We welcome all new students & faculty at SIL and hope you have an awesome year ahead: D
I belonged to the first batch of LLB students in SIL. I completed my 1st and 2nd from another institution but desiring change I decided to transfer to SIL for my final year, and I believe that that was the best decision I made. I learned and did more in my one year at SIL then the two years I spent in my previous institution. I was reluctant at first to take part in any extracurricular activities which I saw as having no relevance to my studies or subjects, but Ma’am Nida would coax and encourage us to do so, as she (rightfully) held that these activities would help you both academically and for your career ahead. I eventually succumbed to these words and I’m glad I did so. The Mock Trials, the MUNS, the seminars, the workshops, the Law Society, the Law Journal, even the Monthly Newsletters, have all helped me grow and learn as a person and have also helped me realise my potential in areas I didn’t believe I had the aptitude to succeed in. In my one year at SIL, I also made, who I now see as, some of my closest friends. Being only about 25 to 30 people in that first year, we were a small group and eventually got to know each really well and it would be safe to say that we were in some sense a type of a dysfunctional “family”. All the things we did together, walking to Tariq Market for some Khokha food, the movie nights, the match screenings, our first “awkward” BBQ =P, the Welcome, the Farewell, the free samples we got from the Lunch Box dude, are all memorable events I wouldn’t mind living over. I’m really going to miss you guys! And it was not only the students, but also the teachers who we got to know really well. The fact that we were a small group allowed the teachers to give us individual attention which allowed them to properly identify our strengths and weaknesses, showing us how we could improve upon them. The class discussions and debates also helped, Ma’am Nida’s Banoffee Pie helped too. =P We became good friends, but they were never lax: if we didn’t do our assignments, we had hell to face. So, yah, Do Your Assignments!!! The LLB [Hons] degree is a difficult one no doubt, but one should not restrict themselves to purely academic work and achievements. What SIL and Ma’am Nida have taught me in that one year alone is that one should work hard and try to do their best, but most importantly, one should try to have fun.
When I was informed of my post as the Secretary General of The Law Society, I thought my post would be very simple, organize meetings, go to the meetings, vote on stuff, and then give all the work to everybody else. Sadly, that’s not exactly how it turned out, lucky me. The Secretary General is not only meant to help with the organization of law society meetings, and vote on stuff, but must also make sure what is being voted on ends up happening. Whoever ends up being the Secretary General this year, remember, the motto is “GET THE JOB DONE!”

Whether it’s a farewell, a mock trial, or even the SIL annual breakfast marathon, you have to be the first one at the event, and the last one out. The same could be said for some of the other posts in the Law Society as well. I also ended up learning, that where one member of the Society is not able to work on a certain issue (if s/he is sick or out of town), somebody has to take on the extra weight. Sadly, that somebody is the Secretary General, yes I know it’s a tough job, but somebody has to do it. The best way to get through it is to imagine you’re Batman, if nobody can do it, Batman can. Also, if you have the option of being Batman, or the Secretary General of the Law Society, choose Batman.

Jokes aside, being the Secretary General of the Law Society was a huge learning experience for me. It helped me become a better leader, and it also taught me a thing or two about responsibility. At the same time, you end up being close to the heart of all the SIL functions. After putting in all your effort to see a mock trial come together with the combined efforts of the rest of the society, it’s very rewarding.

Also, I got this cool gavel
Pawnay 14 August hit the Islamabad stage onwards the 10th of October and I finally got to see it thanks to some awesome people I am lucky to know. Thank you guys, you know who you are. There was a considerably long line outside the entrance doors and once inside the hall was packed. Anwar Maqsood himself opened the show with a prologue and set the scene for the first act. The storyline depicts the various (and mostly unpleasant) encounters which the Quaid-e-Azam, Allama Iqbal and Maulana Shaukat Ali have with the present time Pakistanis from all walks of life, upon their visit to Pakistan on the Day of Independence. What follows is a hilarious yet acutely painful portrayal of where we stand today as a nation. It was a reminder of how short sighted we are and how absorbed within our own rather repetitive and pointless ways of life.
True to his style of comedic sense, Anwar Maqsood gets his point across with witty one liners, which quietly embed into the viewer’s mind and effectively bring the point home. His unique style of taking everyday situations and making them comical through a play of words shines through. Being as wonderful as it is, for me it was not one of his best works but him being a seasoned writer, it plainly showed that he had deliberately withheld material to make the play more appealing for the youth, towards whom it is purposely aimed. Thus some variations on modern humour were also included, which might come as a surprise to those who are accustomed to his works.

Contrary to what some might presume, the play is not at all “preachy” but a fun and continuous process of self-analysis with room for embarrassment not imposed cynically. Even for people who are not hard core art lovers, it’s a refreshing experience with a heavy dose of laughter. Also I noticed it had a little bit for everybody and appeals to all standards, an ability amongst many others which Anwar Maqsood possesses.

Even though the writer will inevitably be the centre of praise for this amazing piece of theatre, the director and all the actors deserve a fair share of the glory. The cast was undoubtedly a bunch of passionate and thoroughly prepared performers, and the comedic timing was impeccable. One could tell the young director had a sharp sense of fulfilling the need of the moment and the rhythm never broke throughout the play. However in some places I felt the need for more emotion to be depicted especially the moments where the three main roles were required to express remorse. Other than that, the main roles were played to the point of perfection as far as the script demanded and any minor mistakes can be more than overseen. In short the script was done due justice to.

The play ended with the need for us as able Pakistanis to consciously understand the duty we owe to the founding fathers of this country to work to achieve the dream they dreamt, if for no other reason than to honour their passion and commitment for their people. It is time to do justice to our saviours and let them truly rest in peace without regrets. I think this experiment that we’ve long been conducting, (thinking it to be foolish), of not being happy with our lives and the state of our country by expressing discontentment and hate while serving a plate of criticism, has more then failed. It has gotten us nowhere. Maybe we should now believe in us and work hard to create the object of our wishful thinking with our own hands. So that tomorrow our children work for this country because it is truly worth it and we’ve made it so.

On a personal note, what I learned today was that I can never decide what to do with my life as long as I keep searching for something worth my passion. Perhaps my purpose is to make something that someday will be truly worth someone else’s passion.

The play is in town till the 22nd of October. If you have not seen it yet, I would highly recommend it. And if after having seen it on my advice you find it over rated and come to think of me as a nutcase, well then I exclude my liability with: one man’s treasure is another man’s trash.

PS: The next production will be a theatrical adaption of Aangan Tehra probably a year from now.
Joining SIL has to be one of the best decisions I’ve ever made and no I am NOT just saying it to get Ma’am Nida to like me more than she already does =p
No, but all jokes aside, SIL has in the past year proved to be different; to be ahead of the game! The administration (Ma’am Nida & Sir Sikander) has opened an institute which is an excellent example of balancing studies with extra co-curricular activities!
At SIL we are a BIG HAPPY FAMILY! There are no complexes, no hang ups, everyone socialises with everyone irrespective of what grade they are in, where they come from and that’s the best part. SIL is shaping us to become real lawyers. We are given a chance to moot which polishes our debating and advocacy skills. Along with a vast range of fun filled activities such as the EPIC Khanpur trip, NUMUN and what not!
...and most importantly the canteen at SIL has been a constant evolution because of us students :D but may I say with pride that it has eventually become EPIC. Special thanks to Ma’am Nida and Sir Sikander for tolerating our complaints and making an incredible and successful effort to make us happy.
Point being it’s the BEST possible external programme experience available and we are blessed to be a part of it....
It all started last year when SIL had a total of four male students with the rest of the students being all girls. When Umar and I thought of assembling our university’s first cricket team, as I mentioned with only four guys this dream looked quite vague and so we waited till the next year with the hope that with some more admissions we might as well succeed in forming a team.

So the day finally arrived when admissions were opened this year and with male student joining SIL, our dream of forming a cricket team came closer to coming true and so we were beyond excited. We talked to Sir Sikander about forming a team and he gave us his full support.

Work on the list of potential players began and after many changes a final list came into being for SIL’s first ever cricket team. The list included Umar, Samee, Umer, Bilal, Suleman, Nauman, Sir Yasir, Hamza Bhai, Ali, Bilal and moi. We then arranged a match with another law university UCI who carried a reputation of never losing a cricket match, which was our motivation to start practicing. The practices went very well and the team looked ready to face UCI.

Sir Sikander and Ma’am Nida were generous enough to provide us a kit for our match and our very own SIL cricket team’s shirts which added to the excitement.

All the preparations were done. The team was ready. The supporters were ready and yes not to forget Ma’am Nida’s favorite items for the day... SIL banners were also ready and so the day of the match 2nd October 2012 arrived and it seemed as if it was going to be an interesting match. SIL was hoping to win the toss and choose batting, however we were not so lucky there and so it was fielding first for us. It was a difficult task since the weather was hot and at its peak at that time. Nonetheless SIL fielded very well. Sir Yasir took the first wicket, Hamza bhai was the next one to take a wicket and then I managed to take two wickets, one of which involved a great catch taken by Umar. UCI gave us a target of 185 runs in 20 over’s. Yes I know!!

When it was our turn to bat, our openers Umer Rehman and Nauman Masood made an excellent partnership which increased our chances of winning and took some pressure off the team. Umer played an excellent innings with Nauman after which the partnership between Nauman and Samee proved to be very helpful as well. Nauman played an excellent innings where he completed his century and from then onwards the match was on our side. It was this point when the SIL banners went up with confidence to win!

As soon as that winning run was taken, the ground was taken over by our cricket team which was running off to the pitch to congratulate our batsmen over our victory!! Yes we won our first match and UCI lost its first match. Like they say there is a first time for everything :p All the hard work paid off and the entire struggle was suddenly worthwhile, the swollen fingers and bruised knees, all paid off. All our tired faces lit up and we finished the day by going back to university where Ma’am Nida as always never compromising on food, had ordered the much needed meal for us all, where we enjoyed our victory dinner watching Pakistan cricket team defeat Australia and making it to the semis.

So it was a win-win situation for SIL and the Pakistani team.

In the end it was a team effort and the victory would not have been possible without the constant motivation and encouragement given by our awesome administration and of course our fellow SILLIES!! :D
When I came to SIL it was the institute’s first academic year. My first impression of the school was as that it would be only focusing on studies with no concept of co-curricular activities. However, I was proven wrong. SIL’s first year has been one of the most memorable times of my life and I’m sure this sentiment is shared by all other students. We call SIL our family now! The journey from an institute to a family was amazing I must say.

That was just a little background. Now lets come to my post in SIL’s first ever Law Society and the responsibilities that followed. Making the law society was one of Ma’am Nida’s best ideas and now SILians be the trendsetters! The Law society always has something new for the students nearly every two weeks. This year, I served as the Secretary Media Relations and my responsibilities included organizing out Social Events, publicizing and spreading the word. Ma’am Nida spot the right potential in me as I love organizing events and really enjoy my duties as a law society member. We organized out many events like screening cricket matches, barbeque nights, movie nights, farewell and finally one of SIL’s most unique event, the “Examathon Nashta”, a nashta organized on campus, 10 days before our finals. It was a lot of fun being at the organizing end for all these events.

I will not say that I had one precise duty to carry out as the whole law society would work together to make the events amazing and different. We had different ideas coming in from every member. I can say that there is more democracy in our law society as compared to the current democratic Pakistan.

I’ll wrap up by saying that SIL has found the right balance between studies and having fun. This is one place where the Principal will force you to study and at the same time have fun at the social events.