



PRESIDENT'S NEWS DIGEST

4 DECEMBER 2016 – VOLUME 2 - ISSUE 5



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 5th issue of the 2nd year of the President's News Digest.



I would like to start this edition of the News Digest by addressing the issue of students' experience. It is our duty as educationalists to provide our students with the best learning experience and get them prepared for the market place. We can do this by embracing new technologies and modern methods of teaching. The broadcasting and spoon feeding model belongs to the past. The future is in providing our students with skills and competencies that can help them in a changing world. As a university, all our students should graduate from the University equipped with the following attributes:

- ✚ Critical thinkers and reflective learners
 - Having the ability to use the knowledge and skills to solve problems
 - Having the ability to generate new ideas, being creative and innovative
 - Knowing the research methodologies in their field, and being able to interpret the findings
 - Motivated individuals capable of carrying out research-led independent work
 - Having entrepreneurial skills
- ✚ Knowledgeable and skilled in their field
 - Having the ability to apply their skills, and knowledge in the workplace
- ✚ Effective Communicators
 - Communicating effectively either orally or in writing
 - Working in collaboration with others, and within teams
- ✚ Proficient Practitioners and Collaborators
 - Experienced in working in variety of roles
 - Experienced in working in teams and groups of different sizes

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- Conduct themselves professionally and work positively as part of a team
- Having relevant practical and technical skills
- ✚ Ethically and Socially responsible
 - Understanding their social responsibility and good citizenship
 - Engaging in their community
- ✚ Commitment to lifelong learning
 - Participating and seeking continuous development



ASU has generated these Graduate Attributes to help our students and staff understand what abilities, skills and mindsets students need to acquire while completing their degree. In a fullest sense, Graduate Attributes relate to all aspects of the student learning experience at ASU.



Graduate Attributes are important in shaping our students' success and their future, in academia with the type of students they become, in the workplace with career opportunities and employability, and in social and community with their contribution to the Bahraini society and beyond. Many thanks to colleagues in the Deanship of Students Affairs, the VP Academic Affairs office and strategic planning in developing these attributes.

The university was buzzing with activities last week including Dr Rawya's educational exhibition, a meeting of the University Board of Directors, a ceremony to recognize our students' participation in a United Nations event, a visit to the University by Ms Sabah Al Moayed, a member of the HEC Council, to discuss opportunities for collaboration in the area of entrepreneurship, a visit by Nick Fletcher from the HEA to explore the opportunity to set up a HEA accredited Teaching and Learning Centre, and a visit by a group of Russian universities to explore ways of working together. Prof Saad Darwish also represented the President in the graduation ceremony at RCSI. In most of the aforementioned activities, the Chairman of the BOT, the president and other senior colleagues were involved.



Ms Sabah Al Moayed's Visit to ASU



Meeting of the University Board of Directors



On 30 November, the Chairman of the BOT and the President visited Dr Abdul Ghani Al Shuwaikh, the new Secretary General of the HEC, to congratulate him on the new position and to explore opportunities to help moving the University forward. On the same day, the President, Mr Mohammed Alkhaja, Mr Abdulla Alkhaja, Edyta and our student Mariam had the privilege to be part of an audience with His Majesty the King in order to recognize those who took part in



"This is Bahrain Rome". On the evening of the same day, a group of colleagues attended a UK educational trade workshop organized by the British Embassy and UKTI. Following this event, the President and Dean of Students Affairs attended the UAE National Day Celebration at the Gulf Hotel.



Last week, Professor Newton was with us helping with various academic matters like limited confidence programmes and accreditation amongst many other things.

Over the last weeks, the University was buzzing with activities, many thanks are due to:

THANKS



1. Ms Noora Musalem and colleagues from the Deanship of Students Affairs and Members of the Alumni Club, and Students Council for organizing an excellent Alumni event
2. Dr Assem and Ms Diana for the excellent NQF workshop
3. Dr Waseem and colleagues from the College of Arts and Science, especially Dean Belal, for the outstanding work on the students 48 hours competition
4. Mr Mohammed Najjar and colleagues from the Deanship of Students Affairs and Students Council for organizing the excellent event honoring our outstanding students
5. Ms Monia and Dr Adel for organizing a very useful workshop on plagiarism and academic misconduct
6. Our colleagues in Admissions and Registration, especially Mr Siddiq and Mr Furrat, for working hard on the early registration and academic advising systems
7. Dr Mohammed Al Hamami and colleagues from community engagement for the excellent workshop on engineering your future
8. Dean Khaldoon and other colleagues in Law for hosting some important external speakers to support our students and the College activities.
9. Ms Tania for sending the President's News Digest on time all the time
10. Prof Saad for organizing a workshop on the impact of technology on labor market
11. Ms Ruqaya and her team for organizing the University expo at Nasser Vocational Institute



12. Ms Edyta for all her work on "This is Bahrain Rome"
13. Dr Rawya for organizing an excellent students' educational exhibition
14. Ms Monia, Dr Adel and Mr Yasser for organizing very useful staff development workshops
15. Dr Roy, Ms Monia and the accreditation and change management groups for all their hard work on the accreditation documents and process

This week, the President and VP administration, finance and community engagement will be attending a meeting of the Association of Arab Universities in Amman. During their visit to Amman, they will explore opportunities for staff recruitment for next year.

5TH EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITION

On Sunday, 27 November 2016, the Deanship of Student Affairs and Evening Studies organized with the collaboration of the college of Art and Science, the 5th educational exhibition under the patronage of Shaikha Hala Bint Mohamed Al Khalifa.

A large number of students, staff and VIP guests attended this successful event, including the French Ambassador, the Thai Ambassador and delegations from of Egypt and India Embassies. Everyone who attended this event was very much impressed by the creative, innovative and detailed work performed by our students.



Dr Rawya Zmari who organized this event, explained that the key goal of this exhibition is the use of modern learning models that encourage students to learn and develop their thinking skills by working in teams on various projects. The theme of the exhibition is "working together" amongst various cultures, religious and ethnic backgrounds.



There were 15 cultures representing various countries including; The Kingdom of Bahrain, The United kingdom, Turkey, France, Spain, Jordan, Argentine, South Africa, Australia, India, Morocco, Thailand, Egypt and USA. The students exhibited various traditions, costumes, landmarks, foods and drinks, currency, famous people and many more related material.

In addition to the exhibition, Students also presented various dances performed by bands from eight different countries in Abdulla Nass Auditorium showing the influence of culture on traditional dances, including dances from Egypt, Latin American, Jordan, Morocco, Bahrain, India, China and South Africa.





BUMUN CONFERENCE (BEFORE-DURING-AFTER)

ASU students participated once again to BUMUN (Bahrain Universities Model United Nations) for its 12th years in Bahrain on the 26 - 27 November 2016 under the supervision of Ms Hadeel Boucheerei from the Deanship of Student Affairs and Evening Studies. The event was under the Patronage of H.H. Shaikh Nasser Bin Hamad Al Khalifa, in the Radisson Hotel, Bahrain.





BUMUN is a regional leadership short term programme that aims to engage youth in current global issues and hence preparing them to becoming good global citizens. This year's conference highlighted problems like cyber warfare, adapting to recent developments in small arms and light weapons technology, economic empowerment of women, impact of global narcotics drug control, bioterrorism, and environmental consequences of nuclear energy.

Before the event, ASU's delegation represented by 7 students, attended 7 training sessions for 7 weeks as part of the preparation of the BUMUN program.



During the event, a total of 200 students from 20 universities participated as delegates. The participating universities were from the Kingdom of Bahrain, the State of Kuwait, the State of Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and other regions. Our students have done really well, learned a lot, in addition one of our students won an award for "active member".

After the event, on 1 November 2016, Professor Ghassan Aouad and the Deanship of Student Affairs and Evening Studies honored the team of the participating students for their effort and for being great ambassadors of ASU.





HONORING OUTSTANDING STUDENTS AT ASU

On Sunday, 20 November 2016, Mr. Mohammed Najjar from the Deanship of Student Affairs and Evening Studies organized an award event to honor our outstanding students of semester two of academic year 2015-2016. The honoring event was under the Patronage of ASU President, and was attended by the VP for Academic Affairs & Development, College Deans, a large number academic staff, students and very proud parents.



Forty six honored students were granted fees compensation varying from 5 to 20 percent, depending on their achievement and position on the honor list.

ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION TEAM *(By alphabetic order)*

Based on an initiative from the Accreditation and the Change Management Groups, a team was formed to be responsible for HEC Accreditation indicators that are related to academic matter (mainly Area 3). Every member has been assigned a number of indicators and will be responsible of:

- ❖ Assimilating the meaning and the expectation of HEC related to each indicator he/she is responsible for
- ❖ Identifying the right evidences for each indicator
- ❖ Conveying the input for the SER to the accreditation group and the change management group through Monia/Hatem. The main role is to collect the information as an academic staff first and then from his/her colleagues in the department, in the College and in the University.

The ultimate objective is to have a consistent response to each indicator over all the university.

The team will be closely supported and guided by the Accreditation and Change Management Groups through Monia/Hatem. It was agreed during the first meeting with the team, to work with each one in order to have a common understanding of the indicators.

The meeting last Thursday was very positive each one of the team showed high sense of responsibility.



From left to right: Dr. Abdel Qawi, Dr. Adeeb, Dr. Adel Azyoud, Dr. Ali Aldada,

Dr. Amjad Annagrash, Mr. Ammar Yousif, Dr. Arbab, Dr. Atheela,

Dr. Jamal, Dr. Mahmood Alhete, Dr. Masadeh, Dr. Murad Al Janabi,
Dr. Nasim, Dr. Samia, Dr. Shihab, Dr. Waseem.



HATEM DAMMAK, A NEW ADDITION TO ASU MULTINATIONAL STAFF

Coming from Tunisia, Hatem Dammak joins the Administration staff of the University within the President's Office as Director of Internal Audit Unit. Originally an engineer, Hatem developed over a 7-year career a solid background in quality assurance and accreditation, business development and entrepreneurship, internal audit and strategic planning. He previously worked for the AMBA-accredited Mediterranean School of Business (MSB), Fastlane Consulting and Research (FCR) and the Jasmine Foundation for Research and Communication (JFRC).



With his strong interpersonal, communication and team working skills, we trust he will quickly and seamlessly integrate ASU team and significantly contribute to the university's ongoing overall efforts to get the HEC institutional accreditation. We warmly welcome him to our family and wish him all the success in his new position!

VISIT TO THE COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

A delegation from the Department of Political Science, headed by Dr. Baha Gaily Head of Department and other members of staff: Dr. Saleh Buallay, Dr. Khalid Dafallah and Dr. Ragab Ibrahim visited the Council of Representatives and conveyed their appreciation to the Council for their support and cooperation in terms of students' training. The delegation was received by His Excellency Mr. Abdullah bin Khalaf Al-Dosari, Secretary-General of the Council of Representatives and a number of officials of various departments.



His Excellency praised the significant collaboration between the University and the Council of Representatives, and delightedly accepted the joining of the Advisory Board of the bachelor in Political Science. He also look forward to further cooperation between the Council and the University.

RECEIVING ROYAL CHARITY ORGANIZATION

Applied Science University represented by Dr. Mohammed Yousif, the Acting VP for Administration, Finance and Community Engagement and Dr. Mohammad Al-Hamami received visitors from the Royal Charity Organization represented by H.E. Shaikh Ali Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, the Director of Charitable Resources Development and a number of administrative staff on Wednesday, 30 November 2016. During the visit, they discussed ways of collaboration to organize voluntary and charity events and activities, and explored opportunities and methods to support the community.

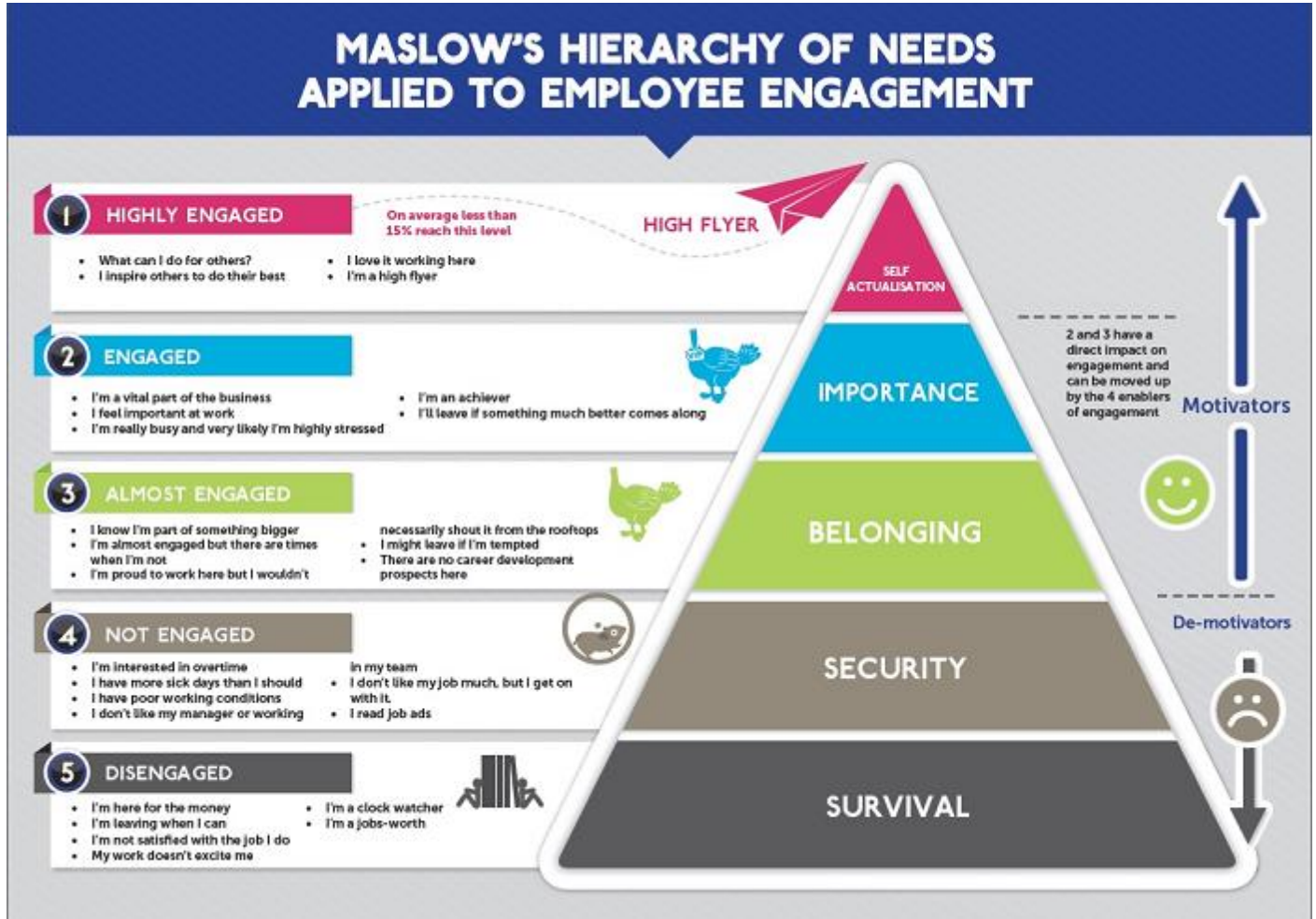


QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.”

Malcolm X.

REMINDER OF THE WEEK



Happy Reading

