

The talk/paper delivered to the UM-AIPS Conference is entitled “Engaging Disciplines” and reflects on the author’s and his colleagues’ experience of conducting academic research on Karachi, while also remaining responsive to the demands that the city makes on its public intellectuals. The aim of the talk was to initiate discussion among scholars and students of Pakistan Studies more broadly on the interaction between scholarship and political engagement. This topic is of significance to scholars and students of Pakistan Studies because many of them face dilemmas confronted by the author and his colleagues, and one which has not been discussed very much in academic or political forums.

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