



NDIE Annual Review – 2023

As we reflect on an eventful year, this edition captures the milestones, achievements, and vibrant moments that shaped our journey. From insightful CPD sessions and inspiring guest speakers to student contributions and faculty research, NDIE continues to thrive as a hub of learning and growth. Join us in celebrating the dedication and spirit of our community as we look forward to another year of excellence and innovation!

Director's Message

Each issue is a reflection of the commitment, creativity, and collective efforts of our community. As we continue our journey, we remain dedicated to fostering an environment of learning, growth, and collaboration. I encourage you to read through these pages with pride, knowing that every success featured here is the result of shared passion and dedication.

I am grateful to all staff, students, and partners who contribute tirelessly to making our vision a reality. Together, we will continue to move forward with hope, purpose, and determination.



Dr. Sherwin Rodrigues

Inside, we explore...

- ✨ Feast Day Celebrations – Honoring traditions and togetherness
- 🌅 Morning Assemblies – Inspiring reflections and student voices
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- 📅 CPD Sessions – Lifelong learning for educators



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Morning Assemblies



Students Advocate Social Justice Through Art

students exhibited thought-provoking posters highlighting critical social challenges. Their display emphasized the impact of issues like peace education, multiculturalism, gender equality, human rights, and child labor on education. Through powerful visuals, they showcased the deep connection between societal struggles and learning. Their advocacy reflected awareness of global affairs and underscored the urgency for inclusive, holistic solutions. The event served as a call to action for a more just and equitable educational landscape.



World Mental Health Day

As educators, we recognize the importance of mental well-being—not only for ourselves but for our student-teachers who shape the future of education. Our B.Ed Elementary 21 group led discussions on understanding emotions, anxiety, depression, and anger management, emphasizing that seeking help is a strength. The session highlighted the need for strong social support systems and self-care. It was inspiring to see future educators engage in this crucial conversation.



Illuminating Diversity: NDIE Celebrates Diwali



This assembly at NDIE exuded a vibrant celebration of diversity as Arthi, from the B.Ed Secondary 23 group, passionately shared the essence of Diwali, narrating its history and an inspiring tale from her religious scripture. The gathering culminated in a collective sparkler lighting on the rooftop, symbolizing the triumph of good over evil. Arthi's engaging presentation fostered mutual understanding and respect among students, reflecting NDIE's inclusive and nurturing environment, where cultural exchanges are cherished and celebrated.





Celebrating Legacy: NDIE Day

Since October 1, 1991, Notre Dame Institute of Education has been a beacon of education and learning for over three decades. The morning assembly was abuzz with excitement as B.Ed. 4 yrs. Cohort 2021 organized a quiz that not only tested one's knowledge of NDIE's history and achievements but also brought out the competitive spirit in both students and faculty. It was a fun way to pay homage to the institute's rich heritage. Laughter and nostalgia filled the assembly room as stories of friendships, inspiring teachers, and memorable moments were shared.

Teachers' Day – Honoring Educators

On October 5th, Notre Dame Institute of Education (NDIE), an institute dedicated to preparing future teachers, celebrated International Teachers' Day with a heartwarming event that showcased the deep appreciation for educators. Teachers were treated to one-liners, a touching video with personalized titles, a fun game, and poetry dedicated to each of them. Memories were shared, and words of wisdom were exchanged, strengthening the bonds within the educational community. In a touching finale, students presented cards to their teachers, symbolizing the mutual respect that forms the foundation of learning and teaching.



The Timeless Art of Storytelling



From ancient traditions to modern classrooms, storytelling has woven itself into the fabric of human connection. The prospective teachers at NDIE showcased their storytelling prowess as they unveiled a tapestry of engaging techniques. From storyboards to role play and pantomime, their creativity illuminated the room. Here is to these future teachers, weaving narratives that not only educate but also inspire. May they carry this zeal and passion into the world of teaching, making a lasting impact on young minds!





The Latest Marketing Strategies You Should Try This Year

Today at NDIE, students explored social studies through hands-on learning, creating models that highlighted global issues. Divided into two groups, they tackled environmental challenges like the Greenhouse effect and global warming, alongside social topics such as human rights and multiculturalism. Their innovative approach made complex subjects tangible and engaging, sparking thought-provoking discussions on

the interconnectedness of environmental and social issues. It was inspiring to see future educators embrace active learning to shape a better world. Kudos to our students for their insightful perspectives!

Embracing the Spirit of Advent

Our incredible students came together to delve into the essence of the season, reflecting on the timeless values of hope, faith, joy, and love. Each person pondered what these values mean to them and explored tangible ways to practice them in their daily lives.

The highlight of the day was our cherished Chriskindle tradition! Students drew chits to secretly pray for and surprise someone with a heartfelt gift until Christmas. The anticipation is building as we embark on this beautiful journey of spreading love and joy during this magical season.

Let's continue to foster a sense of community, kindness, and connection as we count down the days to Christmas!



Guest Speaker



Philosophy in Education

Reflecting on an inspiring assembly at Notre Dame Institute of Education on December 20th! We were honored to host Mr. Shahid Kanji, a distinguished philosophy educator affiliated with various universities and an esteemed member of ITREB Karachi. His thought-provoking session left the audience with a deeper appreciation for the role of philosophy in education.

The heart of the discussion revolved around the profound connection between philosophy and education. Mr. Kanji eloquently explained how philosophical ideas serve as a guiding force in optimizing

student development, shaping pedagogical approaches, and fostering a reflective teaching mindset. His insights encouraged educators to integrate philosophical inquiry into their classrooms to promote deeper engagement and understanding.

The session also emphasized the practical application of philosophical principles in education. Mr. Kanji highlighted how philosophy nurtures critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and intellectual curiosity—essential skills for both educators and students. He urged teachers to encourage questioning, dialogue, and self-reflection, transforming the learning process into an interactive and thought-provoking experience.

The session concluded with an engaging Q&A, where students and faculty members posed insightful questions about the relevance of philosophy in today's fast-evolving educational landscape. It was a truly enriching experience, leaving everyone inspired to embrace philosophical perspectives as a powerful tool for enhancing education.



NDIE Students' Double Achievement



ARWA RAHIM

POSITION HOLDERS



AYESHA AYAZ

Notre Dame Institute of Education (NDIE) is very proud of its B.Ed (Hons) 2022 students – *Ms. Arwa Rahim and Ms. Ayesha Ayaz* – who secured the *First and the Second positions*, respectively, in the University of Karachi annual examination. This fantastic double achievement is an honour and a matter of great pride for NDIE. We congratulate both Arwa Rahim and Ayesha Ayaz on their well-deserved accomplishments and pray that they may continue to shine in their future endeavours.



Honoring Our Graduates



To honor the achievements of our graduates, NDIE organized a special get-together, for the B.Ed. Elementary 2019 and B.Ed. Secondary 2021 cohorts. The event was a beautiful blend of nostalgia, celebration, and appreciation, marking the end of their journey at NDIE.

The evening featured engaging performances, including dance, poetry recitations, and fun games, creating an atmosphere of joy and togetherness. Graduates and faculty shared heartfelt memories, reminiscing about their experiences and the bonds formed over the years. As a token of appreciation, titles, mementoes, and certificates were awarded to the outgoing students, recognizing their dedication and accomplishments. Faculty members offered words of encouragement, inspiring them for the journey ahead.

The celebration concluded with group photography, capturing these cherished moments, followed by a delightful lunch, bringing everyone together one last time in a spirit of camaraderie. Congratulations to our graduates!



Research Spotlight

From Ideas to Impact- Dissemination of my Research Work Munir Lalani

NDIE encourages building research culture and encourages its faculty to contribute to the body of knowledge and practices by conducting research work and to disseminate it to benefit the broader educational community.

In 2023, I disseminated my research work in the areas of “teacher education” and “Sunday Schools” by presenting at research conferences and publication. I acknowledge the support and encouragement I received from the NDIE management, my teachers from AKU-IED and my colleagues throughout presentation and publication process.

In the area of teacher education, I presented a total 2 papers in the research conferences.

Conference Research Paper	Conference Title
Beyond Paper-Pencil Assessments in a Teacher Education Programme By Munir Lalani & Gillian Rodrigues	Preparing Teachers for the 21 st Century: Synergies & Challenges, Government Elementary College of Education
Teacher-Education- Bridging Theory & Practice By Munir Lalani	Global Conference of Research on Education & Social Sciences, SZABIST

My research work titled “Exploring the Contribution of B.Ed. (Hons) Programme in Preparing Prospective Educators for their Professional Roles” was published in the “Journal of Education and Educational Development” (HEC Recognized, Y Category Journal).

The findings disseminated in the conference presentations and paper publication provided insights into the key challenges and opportunities for the students and faculty of B.Ed. Hons programme. At the institutional level, this research has particularly helped in enriching the components of action research and teaching practice in the light of its recommendations.

With regards to my personal research work in Sunday Schools, I presented a total 2 papers in 2023.

Conference Research Paper	Conference Title
Education for Peacebuilding – Case Study in the Christian Sunday Schools of Karachi By Munir Lalani, Dr. Sarfaroze Niyozov & Aster Sardar	Global Conference of Research on Education & Social Sciences, SZABIST
Going beyond Liturgical Literacy- Case Study in the context of a Sunday School in Karachi By Munir Lalani	2nd International Conference on Education: Sustainable Development Goals 4- Quality Education, IoBM.

Besides contributing to the academic discourse, the findings presented in the conferences provided insights to the teachers and researchers on how religious education can be tailored to promote peace building and in shaping positive socio-religious identity of adolescents in the context of Karachi.



Joys of 2023

Fozia Gulab

The greatest joy of the year 2023 was publication of two research articles.

The first article was published in the Journal of Education and Educational Development (JoEED) which is a double-blind peer reviewed journal. The title of the article was “Going the extra mile: A multisite case study of two private schools in Pakistan” This study explored the perceptions of administrators, teachers and students of secondary schools in Karachi-Pakistan regarding the strategies adopted by the schools to exhibit care for the learning of students. The study findings reveal that schools have adopted various strategies to facilitate and support students’ learning. However, the primary focus seems to be on cognitive development, often at the expense of paying adequate attention to physical, social, and emotional development. Hence the study suggests that assumed and expressed needs of students in areas other than the cognitive domain should be considered pivotal by the school for a safe and peaceful society. The study also suggests that the application of care in a practical sense is the need of the times and should be made a systemic reality for all schools in Pakistan

The second article was published in Pakistan Journal of Educational Research and Evaluation (PJERE) which is an open-access, blind peer reviewed journal. The title of the article published in this journal was “Caring Teachers Ignite Learning: Case Study of a Private School in Karachi” The purpose of this study was to explore the perspectives of the stakeholders of a private school in Karachi – Pakistan regarding the attributes of teachers who care for the learning of students. The study was qualitative in nature. The findings of the study state that various stakeholders have their own perspectives of characteristics of caring teachers depending on their roles, responsibilities, needs and interests. However, the caring attribute of teachers fall between the two dimensions of ethics of care, namely, engrossment and motivational displacement influencing the learning of students. This study offers suggestive evidence for making continuous effort to incorporate the ethics of care as an integral part of Pakistani schools as a positive means to improve the learning process and outcome.

My research interest generally revolve around ethics and morality in education and teacher education. I believe it’s important for educational fraternity to model values (e.g. trustworthiness, empathy, responsibility, cooperation) in their interaction with each other and foster them in students for informed decision making to contribute in building a harmonious and just society.



Three times – A Hat Trick? 2023 and my Bit of Knowledge Generation

Gillian Ann Rodrigues



2023 has, like other years, thrown a couple of good curve balls at my plans of making an entry in the publish or perish world of academia, yet I feel elated and tad bit accomplished to have taken my baby steps in this world through my hat trick of research presentations at international conferences in the year.

The year began with a joint presentation of an institutional research proposal at the Durbeen conference. Munir Lalani, a colleague at NDIE, and I jointly presented a paper titled “Beyond paper-pencil assessments in a teacher education programme.”

The presentation disseminated to the education fraternity at Durbeen, NDIE’s use of a wide spectrum of assessment techniques from conventional paper pencil examination to alternative and more contemporary assessment techniques such as reflective journals, inquiry projects, field visits and soft board displays, etc. The presentation included perceived gains, contribution to holistic development and the fostering of more positive and less anxious attitudes to assessment in general. Around the mid of the year I made another research presentation at the international conference at SZABIST on an institutional study on “Exploring factors contributing to the performance of students of a teacher education programme in external exams: A case study” which explored of the challenges faced by prospective teachers at the external examinations in general and for struggling students in particular. This study helped to endorse the need and practice of support mechanisms to facilitate teaching and learning so that each student may succeed. The year that was 2023 closed for me with a third presentation at an international conference at IOBM where I presented the findings of yet another study on teacher educators experience of oppression and privilege: a phenomenological study. The study highlighted the essence of teacher educators’ experiences of privilege and oppression and the intricacies involved therein. Besides these research presentations, I am indebted to NDIE for the opportunity to engage in a Women’s Leadership Academy training programme aimed to develop women leaders in civil society in Pakistan. Further, I participated at the 12 AKU-IED international conference in the capacity of co-chair of parallel sessions. This was my debut in chairing research sessions and I found it to be extremely interesting and full of learning. My experience this year was even more diversified through my engagement in working to review abstracts for acceptance at the SoTL conference which yielded much learning and enriching experience.

What is most interesting for me in the world of research is coming to know and sharing this with others. There is no point in doing research to keep it on the shelves. Hence at NDIE we, as faculty, are encouraged and encourage our students to share this local knowledge with others. It is only when we commit to dissemination of research, be it through journal articles or conferences, etc., that we contribute to knowledge production which in our part of the world is needed. That is knowledge of our context, our people and our lives because these matter.

NDIE Open House 2023

The NDIE Open House 2023, held on December 6, 2023, was a vibrant and engaging event showcasing the institute's commitment to quality teacher education. This year's Open House introduced several new elements, including a student-run food stall, an alumni-led panel discussion, and the presence of distinguished guests of honour.

Students took full charge of the food stall, planning and preparing various items under the guidance of Alyan Shikarpuria, a future educator. The B.Ed. Hons alumni returned to their alma mater, sharing their experiences and professional journeys, emphasizing how their education at NDIE made them sought-after professionals in education.

The event was graced by key figures in the education sector, including Ms. Rana Hussain, Ms. Rafia Mallah, and Dr. Safia Urooj, along with principals, coordinators, and Board of Governors members. Archbishop Benny Travas also attended, adding to the significance of the occasion.

The panel discussion highlighted NDIE's role in shaping educators, and Ms. Rana Hussain expressed her appreciation for NDIE's contribution to teacher education in Pakistan. The event also featured interactive displays, student portfolios, and creative teaching resources, allowing visitors to witness the rigor and dedication of NDIE students.

The day concluded with guests enjoying delicious food and warm tea, marking the success of the Open House. The event was a testament to NDIE's commitment to excellence, made possible through the hard work of faculty, students, and leadership.

Feast Day Celebrations at NDIE

The Feast Day program at NDIE this year was a beautiful blend of faith, joy, and community spirit. The day commenced with a solemn Eucharistic celebration led by Fr. Ryan Joseph, where faculty, staff, and students gathered in prayer and song to honor the Annunciation of the Lord. The serene atmosphere, filled with hymns and shared reflection, set a meaningful tone for the celebrations.

Following the spiritual gathering, the festivities transitioned into an informal yet vibrant segment, designed to engage and entertain everyone. A highlight of the event was a beautifully performed tableau, capturing the essence of the occasion through expressive storytelling. Laughter and excitement filled the room as attendees participated in a series of engaging games, fostering a sense of camaraderie.

Adding to the lively atmosphere was a humorous skit, skillfully performed by students and staff, bringing smiles and laughter to all. To ensure an active and energizing experience, a quick workout session was also incorporated, encouraging movement and enthusiasm among participants. The event concluded on a high note with a staff mash-up singing performance, where faculty members showcased their musical talents, creating a warm and joyful ambiance.

The Feast Day celebrations at NDIE not only strengthened our bonds as a community but also served as a reminder of the values we uphold—faith, unity, and shared joy. It was a day of reflection, celebration, and cherished memories for all.



Professional Growth Through CPD Sessions at NDIE

At Notre Dame Institute of Education (NDIE), we are committed to fostering lifelong learning through our Continuous Professional Development (CPD) sessions, designed to empower educators, leaders, and researchers. Our carefully curated sessions address key educational challenges and equip participants with practical strategies to enhance teaching and learning. Our CPD offerings cover a diverse range of topics, from cognitive development and mental health in education to innovative storytelling and lesson planning. Sessions like "Nurturing Healthy Brain Development" and "Stimulating Cognitive Development in Children: Empowering Teachers" delve into neuroscience and cognitive psychology, providing insights into optimizing student learning.

Leadership remains a core focus, with "Educational Leadership in the 21st Century" and "Understanding the Role of Women in Educational Leadership", fostering discussions on effective school management and gender inclusivity. For research enthusiasts, "Writing a Literature Review for Beginners" offers foundational guidance on academic writing.

Pedagogical development is another essential theme, with specialized sessions such as "Urdu Pedagogies" and "Developing Effective Multiple-Choice Questions" ensuring that educators refine their assessment and instructional techniques. Moreover, our six-month ECCE course provides an in-depth exploration of early childhood education.

From lesson planning to creating an inevitable learning environment, each session is designed to be interactive, equipping educators with the knowledge and tools to create engaging, effective, and inclusive learning spaces. Join us in these transformative learning experiences and take your professional journey to the next level!

