CBEC faculty was invited to conduct a workshop on research ethics at the University of Health Sciences, Lahore. In addition to Dr. Moazam and Dr. Jafarey, two PGD alumni from Lahore, Dr. Natasha Anwar and Dr. Mariam Hassan, facilitated this workshop. About 22 people participated in the workshop with a few from a couple of other institutions in Punjab. Participants consisted mainly of basic scientists, with some representatives from clinical and nursing fields. Basic concepts related to research ethics were highlighted with ample use of videos that CBEC has produced. On the second day, the students were given a composite case that they critiqued as IRB members, with Dr. Natasha Anwar role playing the Principal Investigator.

In an interesting CBEC Forum on September 3, 2016, Dr. Syed Nomanul Haq, erudite scholar and professor at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi, gave a talk on the sources of eternal truth, using the book Hayy ibn Yaqzan as a starting point for his discourse. The book was originally written in Arabic in Andalus, Muslim Spain, in the 12th century by theologian and philosopher, Ibn Tufayl. In the book, Ibn Tufayl used the fictional character of Hayy ibn Yaqzan (Alive, son of Awake) born on an island and reared by a gazelle, to discuss a fundamental philosophical question: Is knowledge - whether spiritual or temporal - attained through reason or revelation? According to Dr. Nomanul Haq, this seminal work of fiction has influenced numerous writers and thinkers down the centuries. Its impact is visible in works as diverse as Dante’s Divine Comedy and Daniel Defoe’s Robinson Crusoe. His talk was followed by a rich group discussion that explored the tensions between reason and religion, sources of knowledge, and the quest to understand human existence on this planet.
CBEC’s Gender and Ethics Module: Girls at Dhabas

“Girls at Dhabas” movement session during CBEC’s academic module on Gender and Ethics, December 9, 2016

“Girls at Dhabas” (roadside teashops), an online feminist movement that has gained visibility in social media in Pakistan and India. The movement aims to reclaim women’s access to public spaces where their movement has become increasingly proscribed. In CBEC’s December 2016 module on Gender and Ethics, Ms. Sadia Khatri and Dr. Shumaila Hashmi (pictured above) who are members of the Girls at Dhabas movement were invited to talk about their endeavors and successes in increasing women’s participation in the public sphere, and to engage in a discussion with CBEC faculty and students.

Ms. Anika Khan presents a token of appreciation on behalf of CBEC to Ms. Rumana Husain

Ms. Rumana Husain, author of Karachiwala: a Subcontinent within a City spoke at CBEC’s Ethics and Culture Hour on September 3, 2016. Her talk, accompanied by slides of photographs that illustrate Karachi’s social diversity, was followed by a question and answer session.