

TMUC Year of the *Tiger* – Catch 2022



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When I reminisce and look back at the year 2021, I can feel all the feelings we all may have felt. Locked down, unwell, multitasked, virus, loss, void, family, importance of togetherness, resilience, struggle, hope, discovery, innovation, rebuilding, languishing; we went through an entire spectrum of emotions sometimes all of them together. But those of us that survived – persevered.

TMUC lost one of its closest friend and ally 'Madam Safia' the team had a vacuum that needed to be filled. Team felt at a loss and friends grieved immensely. But the beauty of Leadership is to strive through, pause, empathise and quickly adapt to the now for the future. It's the storm that tests your mettle and resolve. At TMUC we see ourselves peering through 2022 only because of the team members, colleagues that had the empathy and tenacity to support each other to rise up to the roles that no job description included, exhausting all remits we all gave our 100% to the efforts and mantle of the vision she had set.

The feeling we deserve to feel and be allowed to say out loud is gratified- proud and all such synonyms that come to play across this theme. There is a dire need to be elevated. To be Happy. Give yourself a pat on the back and smile.

The year 2022 is the year of the tiger in the Chinese calendar and taking from this theme. TMUC team should emulate all its qualities, strength, agility, leadership, poise, and grace, magnificence, quick on its feet and most important, to use your weight to do the right thing.

Consider this - you are here when so many are not, you are alive and well. You have the gift of time and resources. Value your time here, use it well. What you do impacts the lives of your learners you are here for the larger good. Re-ignite your passion, find your passion if somehow you have lost it along the way.

Some lessons I have learnt in the past few months in the year 2021:

- Be sure that you are on the right side of things, fear no one. No one. Identify your roadblocks accept that there will be people that bring negativity and negative energies. Just ensure you are not that one person that spreads negativity. Identify the bully in the room, stand up to him/her. You will not be able to live with your older self if you do not.
- Remember to have fun. No amount of bad day, work, or person should damper your joy. **Be the driver of your own joy.**
- Learn to accept that you are not perfect and that you will falter, and you will need help. Asking for help is not a sign of weakness it's a sign that you are self-aware.
- No one can help you like you will. Continuous development both professionally and as a person should be your top priority. If you are competent and humble about it, you will find less opposition.
- If there is something wrong – find yourself being the one coming up with the solutions, **do not be a part of the crib fest.**
- Invest in yourself. You are the ammunition you will need. Equip yourself with all kinds of ammo.
- Surround yourself with people that challenge you, **mediocrity is no longer in fashion.**
- Everything has a shelf life including you. Know that, live like that.
- Smile. Often.
- Breathe.

Happy New Year TMUC team, 2022 is the year to move forward, grow and build – together. Find the Tiger in you and ROAR!!

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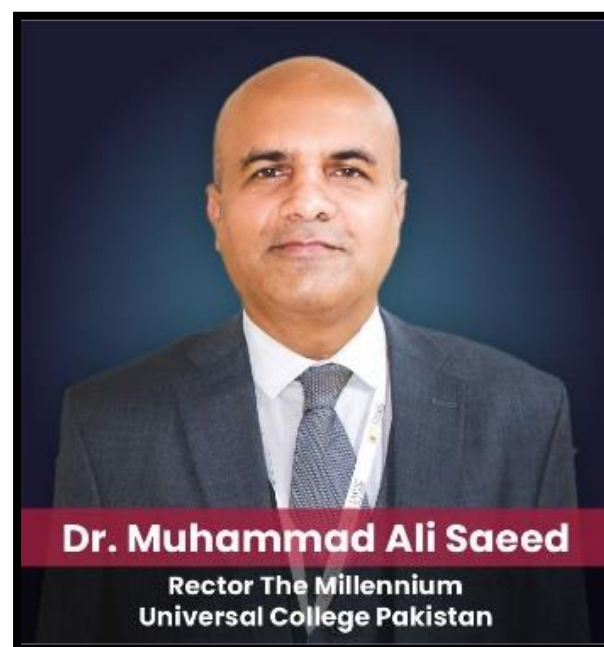
Welcoming New Year 2022 With Renewed Goals!

The Millennium Universal College, Pakistan fraternity warmly welcomes Dr. Muhammad Ali Saeed as Rector TMUC, Pakistan. He is a PhD. Economics University of Leicester and MSc. International Economics and Public Policy Cardiff Business School UK.

In 2005, He joined Higher Education Commission (HEC), looking after the digital library program and HEC/British Council Higher Education links programme. While at HEC, he conducted faculty capacity building trainings in over 40 Universities across Pakistan. After serving HEC for 2 years, he joined Bahria University in 2006 as Director Career/DSA.

In 2012, he elevated in ranks as Head of the Management Sciences Department. His last appointment was at Bahria University as Principal Bahria Business School with 200 plus faculty members, 4 UG, 8 PG and 2 PhD programmes.

He has also served as Director Academics Bahria University with 18,000 students across four campuses in Pakistan. He has also served in University of Nizwa Oman for a year.



Dr. M. Ali Saeed is a Peer Reviewer and a Mentor for National Business Education and Accreditation Council HEC and a Reviewer of HEC MS/MPHIL/PhD programs. He has 15 publications in International and National Peer Reviewed Journals. Additionally, he organised and participated in many International Conferences.

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Student Engagement in a Post-Covid World



Author: Noor Ul Ain Zafer, Head of Department Professional Qualifications, Career Development Center & Student Engagement, TMUC Pakistan

With the last two years effecting the education sector the most, we see an even greater importance of engaging with students. Studies have shown that the remote learning has made students become more passive, have a lesser sense of social belonging and feel disengaged from their learning. In addition to this student motivation and morale has taken a nosedive. This levies even more responsibility on institutions to understand these effects and address these student achievement gaps the isolation has caused to students.

As a response to the above, what we have realized is that student engagement remains important to learning and achievement both. It not only motivates the students but also provides teachers an opportunity to innovate their student engagement regimes.



So now the big question is: How do we improve student engagement in higher education? Addressing the post pandemic learning loss, experts suggest using various models of student engagement. A **teacher driven model** ensures that there is a dynamic, high-energy direct instruction with interesting and/or relatable content. Challenging students with high-intensity questions and allowing for discourse is also recommended.

A **student driven model** involves limited direct instruction which is mainly used to set up the learning task via academic teaming. This ensures that the teacher focuses on creating challenging, interesting tasks that require students to engage with peers whilst the students take a lead to brainstorm on perspectives as they deem fit.

TMUC ACCELERATE

With TMUC Accelerate, our vision is to find the best fit between the teacher and student driven model and focus on building professional capacities of our students. TMUC Accelerate focuses on building specific career competencies, including analytical and critical thinking, applied problem solving, ethical reasoning and decision making, oral and written communication, teamwork and leadership, engaging diversity, active citizenship and community engagement, digital literacy, career management, and professionalism and work ethic.

For more information on this email cdc@tmuc.edu.pk

Helping Others and Learning Something New!



Author: Amna Salik, Head of Quality Assurance, TMUC Pakistan

*‘Things of quality have no fear of time.’
(anonymous)*

As I grow older, this quote resonates even deeper to all my beliefs as a professional, especially in the context of new resolves and new beginnings. What

this means is that whenever I have vested my energy and effort into **learning something new** or in **helping others**, it has made me think beyond time barriers and helped me become a better professional. I consider this as my journey to self-actualization – recognising my own strengths and areas for improvement and garnering these to the work I do. I always ask myself: do I need to mould myself to be what others want me to be, or do I use my strengths to achieve set objectives? This was not a discovery that I made overnight but through nearly three-decades of working with many professionals in varying scenarios.

As an educator, I recognise that I have a frightful level of influence on lives of others and in this fast-paced digital world, with all the uncertainty COVID has created in our lives, the level of likely influence has increased manifold. Do we blaze on from growing student numbers, to dashing through course completion, and one graduation event to another? Or do we actually consider each learner’s needs, qualities and think of the value-added contribution to his/ her student life? The latter is easy enough to achieve once we stop thinking of work milestones as a list of deliverables and targets.

So, my advice to all colleagues is: Resolve to invest in others, be it your professional peers or your students. Bring in the ‘human’ element. Pace yourself – think of how you are actually **helping others**.



And, very importantly, do NOT stop **learning**. Learning only happens when we use our basic instincts of **observation** and **listening**. Sadly, I have seen many individuals who do not listen but rush to say what they think and know, in a race to prove themselves to be better or experts. Reflective thinking stems from active listening and deep observation. Again, humanize learning. It is like a muscle – practise it. Every time you are about to say something, pause in your head to consider do you know everything and have you taken into account others’ points of view, values, etc.

Therefore, does another new year, i.e., 2022 harken new beginnings or is it a mere change of calendar date? One could argue and make a case for either of the stance, but I do feel that a ‘new year’ most definitely reminds us to reflect on the year past and gives an opportunity to resolve and do things differently – create ripples of change by **helping others** and **learning something new!**

I wish you all a successful, quality year ahead.

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