Summer 2017

CCIT Newsletter : Issue 1 (Summer 2017)

CCIT
Aga Khan University

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From the Editor’s Desk

Welcome to the inaugural edition of our newsletter! Critical Creative Innovative Thinking (CCIT) is an educational, training and research program for creativity and innovation in biomedicine and healthcare. CCIT hopes to enable trans-generational, inter-disciplinary, and non-hierarchical linkages for betterment of society, with an emphasis on low income countries.

Learn more about the CCIT forum through this newsletter and join our future efforts.

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Ignite 5: Mind and Brain

Ignite 5 was a part of the National Health Sciences Research Symposium 2016, also known as The Mind and Brain Conference, at the Aga Khan University, Karachi. The Ignite event was held on November 5, 2016 in the very appropriate multi-purpose hall of the Centre for Innovation in Medical Education (CIME). Participants talked about their interesting, creative, innovative and unique ideas- all relevant to neurosciences.

Read more at:
Innovation Day 2017

Designed and executed as a forerunner to a formal curriculum in innovation and healthcare entrepreneurship, Innovation Day 2017, held on April 20th, was the first of its kind. It was a joint effort by CCIT and the CIME. Going through three independent workshops, participants got to interact with and learn from a diverse team of speakers and facilitators in the domains of creativity in medicine, innovation and healthcare entrepreneurship.

Read more at:

CCIT Hackathon v1.0

The first edition of CCIT’s Hackathons was centered on solving problems in emergency room settings. This was not just limited to the Aga Khan University Hospital, but aimed to target shortcomings on a national level. With 11 innovations (and in one case, a prototype) being presented after 2 days of intense hacking, 4 teams took home the winning prizes.

Read more at:

Narrative Medicine

“Avery” by Asad I. Mian

“Avery is dead, Baba. My friend told me”, said Noori, my 5-year-old kindergartner, when I picked her up from school that day. I had known that ‘fact’ since it was on CNN. Avery wasn’t quite 5-months-old. Avery was the only baby I had known with a bucket list. “Baby Avery”, as she was fondly called, became a household name after the blog written by her dad went ‘viral’. Avery was recently diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), a devastating neuro-genetic disorder with poor outcome. Although I am a pediatrician, I must remind myself that everything becomes ‘recent’ when you are just 5-months-old...

Read more at:

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