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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 12th issue of the 2nd year of the President's News Digest.



On Sunday, 15 January 2017, a workshop on student employability was organized by the University. The event was great and well received by the 60+ who attended it. It was really pleasing to see the Dome Room buzzing with staff, external partners and most importantly our students who were passionate about contributing to the workshop.

The workshop started with a speech delivered by Prof Waheeb that set the scene for the event. This was followed by a presentation by the President on our University's strategy. Prof Saad then presented our students employability strategy focusing on internal issues like internships, curriculum design, incubation, soft skills, etc. Dr Faiza next presented our Graduate Attributes taking into account internal and external factors. The final presentation was by Dr Assem who presented market needs focusing on external factors like HEC guidelines, vision 2030, and international opportunities.



The workshop was run using a brainstorming approach to generate new and innovative ideas that can help our students to become more employable.

The results of the workshop will help our students and will be well received by the accreditation panel when they visit us. We intend to run this workshop again involving all staff and some selected students.

I am grateful to Prof Waheeb for an inspiring opening speech setting the scene for the workshop. I am also grateful to Ms Tania for the excellent preparation and organizing of the event. The presentations by Prof Saad, Dr Faiza and Dr Assem were inspiring and useful; I felt that I was attending a workshop in the UK.



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Prof Saad working closely with Dr Assem, Dr Faiza and Ms Tania will produce a report which will help us immensely during the accreditation visit. Many thanks are due to Ms Hadeel for doing all the data entry following the workshop. Many thanks to Mr Mohamed Alnajjar, Ms Noora and Mr Thaer from the Deanship of Students Affairs for their contributions during the workshop. Many thanks are also due to Mr Bahaa for his help with the media people recognition and to Hamid and Mustafa from PR with helping with the registration and other logistical issues. Last but not least, I would like to thank Mr Abdulla and Mr Majed for helping us with the gifts, dinner, and other logistical issues.



On 16 January, the University signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Flat 6 Labs to collaborate in the area of entrepreneurship and business incubators and accelerators. Ms Sabah Almoayed, Member of the HEC council, signed the agreement on behalf of Flat 6 Labs and in the presence of the Chairman of the BOT and many senior colleagues from across the University.

On 17 January, the Board of Trustees chaired by Prof Waheeb Alkhaja held its second meeting this year. The President gave a presentation about the University's progress in the areas of accreditation, change management, strategic and operational planning and KPIs. In addition, the President presented ASU's achievements this year and the plans put in place to dealing with challenges facing the University especially in the area of programme reviews and quality assurance. The BOT has approved all minor amendments to policies, bylaws and organizational charts.

Last week the University was buzzing with many visitors including HE the Italian Ambassador to Bahrain, Mr Don Ward, the Chief Executive of Constructing Excellence UK, the CEO and founder of Challenger team Dr Thabet Nabulsi, sales representatives from Oman Air, and Marise Santos from Red House Marketing, to explore opportunities for collaboration.





On Saturday, 21 January, the President and many colleagues from the University attended a Bahrain UK Alumni event organized by the British Council.

## THIS IS BAHRAIN

On 15 January, President of the University, Prof Ghassan Aouad and Head of Marketing and Student Recruitment Office, Edyta Przybyla visited Bahrain National Charter Monument as part of "This Is Bahrain" event.



## VISIT TO CAPITAL GOVERNORATE AND SILAH GULF

On 16 January 2017, Dr Faiza Zitouni, Dean of Student Affairs and Edyta Przybyla, Head of Marketing and Student Recruitment visited Capital Governorate and Silah Gulf for potential internship programmes and collaboration work.



## TURNITIN ACCOUNTS

In its pursuit to follow the accreditation and quality standards, ASU's library has increased the number of Turnitin subscription accounts from 800 to 3000 user in order to cover all university members and students. Library Director, Dr. Ammar Jalmneh will conduct workshops for university staff and students by the beginning of the second semester to introduce them to the software and how to use it in checking students' work. The Turnitin database is considered to be the largest database for academic research and the leading plagiarism and evaluation programme in the market today.



## GRADUATION PROJECT DISCUSSION – COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT



The graduate students of Computer Science Department at the College of Arts and Science have presented their Final Year Projects (FYP) on Sunday, 8 January 2017.

Dr. Moaiad Khder, Head of Computer Science Department had all the necessary preparations in place for the panel to evaluate the two projects which were submitted by the students. Prof. Hussein Zedan, the main supervisor of students had put a lot of efforts in guiding and advising the students.



The Healthcare Centre project was designed and implemented by Ibrahim AlJowdar whereas the Islamic Inheritance Distribution System was designed and implemented by Alanoud AlRewjeh.





The panel assessed both projects and were pleased with the effort that was put by students. Mr. Nizar Ma'roof, Director of Government Support Projects at Information and e-Government Authority who is an external assessor also praised their work and wished them success in their future life.

## PROF HUSSEIN ZEDAN'S FAREWELL

Computer Science (CS) Department arranged a farewell party for Prof. Hussein Zedan on Monday, 17 January 2017. All CS staff members showed their appreciation for Prof. Zedan's service and work at ASU, and wished him well for the future. Dr. Belal Zaqaibeh, Dean of the College of Arts and Science presented a farewell gift to Prof. Zedan on behalf of the CS department.



## CONVOCATION CEREMONY

Dr Nympha Joseph, Assistant Director of the Quality Assurance Centre at ASU attended the Institute of Commercial Management (UK) graduation ceremony in Bahrain as a Chief Guest where total of 40 students graduated.



## DR. AL-HAMAMI PARTICIPATED IN "TEHCAMP BAHRAIN"

Dr. Mohammad Al-Hamami, the Manager of Community Engagement Office and Assistant Professor in Management Information Systems Department participated in TechCamp event which was organized by the Social Media Club in collaboration with Embassy of the United States of America in Manama.



The event was about learning the basics and applying the best practices for broadcasting and interaction in social media that took place on 20 and 21 January 2017.

## REMINDER OF THE WEEK

Signing of MOC with Cardiff Met, 9 February 2017 at 2:00pm, Abdulla Nass Auditorium.

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"Each person has inside a basic decency and goodness. If he listens to it and acts on it, he is giving a great deal of what it is the world needs most. It is not complicated but it takes courage. It takes courage for a person to listen to his own goodness and act on it."*

**Pablo Casals**

*Happy Reading*