

In perusal to multi-directional perspective of Architectural education, a 4-day workshop was arranged at Architecture Department Lahore College for Women University, which covered various topics for encouraging students to find passion in Architecture to overcoming challenges. In accordance with vision and mission of Lahore College for Women University, Vice Chancellor, **Prof. Dr. Uzma Qureshi** encouraged Architecture Department to arrange a Training Workshop for students of Architecture in the dimension of inculcating financial empowerment to students of higher education.





DAY 1 OF THE WORKSHOP

DAY 1: "DISCOVERING YOUR PASSION & REDEFINING SUCCESS"



- 1. UNDERSTANDING PASSION
- SELF-ASSESSMENT TECHNIQUES
- **EXPLORING INTERESTS AND ALIGNING WITH**
- 4. CHALLENGING TRADITIONAL NOTIONS OF
- OVERCOMING BARRIERS AND REDEFINING
- **INSPIRATIONAL EXAMPLES**
- 7. TAKING ACTION AND DEVELOPING A PASSION-

Overview: Day 1

"Finding Your Passion" is a journey of self-discovery that helps individuals identify their interests, values, and strengths to pursue a path that brings personal fulfillment and professional satisfaction. This concept is compared to a catalyst in a chemical reaction, which speeds up the reaction without being consumed or altered.

Key Points:

- Passion drives effort and enthusiasm, helping overcome challenges and stay focused. •
- Discovering passion in a field, such as architecture, makes studies more meaningful and motivating.
- Aligning interests with career goals builds a purpose-driven life. •
- True significance comes from relationships, positive impact, and purpose, leading to • deeper fulfillment.

The industry-academia collaboration was executed in this endeavor to meaningfully produce an architectural expertise in students by enhancing their thinking and critical abilities. Moreover, the stages of success in higher education for students of Architecture relate to education, employment and community service. Building resilience, turning challenges into opportunities, presenting examples of successful architects, optimism and long -term motivation was communicated as major lessons in the Workshop. Both the resource persons as eminent practitioners and intellectuals in Architecture highlighted to students to become aware of rising need of learning how to earn through various skills as an imperative feature of their higher education period.

A broad vision for breaking the stereotypes was floated by the speaker Architect Mian Tanwir Ahmed; and in this regard; he emphasized to students that they must explore and practice their passion. The cycle of redefining goals by choosing the right end of profession was also elaborate through success stories of architects around the world.



OVERVIEW: Day 2

Breaking Stereotypes: Redefine Success

This session was about creating a personal definition of success that aligns with individual values and passions, rather than conforming to conventional norms.

Key Points:

- Embrace your unique journey and challenge societal expectations.
- Redefine success on a personal level to achieve fulfillment and make a meaningful impact.

Learn to Earn: Skills for the Future

This session focused on equipping aspiring architects with the essential skills to thrive in the rapidly evolving field of architecture.

Key Points:

- Master technical skills, creativity, and soft skills to navigate the dynamic environment.
- Focus on sustainability to create innovative designs that meet future demands.



A Group Photo of students on the 2nd Day of Workshop with Ar. Dr Yasmeen Ahmed, Incharge Architecture Department LCWU with Ar. Mian Tanwir Ahmed and Architectural Design Studio Instructor Muhammad Salman Amjad

Day 3: "Creating Your Own Path: Define Success on Your Terms"



KEY TAKE-AWAYS:

- 1. THE IMPORTANCE OF INDIVIDUALITY
- 2. SETTING PERSONAL GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS
- 3. OVERCOMING EXTERNAL PRESSURES AND EXPECTATIONS
- 4. PRACTICAL STEPS TO CREATE YOUR OWN PATH
- 5. EMBRACING FAILURE AND LEARNING FROM IT
- 6. NAVIGATING UNCERTAINTY
- 7. CREATING A SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT
- 8. MAKING AN IMPACT THROUGH YOUR JOURNEY



Students on the day 3 of the Workshop

OVERVIEW: Day 3

Overcoming Challenges and Setbacks

This session focuses on developing strategies to handle adversity, maintain a positive mindset, and emerge stronger in the face of challenges and setbacks.

Key Points:

- Face obstacles head-on and develop resilience.
- Adopt a positive mindset and implement practical strategies to overcome adversity.
- Transform difficulties into opportunities for growth and success.

Creating Your Own Path

This session is about taking control of your journey, defining success on your own terms, and pursuing a life and career that align with your values, passions, and strengths.

Key Points:

- Take ownership of your journey and define success on your terms.
- Embrace individuality, set personal goals, and navigate challenges with resilience.
- Break free from conventional norms and embark on a path that reflects your true self and aspirations.





"Proposed Business Title"

Inspiring Entrepreneurship: Apple's Business Model and Women Empowerment

On the third day, a comprehensive discussion on Apple's successful business model was held, focusing on its application to architectural entrepreneurship. To motivate students and promote women empowerment, a complete business model was shared, covering the entire process from idea generation to execution. This model serves as a benchmark for students to apply in their real-life endeavors, inspiring them to become successful entrepreneurs.



Discovering Interests and Personality in Architecture

As part of their assignment, students were tasked with exploring their area of interest in Architecture. To support this journey of self-discovery, they were encouraged to visit two

websites: 16personalities.com and viacharacter.org. By taking the quizzes on these sites, students can gain valuable insights into their personality traits, strengths, and weaknesses, helping them identify potential areas of interest and career paths in Architecture that align with their unique characteristics.

Day 4: The Concluding Session



Students attending the 4th Day of Workshop

The Workshop concluded with technical talks by Ar. Zahid Javed Raja where he shared his own experiences as a student of Architecture to an educator and his career in Communication & Works Department Government of Punjab as Chief Architect Punjab Govt. Interestingly, he also shared in detail his journey of private practice which he embarked upon as his postretirement venture.

Raising this awareness about *#womenempowerment*.

Dr Yasmeen Ahmed, Incharge Architecture Department narrated the significance of internships and practical trainings as well as avail the opportunities to get financially independent during higher education through start - ups or part time employment; without compromising on quality of education . While speaking on significance of internships and practical trainings of the students of Architecture , Dr Yasmeen Ahmed , promoted the agenda of sustainable architectural practices and incorporating sustainable development goals in <u>#architecturaleducation</u> and <u>#research</u>. She highlighted the need of self-employment and

business startups in higher education to contribute towards income of families as well as country.

The faculty members of **Department of Architecture LCWU** including Ms Maliha Khalid , Ms Maryam Jamil, Ms Beenish Hassan , Ms Rifza Zahid , Ms Fareena Shahid and Mr Muhammad Salman Amjad were acknowledged and appreciated for Co organising this 4 Day Training Workshop for the students of Architecture Department . **Muhammad Safeer** along with team of non-teaching staff were also acknowledged for their constant cooperation in this endeavor.



Glimpses of the 4th Day, Concluding Session, Certificates Awarded to Students

Following words of wisdom were shared by Mr Tanwir Ahmed and quoted here: "To end our learning journey, I'm grateful for each one of the students and faculty members. Your vibrant energy, imaginative minds, and commitment to learning were amazing. I believe I made an attempt to paint a true portrait of the world of architecture and its concealed hurdles. I aimed to show how to carve out your distinct trail in this ever-changing terrain. Architecture isn't solely about creating structures. It's about breathing life into concepts and leaving an enduring impression. Keep pushing boundaries and treasure your unique thoughts. Here's to a future of exploration and novel experiences! Let's go, rocketing into your future!



A Group Photo of the Students with The Resource Persons, Dr. Yasmeen Ahmed-Incharge Architecture Department and The Faculty Members.

Expected Outcomes of the "4-Day Workshop: Learn, Earn, and Break the Mold" -"Discover Your Potential Beyond the Norm!" for the Students of Architecture Department.

1. Enhanced Self-Awareness:

Students gained a deeper understanding of their strengths, interests, and values within the field of architecture, allowing them to align their passions with career goals.

2. Practical Skills Development:

Participants learned hands-on techniques and innovative approaches to design, problemsolving, and sustainable practices that went beyond the traditional curriculum, equipping them with tools for real-world application.

3. Creative Thinking and Innovation:

The workshop encouraged out-of-the-box thinking, enabling students to break free from conventional architectural approaches and explore creative, cutting-edge solutions in design and construction.

4. Career Readiness:

Students acquired practical knowledge on how to translate their architectural skills into income-generating opportunities, preparing them for both freelance work and professional roles in the industry.

5. Confidence in Breaking Stereotypes:

By challenging societal and industry norms, students left the workshop with the confidence to pursue unconventional paths in architecture, pushing boundaries in design, sustainability, and community impact.

6. Building Purpose-Driven Careers:

Students were guided in aligning their professional goals with meaningful contributions to society, leading to a purpose-driven career that focused on both personal fulfillment and positive social impact.

Students were equipped to embrace non-traditional paths in architecture, ready to innovate, and be prepared to make impactful contributions to both the profession and society at large.

