

From the desk of Educationists

Verda Y.B.

What's Your Genre?

The Theme

The 5th Annual Colloquia organized by TMUC Head Office opened on Thursday, 11th March, 2021 and culminated successfully on Saturday, 13th March, 2021 in the city of Margallas - Islamabad, the capital territory of Pakistan. The three-day event encompassed learning by doing in its truest spirit and fondest of zest.

The hundred delegates from five cities belonging to the three regions of Pakistan convened under one vision of the CEO, Dr. Faisal Mushtaq (TI). The name 'Colloquia' was coined not only to denote a consortium of academic conference or seminar but a colossal vision of change by the CEO himself. His vision primarily talks about placing values in the right place - ideally in coherence with the organization's demand.

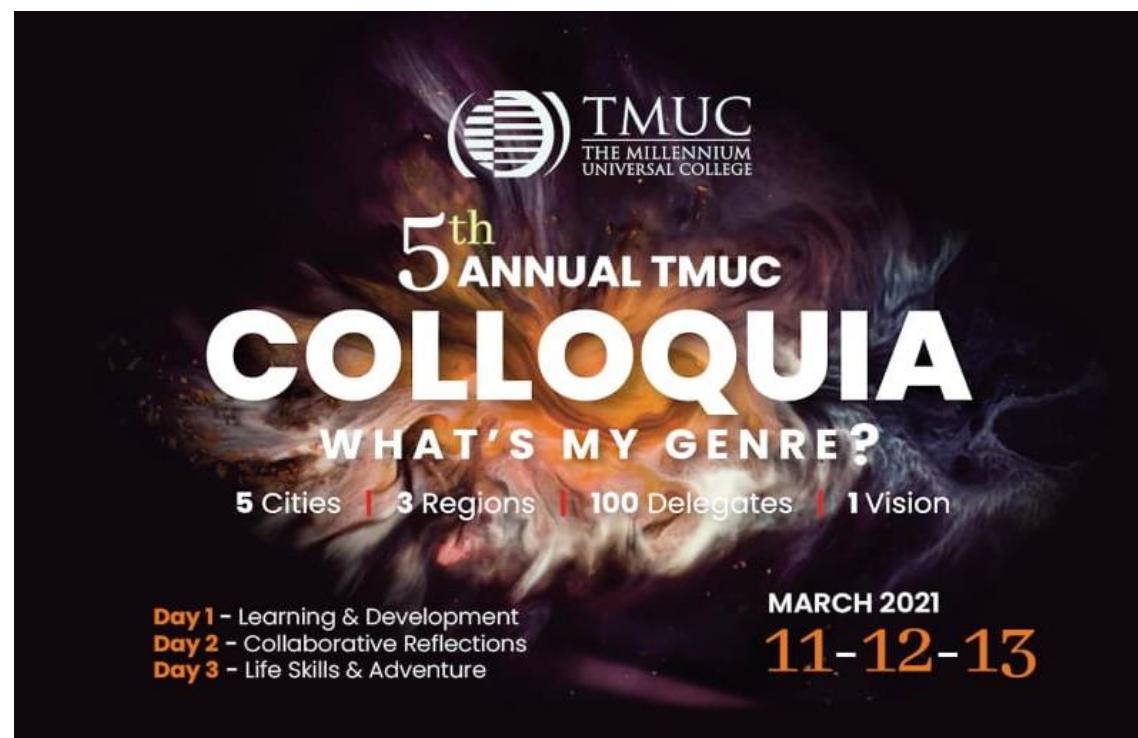
He educated about 'Duality' being a state of mind that is the opposite of reality in which one finds himself dividing everything into right and wrong, good and bad, etc., disregarding the grey zones that hold the reality of life and often define the purpose of it. He advised the delegates to let go of notions of toxicity and encourage an environment that flourishes itself. He built onto the concept of being agents of one's own wellbeing by adding purpose to everyday deliverables. From commenting on punctuality to discourse over checking emails, he reinforced the need for a professional regime to carry out daily tasks and never falter in operations.

During the entire dais time, the CEO applauded and praised outstanding performers, encouraged city wise campus administrations, and raised concerns where necessary, inviting solutions to better TMUC provision.



Duality is essentially the state of separation – it is the opposite of reality, and it is the cause of all suffering. Duality is the product of the mind. In duality, we essentially "split" or divide life into "right/wrong," "good/bad," "pretty/ugly," "holy/sinful," "love/hate," and so forth. As a result, our lives become centered around judgement, condemnation, and fear.

<https://medium.com/live-your-life-on-purpose/how-to-leverage-the-paradox-of-duality-to-add-more-meaning-and-efficiency-to-life-59e3830a0b2d>



COLLOQUIA: 5th Annual TMUC Colloquia

Third Space Professionals

Know your genre.

The Dean Kholah Yaruq Malik identified the theme to define 'who we are, what are we made of and what are we capable of.' While it was a tricky theme to decipher, it was surely one that clearly reinstated our purpose with the organization. She mentioned how learning and taking strengths from each other could lead to success together and realizing our own responsibilities towards our role without insecurities and stringent boundaries of job descriptions would always guarantee success.

She educated on key terms that states our positing as professionals in the educational market alongside recommending the delegates to participate in forums such as TNE HUB, etc. She identified the caption of 'Third Space Professionals' to our roles being a part of Transnational Education and defined the role of 'Boundary Spanners'.

Ms. Kholah Yaruq shed light on the future of Transnational Education and the struggle behind HEC accreditations, learning partner feasibilities and the indication of numbers that grew with time confirming the growing awareness about TNE in Pakistan.

The Quality and Compliance sessions were elaborated upon the paradigm of collaborative provision by Ms. Amna Salik, Director Quality Assurance. The sessions were true depiction of a true professional training the delegates based on substance and its application – indeed a session that kept delegates constructively engaged.

Raza Ali Soomro pulled the crowd together by Kahoot! Quizzes and by introducing TMUC's Qualtrix platform – a repository-based solution.

He rightly complimented the entire effort of 3 days 'a team building exercise'. Ameer Haider, HOI TMUC KHI, felt there were tremendous take-aways, specially where he and his team would specially contemplate over 'Who they are?' as a reflective exercise. He believes that the Colloquia made us all acquaint with each other and induced fervour.

One common denominator, aptly pointed out by Madam Sarina Shirazi, Head of Dept. of Business Studies, was to have met every member of the team via Colloquia. Her Research Article exercise was widely popular on the 2nd day of the 3-day event.

Ms. Shahida Kazmi beautifully encapsulated the entire 3-day engagement as an 'integration or work values and human values' while Ms. Noorulain Zafar appreciated 'having met the entire team in person'.

'The team that loses together – wins together!'

- Kholah Yaruq Malik, Dean

All in all, each member vouched for Colloquia 2021 to be the most engaging one. All delegates were extremely grateful to the Executive Management and DHRM, TMUC.

Motivational Jalianwala & More

Programme Specific Sessions and Engagement by Departments.

After careful contemplation on our respective departmental challenges, expectations, way forward and solutions – a reflective exercise by Ms. Shahida Kazmi, Director DHRM, the delegates were educated about the trajectory of student recruitment numbers over the years by Ms. Amina Imtiaz, Head of Admissions and MARCOM. The discussion entailed admissions and partnership targets and clear involvement of academic staff in student recruitment.

Mr. Shahzad Sikandar, discoursed regarding vertical growth and horizontal expansion across TMUC campuses and ROI based marketing. It was an interesting engagement that ignited responses from all TMUC members. We look forward to benefitting from his contribution to the TMUC network.

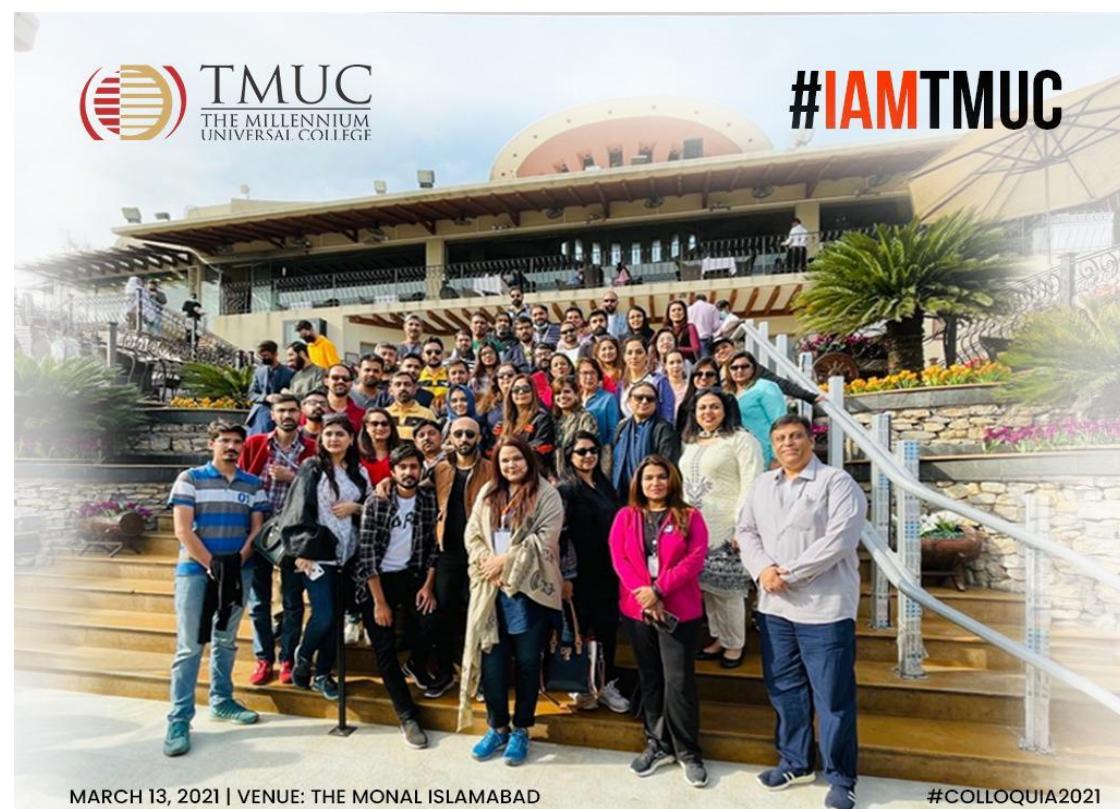
Umair Jalianwala's motivational session strum some delicate strings in everyone's heart. He was unequivocally balanced when it came to connecting spirituality with the worldly deliverables. He made sure the crowd was following his reflection of 'The Chimp Paradox', a book by Steve Peters, which is precisely a *Mind Management Programme to Help You Achieve Success, Confidence and Happiness*. Umair taught us to exclude the negativities and tame our ego to serve a bigger purpose, a connection reinforced about the concept of duality earlier made by the CEO.

Day 2 of Colloquia '21 majorly comprised of calibrated sessions of academic programmes. Departments participated in groups to deliberate upon problems, possible solutions and their impacts. Departments presented their group work in front of the TMUC delegates.



This was a practice to create synergy and apprise about mutual and exclusive problems that departments face. DHRM & QA noted all areas of concerns to revert to.

All in all, Day 2 comprised of a lot of action and on groundwork. It was a perfect way to put all the birds of a feather together and in some cases a blend of all different entities to plan and execute.



Team TMUC, delegates from 5 cities after Lunch at The Monal Restaurant, Islamabad.

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Colossal Learning Outcomes

Individuals with a Collective Identity - TMUC

- ✓ Authenticity is yet another concept to define us. It portrays reliability of and integrity with our provision.
- ✓ We are a transition from linear thinking to dynamic and robust one, we all need to be adaptive to evolve accordingly.
- ✓ We all need to develop new Skills alongside sensitivity to be an inclusive TNE Providing institute.
- ✓ Anybody can be trained for skills but hiring must be done based on the candidate's attitude.
- ✓ We need to be resource intensive to embark the road to successful TNE engagement.
- ✓ Together we make the difference and flourish.
- ✓ Growth is for those who defy lurking inside JD trap and go beyond to add value to the system.
- ✓ Succession planning means empowering others also and sharing knowledge to benefit mutually.

#COLLOQUIA2021

Conclusion to Colloquia

Team building & Farewell

Colloquia Day 3 proved to be the most appropriate culmination of the 2-day engagement at the TMUC headquarters. Delegates gathered in the green grounds of Gulberg Greens TME campus for team building exercises. Teams were formed via yet another game, landing all delegates making new acquaintances and working together to complete interesting game tasks.

A lot of laughter, mess ups, retrials and some suntan embraced all TMUCians while they were making memories together, a chance they get once in a year to mingle with nationwide colleagues. At one point they even exasperated the *Youth Impact* lead with their 'Groove' for all who witnessed it, know what I am referring to.



The drive to Monal Restaurant was an uphill task for the vehicles, literally. The eyes savoured the view, and the stomach feasted some great food from Islamabad cuisine. All delegates bade farewell to each other with some great enthusiasm to take back home.

TMUCians experienced 3 days with their leaders in person, who simply conveyed a message to them to benefit in life, not just at TMUC; 'Know your Genre', that could be translated into Greek philosophers' theories of Plato, Socrates; 'Know Thyself'.