

Call for Applications for Director of the Gurmani Centre for Languages and Literature at LUMS

Gurmani Centre for Languages and Literature of the Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School of Humanities and Social Sciences at LUMS invites applications for the appointment of Director for the Centre.

The Gurmani Centre (GCLL) at LUMS aims to support the advancement of knowledge in the field of South Asian languages and literature. Candidates should ideally have a doctoral degree in any area of the South Asian Literary Traditions, along with a sound background in one or more South Asian languages or be an internationally recognized writer/author/poet with significant experience of academia. Candidates are also expected to have relevant experience in institutional/educational management, editorial management, planning of literary events and their execution, and teaching of literature of at least one South Asian language. Applicants should be able to work well in teams and in a multicultural student environment.

About the Gurmani Centre for Languages and Literature at LUMS:

The Gurmani Centre for Languages and Literature (GCLL) at the Lahore University of Management Sciences was initiated by the Gurmani Foundation in April 2010 for the advancement of Arabic, Persian, Urdu and other Pakistani and South Asian languages. The Centre is part of the Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School of Humanities and Social Sciences (MGSHSS) and promotes languages and their literatures through teaching, research/publication, and its outreach programme.

The Centre offers courses in Urdu poetry, fiction, creative writing, Iqbal Studies, Persian language and poetry, Pashto, Sindhi, Punjabi, and the Arabic languages. The Centre also offers special courses by visiting or practicing scholars or writers and artists. The Centre has two publications: one annual research journal called *Bunyād* (in Urdu and English, recognized by the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan) and one student magazine called *Numūd*. The Centre has a research programme that entails editing and publishing of rare classical texts and manuscripts. The first book of the series, *Tazkiratunnisa-i Nadiri* was published this year (2016). The Centre also promotes interest in literary activity by organizing public talks, lecture series, seminars and workshops. Some popular workshops have been the ones on the Hindi script and the art of calligraphy. An Urdu play by the students of LUMS has also been a regular activity of the Centre for the last four years. Besides, the Centre has organized academic conferences on the occasion of Faiz's and Manto's centennials and one on South Asian Literary Traditions in 2014. Seminars on important modern Urdu poets Majid Amjad and Meeraji were also organized as centennial events. The Centre published in 2014, a collection of research articles read in the

Manto conference, called *Nayā Urdu Afsanā*. In 2015 The Gurmani Centre hosted eminent Urdu writers and scholars such as Shamsur Rahman Farooqi, Meher Afshan Farooqi and Amjad Islam Amjad. A series of events celebrating the tradition of the Punjabi Vaar and the 250th anniversary of Waris Shah's Heer are also being held this year. In addition, a series of seminars on Iqbal as well as events celebrating the Sufi music heritage of South Asia are regularly organized by the Centre.

Since September 2014, the Gurmani Centre has been hosting the revived *Berkeley Urdu Language Program in Pakistan* administered jointly by the University of California at Berkeley, the American Institute for Pakistan Studies and GCLL at LUMS.

For more details about the courses, people, and activities of the Centre please visit: <http://lums.edu.pk/mgshss/gurmani/>

Founded in 1986, LUMS is Pakistan's premier university with a modern 100-acre campus in Lahore, providing world class educational and residential facilities.

Interested applicants should submit a resume (CV) along with a cover letter and two samples of any published work to: Ms Eilya Mohsin, Assistant to the Dean, Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School of Humanities and Social Sciences, LUMS. Email: eilya.mohsin@lums.edu.pk. Please copy Ms Yasmeen Hameed at Yasmeen@lums.edu.pk