



PRESIDENT'S NEWS DIGEST

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Last week, the College of Arts and Science organised the "Create Specializations Forum" Exhibition. I would like to congratulate Dr Belal and all our colleagues in Arts and Science for the excellent work of our students being exhibited on the first floor of the Academic Building. I encourage all colleagues to visit the exhibition on the first floor. This is the type of work which we should be doing more of.



Also last week, the University hosted for the first time an awareness event for private schools to promote the University and Students' Recruitment. It was a successful event for raising the profile of the University. I am grateful to the PR team, especially Ms Edyta for her determination to organise this event. Thanks are also due to Ms Ruqaya, Ms Tania, Ms Ayat, Ustaz Baha and Ustaz Mostafa.

On Sunday 17 April, the Deanship of Students Affairs and Students Council hosted Mr Mohamed Darwish from Bahrain TV who delivered a very interesting workshop on how to progress your career. Many thanks to the Deanship and Ustaz Thaer in particular.

On 19 April, the president attended the celebration of the 240th anniversary of the independence of the United States of America. The event was hosted by the American Ambassador and was held on board USS Harry S Truman ship. In the same evening, the university hosted a meeting for the SME’s Society in Bahrain.

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees and myself will be on overseas trip, exploring business opportunities for the University and attending the Arab and Turkish Universities conference in Istanbul. Furthermore, Professor Robert Newton, will be visiting us next week from 27 April until 5 May to help in our preparation for the program reviews for Arts and science.

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What's New?





“CREATIVE SPECIALIZATIONS FORUM” EXHIBITION

On 20 April 2016, The College of Arts and Sciences proudly presented an exhibition titled “Creative Specializations Forum” showcasing their students’ work from Computer Science, Graphic Design and Interior Design.

Prof Ghassan Aouad, the President of Applied Science University addressed the audience and encouraged the students to participate in this type of activities and thanked the College of Arts and Science for their hard work. Next, Dr. Belal Zaqaibeh, Dean of the College welcomed the attendees and gave a brief about the exhibition, and its importance.



A thought provoking speech was delivered by Mr. Mustafa Sanad, from AlBilad newspaper, stressing on the student labour market requirements and journalist design skills. A presentation was then delivered by Mr Yasser Abu Sinnah, Manager of Training, Development, and Continuous Learning Centre, who focused on employability skills and how to successfully pass a job interview. He also showcased statistics related to IT job market.

Dr. Belal Zaqaibeh, staff members, and students of the college accompanied the distinguished guests to the exhibition venue. Prof. Ghassan Aouad formally opened the exhibition, which showcased distinctive work by students of graphic design, interior design and, the graduation projects of computer science. The students explained to visitors their concepts behind their projects.



This event is one of the series of activities in the college of Arts and Science where students have participated in several other activities, such as the 48 hours for creativity in collaboration with Lorraine University in France, the competition of NASS group for designing their magazine cover page, the workshop for programming in Java for students in computer science, Bahrain monuments, 3D printing, Al-Quds Day, etc.

This forum comes as conclusion of the activities of this semester at a time when the college staff are occupied in preparation for the visit of the quality assurance committee with the hope of getting full confidence in their programmes.





PROF JONATHAN BOWEN VISITS ASU

Prof Jonathan Bowen (Emeritus Professor at London South Bank and Chairman of Museophile Limited) visited ASU on 18 and 19 April where he conducted an External Review of our Computer Science Programme. Being a distinguished Computer Scientist, Prof Bowen has served on many HERU CS panels and has an in-depth knowledge of the process. His visit was therefore extremely important and timely as we are preparing for our forthcoming HERU visit on 9 May.



Prof Bowen's review was complete and thorough. His feedback was rather positive highlighting few minor issues, which already have been put right.

DR FARZANA ALMARAGHI'S VISIT TO ASU

Dr Farzana Almaraghi, Director of Research Directorate and Dr. Ahmed Albaz from HEC visited ASU on 20 April, and met with Prof Ghassan Aouad, Dr. Assem Al-Hajj, Prof Siddeeq Ameen, Prof Saad Darwish, Dr Ziad Zurigat and Dr Khaldoun Qtaishat to discuss matters related to postgraduate studies, mainly the university's approach to thesis and actions taken by the university upon comments made by the General Secretary.

Dr Farzana praised ASU efforts in developing the postgraduate studies improvements plan. A Thank you goes to HEC for their continuous support and advice on the different issues raised by ASU.

UNIVERSITIES DEBATE

Under the patronage of HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Ministry of Youth and Sports organised its fourth edition of Universities Debate activities which was held at the Royal University for Women from 14-17 April 2016. Twelve Arab and Bahraini universities participated in the debates.

Dr. Ammar Jalamneh, Director of ASU library, had the honour to be chosen as a judge in the Universities Debate activities.

The debate's aim was to develop skills on research methodology, critical thinking, and boost awareness about issues concerning local and international communities.



"INTERNSHIP SHARING KNOWLEDGE"

On 13 April 2016, Prof Saad Darwish & Dr Rajab Ibrahim attended a meeting "Internship Sharing Knowledge" which was organised by HEC and chaired by Prof Zuhair Al Sharook.

The meeting aimed to organise an internship programme for Bahraini Universities. It discussed ways to enhance internship and to join the programme designed by HEC in the summer.





“WOMEN & SOCIETY” CONFERENCE

Prof Saad Darwish, and Dr Hooriya Al Deeb, from ASU Community Engagement Office along with Prof Siddeeq Ameen, participated in a research conference titled "Women & Society". The event was held at the Royal University for Women with the aim to provide an environment for academics, researchers and practitioners to exchange ideas and recent developments on the topic of women and society.



The conference discussed the relationship between women and society in historical, social, legal and creative contexts. The key topics explored were: women in business and leadership, women in creative environments, across cultures, legislation and human rights, and in innovation and technology.

ASU SHARES THE ADVANCE MANAGEMENT FOR SME’S BUSINESS OWNERS IN BAHRAIN

ASU hosted a workshop on 20 April 2016 organised by SME's Bahrain and initiated by Prof Saad Darwish as part of the university efforts to promote entrepreneurship. The president of the SME’s Society, Dr Hassan Al Dairi, delivered an informative lecture about the role of entrepreneurs in contributing to the economy of Bahrain. Two professional experts, Mike Orlov, and Jean Nicolai from Steppingstones Global also delivered a session titled “Advanced Management for SME’s Business Owners”. The speakers gave many examples of the influence of culture on the business environment



and covered topics from the vision up to the strategic outcome of any enterprise.

Today, organisations are experiencing unprecedented challenges in their business environment, in many instances the only constant is change and uncertainty. Also, understanding the principles of creating synergy and alignment to help in achieving company objectives is of paramount importance due to the existence of high competitive markets. Six of our HRM students attended the session as part of the course design of entrepreneurship to help them get an

international experience in the business of entrepreneurship.

INVIGILATION TRAINING SESSION

On Thursday 21 April 2016, Dr. Assem Al-Hajj, the Acting VP Academic Affairs & Development organised an Invigilation Training Session for all ASU academic staff. The session started with a very comprehensive presentation by Dr. Hilal Al Bayatti, Advisor to VP Academic Affairs & Development which covered guidelines to ensure smooth flow of the invigilation process, and was followed by an open discussion between the academic staff and Dr. Assem and Dr. Hilal.



LECTURE ON “HOW TO SUCCEED”

The Deanship of Student Affairs and Evening Studies invited Mr Mohammed Darwish, TV Producer, Presenter, & Marketer, on 17 April 2016 to present a lecture on “How to succeed”. The event organised by Mr Thear Ramini, was under the Patronage of Prof Ghassan Aouad, the President of the University, and was attended by VPs, staff and big number students who appreciated the lecture.



35TH ARAB ACRAO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Dr Faiza Zitouni, Acting Dean of Admissions and Registration, attended the 35th Arab ACRAO Annual conference, hosted by the University of Sharjah. The aim of The Arab Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers Organization was to enhance and develop admissions and registration procedures to serve students in particular and communities in general. The conference was a medium, where 220 professionals in the field of Admissions and Registration, Students Affairs and Marketing exchanged knowledge, expertise, and shared solutions to common challenges.



ASU SUPPORTS SME'S AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE OLD SOUQ

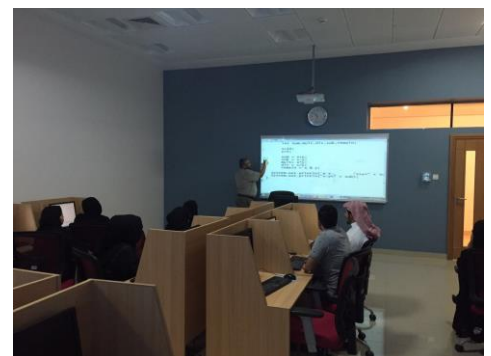
On 23 April 2016, Prof Saad Darwish joined SME's society event in Manama Souq to conduct a survey about the development of the old Souq and support for Entrepreneurs by surveying business owners and helped customers in collecting the data. The event was honoured by the presence of Al Wajeih, Mr Khalid AlZayani, ultimately leading to the growth of Bahrain economy.



The objective of the research was to investigate how SME's society can contribute to the development of old Souq, and give support to small businesses and entrepreneurs

JAVA PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE BASICS WORKSHOP

A JAVA Programming Language workshop was conducted by Dr. Moaiad Khder from the Computer Science Department on Thursday 7 April at the labs of Arts and Science College. Dr. Khder said that Java is one of the best programming languages ever created. He also covered the topic “Java Programming Language Basics” where Java Development Kit (JDK) is introduced and used for practicing. Java has a very simple grammar, familiar to anyone with experience in C and C++.





Dr. Khder showed that Java is popular and easy to learn. It is an Object-Oriented programming language, has Rich APIs, and powerful development toolkit. It also has a great collection of Open Source libraries, community support, free independent platform, and Java is everywhere.

Students were very pleased of the gained knowledge and experience received from the workshop, especially that java is required in the market in the field of computer science. The university organised this training workshop for students as a form of enhancing students' skills and experience.

AWARENESS EVENT FOR BAHRAINI PRIVATE SCHOOLS

We are delighted to have hosted the first ever event to bring ASU closer to private schools in Bahrain. On Monday, 18 April, six schools attended the “Awareness Event” where Prof Ghassan Aouad, President of ASU, introduced the University and shared its vision, mission and values with ASU guests. He also provided information



of our existing programmes, including the upcoming proposed ones in partnership with LSBU & Cardiff Met University. A lively discussion took place after the presentation, followed by a tour of the University premises where guests were given access to the top of the clock tower and where they enjoyed the panoramic view of Bahrain.

REMINDER OF THE WEEK

The Arts and Science Program Reviews, 9 to 11 May 2016.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality.

Warren Bennis



Enjoy Reading
