



PRESIDENT'S NEWS DIGEST

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Message from the President



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“Reminder to everybody about our quest for excellence in the University as part of our transformational work.”

“Delivering education of the highest quality remains our top priority.”

“Our philosophy and values should be driven by excellence and quality.”

The President of Gulf University of Science and Technology (GUST) Kuwait, Professor Donald Bates visited ASU

Dr Assem’s Appointment as Acting President

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 42nd edition of the President’s News Digest.

I am pleased to inform you that 14 of our colleagues who applied for fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (HEA) in the UK have been successful (this represents a 73.6% success rate).



Many congratulations to Prof Siddeeq Ameen, Prof Samya Al Shenawy, Dr Faiza Zitouni, Dr Hussain Bani Issa, Dr Adeb Hamdoun, Dr Mohamed Attiea, Dr Bashar Matarneh, Dr Ahmed Arbab, Dr Roy Tumaneng, Dr Yasser Altayeb, Dr Saeed Aldulaimi, Dr Marwan Abeldayem, Dr Adel Al-Samman and Dr Ragab Ebrahim!

Five colleagues need to do some more work on their applications and I am confident that they will achieve the Fellowship status in due course.

This is absolutely fantastic news for the University from an accreditation, programme reviews, launch of new programmes and publicity perspectives. Prof Waheeb AlKhaja, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, is absolutely delighted with this achievement.



Many thanks are due to Prof Zedan for taking the lead and for all his hard work.



Also, many thanks to Dr. Adrian Brockett, our external HEA consultant for all the work and help he extended to the University and its academic staff. Considering the fact that we have now achieved some internal capacity, I will be asking Prof Zedan and Ms. Yvonne Johnson to run some workshops for additional colleagues who would like to become fellows of the prestigious HEA; we may need some advice from Dr Adrian and we will provide support if needed. The purpose is to create the concept of "Train the trainers" and our colleagues can now help other colleagues.



CONTINUE ►



The successful applications will be put on the accreditation portal in order to allow colleagues to learn lessons and to help them in their future applications. This could become a good resource and a step in becoming a learning organization. By 1st September, five colleagues will put their applications for senior fellowship of the HEA, another important milestone in the development of the University.

Congratulations to ASU Fellows of the HEA!



Prof. Samya El Shenawi



Dr. Faiza Zitouni



Dr. Hussain Bani-Issa



Dr. Adeeb Hamdoon



Dr. Mohamed Attiea



Dr. Ahmed Arbab



Prof. Siddeeq Ameen



Dr. Bashar Matarneh



Dr. Adel Alsamman



Dr. Marwan Abd El Dayem



Dr. Saeed Al Dulaimi



Dr. Ragab Ismail



Dr. Roy Tumaneng



Dr. Yasser Altayeb



In this edition of the News Digest, I would like to remind everybody about our quest for excellence in the University as part of our transformational work.



Delivering education of the highest quality remains our top priority. Our joint programmes with British Universities will at some stage be audited by the UK QAA agency. We have to be very well prepared to deliver our educational goals in line with such a prestigious and reputable agency.

Our philosophy and values should be driven by excellence and quality. Quality should be at the heart of all what we do. We should recruit quality staff to educate quality students within a quality setting and infrastructure. Innovation should be another driver in order to deliver exciting, modern and relevant education. We should avoid the traditional broadcasting educational model and rely more on applied, practical, problem solving, and interactive approaches.

Quality when combined with innovation can help us progress our University much faster. Quality should be embedded in all our daily activities, it should be the norm in everything we do and we shouldn't think about it. It should become part of life and work. It is like the oxygen we breathe every day.

Everybody should embrace our quest for excellence; we should have the integrity, energy, enthusiasm, values, and loyalty to achieve it. It will be a very rewarding experience, individually and at institutional levels. In our preparation for accreditation, programmes mapping, programme reviews, and launch of our new programmes, quality should be a central part in order to achieve success in all the aforementioned activities. Course portfolios should be prepared to the highest standards and the delivery of courses should be done according to international norms.



In our search for excellence, we should also become more efficient as a University in order to protect the environment. This is not about cost savings, but about creating a culture of care about our sustainable futures in order to be role models for our students. We should save on energy by switching off AC, appliances, lights, etc. when we are not in our offices. We should only print papers when we need them and we should aim for a paperless university or centralized printing if needed. When appropriate, we should host our events in the University in order to promote our physical infrastructure and save on costs. We need to develop a comprehensive sustainability strategy for the University with clear KPIs for efficiency gains.



Last week we had a special visitor, the President of Gulf University of Science and Technology (GUST) Kuwait, Professor Donald Bates. The President and Mr Abdulla AlKhaja, Director of Administration and Finance, received President Bates and his son, Rhett, and we showed him around the University and we discussed opportunities for collaboration. GUST achieved AACSB and ABET accreditation when I was Vice President there and we can learn good lessons from them.



I would like to conclude this message by keeping you informed about my movement over the next 2 weeks. I will be away from the University from 21 August until 4 September 2016. In my absence Dr Assem will be Acting President. Between 23 and 26 August I will be in Malaysia delivering a presentation at a conference in Kuala Lumpur. On 27 September, I am attending an event in the University and between 28 August and 4 September; I will be away for a week of rest overseas.

INTERVIEWS WITH GDN & DT

On Thursday, 18 August 2016, Professor Ghassan Aouad, the University President, Mr Yusuf Lori, Head of Strategic Planning and Projects Management at the Capital Governorate, and Ms Edyta Przybyla, Head of Marketing and Student Recruitment Office at the University were interviewed by the Daily Tribune (DT) and Gulf Daily News (GDN).



The discussion was focused on supporting the Vision 2030 of HM the King of Bahrain, HH the Prime Minister and HH the Crown Prince In terms of impact of the Bahraini youths on the economy of the country, unemployment solutions, creating an educational hub, internships and sustainable government projects. The main goal is to upgrade the educational sector and influence students by engaging them in finding solutions to specific problems instead of adopting the traditional broadcasting-type model.

It is a part of positioning the University through strategic partnerships with Government (like the Capital Governorate) and Private Sector Organizations which will make the university highly competitive in terms of students' recruitment amongst many other opportunities.

INTERESTED READING (BELBIN MODEL: JUDGE FOR YOURSELF WHERE YOU ARE IN YOUR TEAM)

An Overview of the Application of Belbin Theory

Dr Meredith Belbin's work at Henley Management College, UK, identified 9 clusters of behaviour – each of which is termed a team-role. Each team-role has a combination of strengths and allowable weaknesses. See the Belbin Team Role Summary Table for more information.





Belbin Team Role Summary Table

Belbin Team Role Type	Description & Contribution	Allowable Weaknesses
RESOURCE INVESTIGATOR	Extrovert, enthusiastic, communicative. Explores opportunities. Develops contacts.	Over-optimistic. Loses interest once initial enthusiasm has passed.
COORDINATOR	Mature, confident, a good chairperson. Clarifies goals, promotes decision-making, delegates well.	Can often be seen as manipulative. Delegates personal work.
TEAMWORKER	Co-operative, mild, perceptive and diplomatic. Listens, builds, averts friction, calms the waters.	Indecisive in crunch situations. Can be easily influenced.
PLANT	Creative, imaginative, unorthodox. Solves difficult problems.	Ignores details. Too pre-occupied to communicate effectively.
SHAPER	Challenging, dynamic, thrives on pressure. Has the drive and courage to overcome obstacles.	Can provoke others. Tends to hurt people's feelings
MONITOR EVALUATOR	Sober, strategic and discerning. Sees all options. Judges accurately.	Lacks drive and ability to inspire others. Overly critical.
IMPLEMENTER	Disciplined, reliable, conservative and efficient. Turns ideas into practical actions	Somewhat inflexible. Slow to respond to new possibilities.
COMPLETER	Painstaking, conscientious, anxious. Searches out errors and omissions. Delivers on time.	Inclined to worry unduly. Reluctant to delegate. Can be a nit-picker.
SPECIALIST	Single-minded, self-starting, dedicated. Provides knowledge and skills in rare supply.	Contributes only on a narrow front. Dwells on technicalities. Overlooks the 'big picture'

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“We learned about honesty and integrity - that the truth matters... that you don't take shortcuts or play by your own set of rules... and success doesn't count unless you earn it fair and square.”

Michelle Obama



Enjoy Reading
