

# PRESIDENT'S NEWS DIGEST

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**ASU**  
جامعة العلوم التطبيقية  
APPLIED SCIENCE UNIVERSITY



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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 36th issue of the 3rd year of the President's News Digest.

In this issue of the News Digest, I will address the subject of “lecturers as role models”



Role models exist in all aspects of life, especially in education. Our childhood is usually influenced by the existence of role models. When you ask children at primary schools “what do you want to be or to do when you grow up”, it is most likely that they will answer “a teacher” because they see teachers as their role models. A role model is an individual who inspires us and unlocks our potential especially during our educational phase. A role model is someone we admire and someone we aspire to be like. Role models are important individuals in our lives so that we want to follow in their footsteps and almost mirror what they do and how they behave.

In our University, we should all be role models for our students as they rely heavily on our commitment to support their studies and future aspirations. We should provide them with advice and guidance in order to help them perform better and excel in their studies and future careers. We should provide them with a memorable learning experience and we should support them even after graduation. They should feel that we are always available to support them throughout their university life and career progression. A lecturer role model combines some of the quality listed below, but it is usually their personality and charisma that makes him/her unique and special. A lecturer role model:

- goes the extra mile to support their students
- inspires students and unlocks their potential
- creates a “team spirit” environment and harmony amongst students
- cares about students and their future
- has empathy towards their students
- never gossips about their colleagues or their students
- respects their students and colleagues

- delivers inspirational teaching combining leadership, knowledge, passion and innovation
- is always available to support their students
- is always remembered by their students especially after graduation
- has strong values, ethics, and integrity
- is driven by their professional conscience
- leads by example

In aspiring to be role models for our students, I am confident that our University will be transformed to deliver the best learning experience ever to our students. All the qualities mentioned above are straightforward and should be embedded in our culture without even thinking about them. A culture of excellence and quality can then be created and made sustainable over the long term.

Before the end of 2019, all universities in the Kingdom of Bahrain will go through the BQA Institutional Review process, which is as demanding as the HEC Institutional Accreditation. We should all work hard to strengthen the area of Teaching, Learning and Assessment which is a fundamental part of this review. We can easily achieve this if we adopt the concept of the “Lecturer Role Model” described earlier.

## THE PRESIDENT A KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT THE 7TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CREATIVE CONSTRUCTION



The President delivered a keynote address on the art and science of leadership in construction at the 7th international conference on creative construction held in Slovenia from the 30 June until the 3 July.

In his keynote address the President highlighted how construction firms across the globe are facing serious challenges because of the economic downturn, changes in the political and social environments, and the pace of adopting innovative solutions. In his presentation he demonstrated how strong leadership can help construction firms cope with such challenges. He said “People in our industry need to understand that leadership is in part art and in part science”. In his presentation, some frameworks for coupling leadership, innovation and competencies were presented and discussed.

## INTERVIEW OF THE WEEK

We would like to feature the interview this week with:



Name: Ashraf Hamza Hasan Ibdah

Position: Cashier

### 1. Tell us about yourself: (Your childhood, academic background)

I was born in Bahrain, and moved to Jordan, as I was raised and fulfilled my great childhood between my family and friends.

I remember the great days that passed with joy and love, spending the time in the greens of Jordan, and moving between Jordan and Bahrain, my two home countries.

I finished my high school from Jordan, and obtained my Bachelor degree in Finance and Banking from Yarmouk University. After that, I moved back to Bahrain.

### 2. Tell us about your job at ASU

I have started working at ASU since 2014 in the Finance Department as Cashier. Since then, I feel I am with my family; I've got great colleagues and staff, who I enjoy working with.

### 3. Tell us about your aspirations for the University

ASU is growing and becoming the best university locally and internationally. We support and work very hard with high professionalism to give our ASU the best to grow and become the best.



In addition, the use of advanced IT solutions have been highlighted and the types of leadership required in this area of technological advancements have been discussed. The presentation concluded with a set of recommendations to help construction firms develop appropriate leadership styles and approaches that cope with the challenges in a fast changing environment.

The conference was attended by around 150 participants from across the globe and was an opportunity for our University to demonstrate the international profile we are enjoying on many fronts.

### **THE PRESIDENT A KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE IMPACT OF RESEARCH IN THE ARAB WORLD**

The President delivered a keynote address on the art and science of research with emphasis on publications at the 3rd International Conference of the Impact of Research in the Arab World held in Dubai from 29 to 30 June. The conference was chaired by Prof Mahmoud Abdel Aty, Dean of Research and Graduate Studies at the University. In his keynote address, the President discussed how producing a good publication is in part art and in part science. In his presentation, the President also highlighted the main components that make a good publication. The research philosophy and methodology, critical review of literature, data collection and analysis and interpretation, and validation of findings which are the backbones of a good scientific publication have been discussed. In addition, emphasis has been put on writing styles, rigour and techniques to articulate key research findings. The presentation concluded with a set of recommendations which may enable novice researchers to maximize their chances of having their papers accepted by good quality journals and other types of publications.



### **A MEETING BETWEEN ASU AND PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION (IPMA)**

On 4 July, the President had a fruitful discussion in Dubai with the President of the International Project Management Association (IPMA), Mr Jesus Martinez Almela, and his Executive Director, Mr Amin Saidoun.



#### **4. What do you enjoy most about your job?**

I enjoy most dealing with the students, and provide them with the best customer service.

#### **5. Tell us about your hobbies**

My best hobbies are swimming and exercising.

#### **6. Tell us about your favourite food**

My best meal is Mansaf and Makmoura, the Jordanian golden dish.

#### **7. Tell us about the book you are reading now**

I read "Think and Grow Rich" by Napoleon Hill.

#### **8. Final words**

I hope all the glory for ASU and the best for my colleagues and family.

Finally, I am grateful to be part of ASU.

The discussion centred around collaboration between the University and IPMA. The influential IPMA has plans to expand into the Middle East and the University has been identified as a potential collaborator.

### THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS ATTENDED THE 5TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE AND CONTRIBUTED WITH A PAPER

On 29-30 June 2018, Dr. Assem Al-Hajj, Vice President for Academic Affairs, attended the 5th International Conference on Pure and Applied Science held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and contributed with a paper titled "Towards Effective Coordination of Infrastructure Works in UAE Municipalities". The conference was co-chaired by Prof. Mahmoud Abdel-Aty, Dean of Research and Graduate Studies at Applied Science University. Prof. Ghassan Aouad, President, was one of the key-note speakers at the conference.



### THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICE ACTIVITIES

#### Honoring Applied Science University in Social Media Day



Applied Science University was honoured by H.E Sheikh Hisham bin Abdulrahamn Al Khalifa, the Governor of Capital Governorate, in a Social Media Day celebration, that was organized by Social Media Club at Intercontinental Regency on 1 July 2018 in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Dr. Ramzi Nekhili, Dean of College of Administrative Sciences, and Dr. Mohammad Alaa Al-Hamami attended the event on behalf of ASU. During the celebration, Dr. Nekhili received an appreciation certificate for the University's contribution and support to Social Media Club, and the community. Dr. Al-Hamami was honoured in the celebration for his effort in raising awareness about social media usage.



### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"A dream becomes a goal when action is taken toward its achievement."*

**Bo Bennett**

*Happy Reading!*