



PRESIDENT'S NEWS DIGEST

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 47th edition of the President's News Digest.



Last week and as part of Staff Induction, a series of workshops have taken place. Two workshops were organized the Quality Assurance Centre and dealt with course portfolios preparation, and one workshop was organized by the staff training and development committee on Moodle learning resources. These workshops were aimed to familiarize new coming staff with teaching and learning practices at our university.

On 20 September, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr Sameer Nass, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Professor Waheeb Alkhaja and the President visited the Kuwaiti Embassy and met with HE Sheikh Azzam AlSabah, the Kuwait Ambassador to Bahrain, to discuss opportunities for collaboration.

Last week, we had visitors from various organizations including members of the French Embassy, the Domain Hotel and Red House Marketing to explore opportunities for collaboration. As we start a new academic year, it is important to remain familiar with our priorities which are as follows: Preparation for the HEC visit to assess our readiness to launch the new programs with British Universities, the NPL group will check progress; preparation for the signing ceremony with LSBU on the 7 November; a comprehensive review of all course portfolios; accreditation preparation; all committee should become functional; policies are up to date; preparation for programmes with limited confidence; staff recruitment; University publications: catalogue, students handbook, AS-U-RAIN, Scientific Journal, News Digest; comprehensive marketing campaign for the second semester; preparation for mapping of Business Administration; preparation for the LLB with LSBU; compliance with university catalogues for students selecting 5 subjects or more; class observations; timetabling, study plans taking into account car parking and other logistical Issues; HEC monthly report; HEC annual report; the development of a system to record KPIs, requested by BOT; the website should be kept up to date.

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Our students should be at the heart of all what we do and this week, Students Affairs and Evening Studies will be organizing an induction day for our new students. It is our moral duty to look after our students as if they are our sons and daughters and provide them with the best learning experience. We should also support them to become matured and responsible citizens.

This week, Professor Newton will be visiting us and staying with us for 2 weeks to help us with various academic issues. Please take advantage of his visit.

In addition, Prof Paul Ivey from LSBU will be visiting us on Thursday, 29 September in order to solidify our collaboration and to prepare for the launch of our new Engineering Programmes.

‘PREPARATION AND AUDIT OF COURSE PORTFOLIOS’ WORKSHOPS

The Quality Assurance and Accreditation Centre (QAAC) at ASU organized two workshops for the ‘Preparation and Audit of Course Portfolios’.

The first workshop was held on Saturday, 17 September 2016 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and was targeting all new faculty members that have joined ASU in September 2016. The second workshop was held on Tuesday, 20 September 2016 from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm and was targeting existing faculty members.



Participants were interactive, discussing the several steps in preparing course portfolios and how to audit them in order to improve their portfolios. The two workshops were a huge success and were definitely a useful way of showing faculty members the right way of preparing and auditing their course portfolios to bring them up to the standard.

“QASAQEES” EXHIBITION FOR THE ARTIST DR AHMED HASSAN MAHMOOD

On Saturday, 20 August 2016, Professor Mohamed Ahmed Hilal, the Dean of the Arts College at Alexandria University in Egypt inaugurated the Graphic Art Exhibition of the Artist Dr. Ahmed Hassan Mahmood, the associate professor of Graphic Design at the College of Arts and Sciences at the ASU.

The Exhibition included 14 paintings (80 X 60 cm). Some of the paintings are accomplished by pencil and others are accomplished by the technology of Digital Art. The main idea of the Exhibition is to create graphic art designs from the imaginative shapes of the shadow.





SECURITY CHALLENGES, THREATS, AND STRATEGIES

Dr Hilal Mohammed Yousif and Dr. Adeb Hamdoon Sulaiman participated in the symposium on Cyber Security Challenges, Threats, and Strategies organized by the Management Information Systems Department in University of Bahrain on Wednesday, 21 September 2016.



The aim of this symposium was to provide a platform for Cyber Security professionals to share their expertise on the challenges, threats and strategies to deal with Cyber Security attacks and fraud.

WORKSHOP ON ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

On 29 September 2016, Prof Saad Darwish attended an evening workshop on Organizational Culture along with over seventy senior business executives from Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. The workshop was facilitated by SteppingStone Global (SSG), at The Domain Hotel and Spa. The event focused on transforming company and organizational cultures through aligning people, teams, departments, activities, processes and resources. It proved to be a fascinating gathering as there was much animated discussion from those taking part.



EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES OF COLLABORATIONS WITH FRENCH EMBASSY

On Sunday, 18 September 2016, the President received Mr Dominique Philippe Chastres, Co-operation and Cultural Action Counselor in French Embassy, and Leïla De Casimacker, Project Manager for Culture and University Affairs, Campus France Manager to explore opportunities for collaboration.



EXPLORING OPPORTUNITIES OF BAHRAIN THIS MONTH MAGAZINE

On Tuesday, 20 September 2016, the President received Ms. Marise Santos, from Red House Marketing to explore opportunities for collaboration.





STUDENT FUND COMMITTEE

ASU Student Fund Committee headed by the President, Prof Ghassan Aouad met on 18 September to discuss students' applications and cases that were submitted and a number of topics on the agenda. The Committee came out with recommendations to create a smaller committee to look into the cases of students.



CE OFFICE HOSTED “BAHRAIN DESERVE” VOLUNTARY TEAM

ASU Community Engagement (CE) Office received “Bahrain Deserve Team” a voluntary team in Bahrain on 19 September 2016.

The Team was welcomed by Dr. Mohammad Alaa Hussain Al-Hamami, Director of CE Office and Dr. Hooreya Mohamed Aldeeb a Member of CE Office where they discussed plans for establishing the founding meeting and future events and activities that may occur in the near future.



Dr. Al-Hamami wished them success in reaching their goals for supporting and serving the community.

DR. AL-HAMAMI PARTICIPATION IN “MENA INDUSTRIAL SUMMIT 2016”

Dr. Mohammed Alaa Hussain Al-Hamami, Director of ASU Community Engagement Office was invited by “IEEE Bahrain branch” to participate in the MENA Industrial Summit 2016 on 20 September 2016.

The Summit was organized by MENA Industry and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); and sponsored by Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB) and many other Governmental and private organizations.



The aim of the summit was to find the suitable ways to develop the industrial research, facing organizational industrial challenges in the MENA region, and how can the industry sector save the region from resource depletion, and what are the industries the region depends on.

Keynote speakers and experts addressed the audience and Ambassadors from GCC, representatives of ministries, organizations and universities from the Kingdom of Bahrain and the GCC countries attended the summit.





SUMMER PROGRAMME FOR YOUTH

The summer programme for Youth closing ceremony took place on Tuesday, 20 September 2016 at Ramee Grand hotel under the patronage of the Capital Governorate and US Embassy.

The event was attended by H.E Sheikh Hisham Bin AbdulRahman Al Khalifa, US Ambassador, H.E William Roebuck, Ms. Ruqaya Mohsen, Director of Marketing and Public Affairs, and Miss Edyta Przybyla, Head of Marketing and Student Recruitment Office.



The Students' projects were evaluated based on their presentations, subjects chosen, and teamwork by a panel of judges: Mr. Yusuf Lori, Head of Strategic Planning, Ms. Fatima Ali, Senior Specialist Social Programme (Capital Governorate), Ms. Ruqaya Mohsen and Ms. Edyta Przybyla (ASU) and Ms. Joslyn Mack Wilson, Deputy Public Affairs Officer (US Embassy).

"THIS IS BAHRAIN"

"This Is Bahrain" press conference took place on Wednesday, 21 September 2016, at Gulf hotel attended by Prof Ghassan Aouad, ASU President and Miss Edyta Przybyla, Head of Marketing and Student Recruitment Office. "This Is Bahrain" is a non-government organization under the patronage of His Majesty the King of Bahrain spreading the message of religious tolerance and coexistence around the world. Miss Betsy Mathieson, Secretary General of the Bahrain Federation of Expatriate Association (BEFA) who was leading the press conference announced that the next trip to Rome and Vatican in November will be one of the highlights of the year for Bahrain and its ruling family. Mr. Mohamed Alkhaja, member of ASU Board of Directors was also present at the event.



SHAIKH ISA BIN ALI AL KHALIFA AWARD FOR VOLUNTARY WORKS

Ms. Hanaa Dowisan, a Member of the Community Engagement Office at the University attended Shaikh Isa Bin Ali Al Khalifa Award for Voluntary Works. The event was organized by the Good Word Society on the occasion of International Volunteer Day under the patronage of Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa on 20 September 2016.

Pioneers of volunteering work and outstanding volunteer projects were awarded in the celebration.





WHY

Prof Saad Darwish attended a workshop on 21 September 2016, entitled “WHY” on Business and personal life.

The purpose of finding your right "Why" was to motivate you to keep moving toward your dreams and to get the right tools to make it happen, through setting plans, finding the right people to end up with producing your values.

Mr. Jaafar Hamza, the Founder and CEO of BOXOBIA and the Design Communication House highlighted in the seminar the Butterfly Effect Formula, which focuses on creating an impact with little changes by time, to leave a trace and create a value for personal life and Business as well.

Always start with your "why", your objective, your purpose and what motivates you to do your business or move, before any other questions, like what you do or how to do it.



DR SAEED AL-DULAIMI DELIVERED A LECTURE ON LEADERSHIP

On Tuesday, 20 September 2016, Dr Saeed Hameed Al-Dulaimi participated in a cultural evening organized by Abdulrahman Kanoo Cultural Centre within the 22nd cultural season. He delivered a lecture on leadership and its impact on the success of the managerial development.



The lecture focused on the positive role of leadership in achieving the organizational goals. The most important theories and styles of leadership, which enhance the role of the organization and its development, were also covered.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Trust is the glue of life. It's the most essential ingredient in effective communication. It's the foundational principle that holds all relationships.”

Stephen Covey



Enjoy Reading