International Relations and Political Theory from the UK, along with an MPhil in Political Science. With over 24 years of teaching experience in A Level Economics and leadership roles in education, including as former President of the Debating Society of Pakistan and former Vice Chair of the World Schools Debating Championship, Taimur is a seasoned educator and leader. He currently offers consultancy services for setting up IB schools and programs across Pakistan, advises a leading Edtech company, and contributes as a member of the National Commission for Curriculum Development.

Session 5: Where Does Ed-Tech Stand in Pakistan?



Speaker

Umar Nadeem

Founding Partner, Head of Advisory, Tabadlab

Speaker

M. Fahad Tanveer

Co-Founder, Edkasa





Speaker

Mark Anthony Wile

Executive Vice President, FACTS International

Moderator

Maydda Nabeel

Co-Founder, Alif Aur Art
Project Based Practitioner, Leo's Workshop



Umar Nadeem

Umar Nadeem, Founding Partner and Head of Advisory at Tabadlab, brings extensive experience in both public and private sectors. With a proven track record of leading new initiatives, managing teams, and engaging diverse stakeholders, he excels in driving change and delivering results. Umar's expertise includes program design, performance management, innovation, and digital transformation, making him a valuable asset in driving Tabadlab's success.

M. Fahad Tanveer

Fahad Tanveer, Co-Founder of Edkasa, is a prominent figure in the field of Edtech and education. With a rich academic background from Harvard University and LUMS, coupled with extensive industry experience with Nestle, Telenor Easypaisa, AkzoNobel, and P&G, Fahad brings a unique blend of expertise to the table. He holds a Master of Liberal Arts (ALM) in Extension Studies with a focus on Finance and Financial Management from Harvard University, reflecting his commitment to academic excellence and innovation in the education sector.

Mark Anthony Wile

Mark advocates the positive impact Nelnet's cast of FACTS services can have on today's global schools. These transforming technologies revive and modernize learning communities, enabling K-12 institutions toward vitality and long-term sustainability. An outcropping of best practices elevate real time engagement between the learner and parent, accelerating growth in all facets of the school community. As a previous school head, Mark's quest for better administrative tools initially led him to FACTS. He exhibits a passion for education, and a burning desire to assist schools toward best practice results. This path includes guiding schools toward the adoption of state-of-the-art management tools as they innovate for the future.

Maydda Nabeel

Maydda Nabeel, a graduate in Education Leadership and Management from LUMS, is the driving force behind Alif aur Art. This initiative focuses on creating stress-free, student-centered resources for Urdu language development in classrooms. Currently serving as a project-based practitioner at Leo's Workshop, part of the Future School project by TNS, Maydda cultivates curiosity and innovation as a studio facilitator. With a background as a Program Specialist at LUMS School of Education, she is a multipotentialite and education enthusiast, engaging in academic pursuits such as research, curriculum development, and educational leadership. Maydda's passion lies in crafting safe and healthy education spaces for children in Pakistan.

A Talk on Transformational Leadership



Farah Masood

Chairperson IBPAK &
Principal, Learning
Alliance International

Farah Masood is a seasoned IB practitioner, an established leader, a celebrated linguist and is often deemed as an institution in academic spheres by her mentees. Farah has a legacy of leading a diverse set of teams in a variety of pedagogies including Cambridge International Examination (CAIE), International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) and Kinnaird English Language Trainers' Network (KELT) to name a few. After leading teams in varying pedagogies and training hundreds of teachers over the past three decades, Farah devoted herself to the expansion of the International Baccalaureate and its programmes: owing to her contribution for development of IB in Pakistan and her thought leadership, she is currently leading the IBPAK Association as the Chairperson. Additionally, Farah offers her expertise for national and international ventures such as the Debating Society of Pakistan, National Curriculum Council, IELTS and various other avenues of teacher development and well-being. She harbors a global footprint of being a valuable resource as a workshop leader, conference presenter and a policy expert for a wide variety of national and international organizations. She contributes regularly to avenues of teacher, schools and skill development for a wide populace. Farah is known as an advocate of learner autonomy, a connoisseur of teacher agency and a champion of empathy-driven leadership. As a go-getter who stands for various social causes within and beyond Pakistan, Farah, till date remains an agent of transformation.

About Our Sponsor - FACTS

FACTS is a dedicated and reliable educational organization, making dreams come true for students and families in Pakistan and Bangladesh. With a wide range of school management services, including student information systems, learning management systems, and admissions solutions, FACTS ensures smooth operations for schools. Their partnership with the Educator's Community further empowers school leaders and teachers through professional development and provides essential technology solutions to support education in South Asia.

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Our Collaborators

About - Eye on Ivy

Eye on Ivy is a registered consultancy firm, in the US and Pakistan, that offers strategic advice and guidance on the admissions process to a wide variety of programs abroad. They use a proprietary, carefully developed Strategic Personalized Approach to help students and families navigate the complex world of admissions. Their work focuses on the three intertwined areas of

1. College admissions for both undergraduates and graduates,
2. Profile-building with a focus on 9th to 11th Graders and
3. Access to international competitions to build your profile for college admissions.

As the Country Partner for many international organizations such as The Future Problem-Solving Program International, Southeast Asian Mathematical Olympiad, Bulgarian Creative Writing Competition, Peace First and the Caribou Cup, Eye on Ivy takes pride in providing access to opportunities not just to its own students but any interested Pakistani student. Reflecting on their collective journey, they have identified an opportune moment for a transformative move in 2024. Eye on Ivy believes that their international contests, summer programs, and academic initiatives have evolved to a point where they can thrive as a distinct brand—AcademicQuests. While still under the umbrella of Eye on Ivy, AcademicQuests has a distinct identity, logo, webpage, and social media channels.

Celebrating achievements and recognition:

1. Career Guidance Startup of the Year, 2019
2. Governor's Award (Punjab), 2021 awarded to Ms. Shanza Khan, CEO Eye on Ivy
3. 101 Incredible Women CEOs of Pakistan: Ms. Shanza Khan, CEO Eye on Ivy

Eye on Ivy has a proven track record with acceptances to Ivy League universities and top universities world over . In the 2022-2023 admissions cycle alone, there have been 406 admissions and 150 scholarships offered to students with total scholarships amounting to more than $12 million.

Eye on Ivy believes in forming partnerships with a plethora of public, private and non-profit institutes all with an 'eye' on benefiting our students! These partnerships open a vast array of opportunities for students, most of which were not there to begin with. Eye on Ivy will negotiate with organizations to do so, especially in places where it feels students will benefit. Their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) serves as a means of strengthening the organizational relationship and building a more robust strategic alliance. The MoU recognizes the similarities between the two organizations in terms of aims and values and sets out mechanisms by which this alliance can be mutually beneficial.

Website: www.eyeonivy.com

About - The Life Clan

The Life Clan provides tailored programs to support organizational development and personal well-being for individuals, companies, and schools. They specialize in designing and delivering transformational programs related to Team-Building, Effective Communication, Leadership, Personal Effectiveness, Women Empowerment, and building a positive school culture. They have worked with esteemed clients such as the European Union, Corteva, Sunday Times, and Nordic International School Lahore, and they were selected as a Finalist for the GESS Awards Dubai 2023 in the category of "Best Product for Well-being."

About - Edkasa

Edkasa Private Limited is one of Pakistan's most prominent education technology (edtech) platform. It was founded in 2017, and operates across the education and technology sectors. Edkasa's mission is to enable successful learning outcomes through its high-quality online learning experiences available to all students across the country.

Edkasa is being widely and rapidly adopted, with over 500,000 downloads of its mobile application, and over 1 billion views of its education content.

Edkasa has built upon successful collaborations with local and international organizations that include Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), TikTok, YouTube, USAID, UKAID DFID, Telenor, Sindh Education Foundation, Punjab Rural Support Program, and several others.

Edkasa

About - Tabadlab

Tabadlab is a think tank and advisory services firm that focuses on improving outcomes and delivering impact. It does this through a holistic and robust approach to tackle socio-economic challenges in the 21st century. The organisation's mission is to understand, build, and sustain ecosystems for better decision-making. In doing so, it enables leaders, firms, and institutions to achieve better outcomes for all.

Tabadlab works with a wide spectrum of stakeholders including governments, businesses, development partners, non-profits, and leaders that are invested in a prosperous, sustainable, and equitable future for people, communities, countries, and regions. Tabadlab's ideology is anchored in the passion to understand, interpret, and analyse how change happens and to be able to affect positive change in the contexts it operates in.

TABADLAB

About - Pearson

Pearson is the world's leading learning company and the UK's largest awarding body. They are regulated by Ofqual (England), SQA Accreditation (Scotland), CCEA Accreditation (Northern Ireland) and Qualifications Wales (Wales). They offer academic and vocational qualifications that are globally recognised and benchmarked, with educational excellence rooted in names like Edexcel and BTEC.

Pearson Edexcel has set the standard for worldwide recognised qualifications, built on the UK educational system and accepted by universities worldwide, for more than 150 years. iProgress is their complete series for 3 to 19 year-olds for international schools. The iProgress family includes iPrimary, iLowerSecondary, International GCSE, GCSE, International A-level (IAL), and UK A-level, and delivers a consistent learning journey for students and teachers, everywhere in the world. As the UK's largest awarding organisation, Pearson Edexcel is best placed to provide qualifications that are recognised as being most closely aligned with the British educational system.

Pearson

Past Events

Empowering Educators

The Educators Community has been at the forefront of empowering educators through a series of dynamic events aimed at enhancing teaching practices and fostering innovation in education. Our inaugural online event, Empowering Educators, held on 24th and 25th July 2023, marked a significant milestone in our journey. With sessions covering diverse topics such as Artificial Intelligence in Education, Marketing Strategies to Boost Admissions at Your School, Successful Leadership, and Profile Building & College Admissions, educators from around the globe gathered virtually to exchange knowledge, strategies, and insights.

Sparking Educators

Building on the momentum of our previous events, the Sparking Educators Event, held online on 11th and 12th January 2024, ignited fresh ideas and perspectives in the educational landscape. With sessions focusing on Entrepreneurship Education, Collaborative Learning Communities, and Connecting Mathematical Concepts to Everyday Life, educators were equipped with practical strategies to foster critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills in their students. The event underscored our commitment to continuous learning and professional development, empowering educators to thrive in an ever-evolving educational landscape.

Inspiring Educators

Following the success of our online debut, the Inspiring Educators Event took place on 16th September 2023 at the prestigious Avari Towers in Karachi. This event provided a platform for educators to delve deeper into key areas of pedagogy and leadership. Sessions on Inclusive Education, Integrating STEAM & PBL, Educational Innovation, Leading with Kindness, and Developing Future-Ready Skills resonated with passionate educators dedicated to creating inclusive and innovative learning environments.











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