

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 38th issue of the 3rd year of the President's News Digest.

In this issue of the News Digest, I will address the subject of “achievements of the academic year 2017-2018”.



As we approach the end of the academic year 2017-2018, I would like to express my sincere thanks for the hard work you have exerted over the last 12 months. It has been a hectic year, but full of outstanding achievements. **These achievements have been summarized as follows:**

1. The institutional accreditation inspection visit took place in June (24th- 27th). The visit was well planned and conducted and we are optimistic about the outcome of this visit. Achieving our Institutional accreditation has been our top priorities over the last 3 years and I am confident that achieving this accreditation will raise the University's profile and makes it more sustainable.
2. The successful launch of the College of Engineering and its programs
3. The successful ISO 9001:2015 certification for our administrative process including HR, finance, library, procurement, IT, admissions and registration, students affairs, and quality systems.
4. The development of very advanced and automated decision support systems, HR systems, KPIs dashboards, operational plans dashboards, online students complain system amongst many others.
5. The production of a well presented strategic plan booklet that will be used as a marketing document.
6. The development of a workload model that reflects fairness and transparency
7. The successful running of the Good Teaching Conference. More than 95% of our staff presented in this conference

8. The approval of a HEA accredited centre. The University is now in position to train its staff for Associate Fellow, Fellow, and Senior Fellow of the HEA
9. Many academic staff achieved the status of Fellow and senior Fellow of the HEA (in total the University has 35 Fellows and Senior Fellows, the highest in any Private University anywhere in the region)
10. Program reviews in the College of Arts and science, we are hoping for a good result
11. The introduction of the first Innovation of Teaching Awards
12. The development of an innovative approach to exam moderation through an online system.
13. The launch of the Incubation Centre
14. The re-launch of the English Language Unit
15. Various workshops on entrepreneurship, students employability, and market need analysis were successfully organized with good reports produced as outputs
16. The placement of the Bachelors in Law and BBA on the NQF, subject to some corrections
17. Various periodic program reviews were conducted
18. Class Observations by external consultants and internal staff
19. Benchmarking Reports are produced for the College of Arts and science
20. All Programs achieved full confidence or in the process of achieving it
21. A big increase in research publications has been achieved (this year we will exceed 80 in comparison of 69 last year)
22. Various research groups in sustainability, women leadership, and IT were established
23. The successful running of the International Conference on Sustainable Futures

INTERVIEW OF THE WEEK

We would like to feature the interview this week with:



Name: Michelle Ann Philip

Position: Training Coordinator

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

I was born and brought up in Bahrain, thus to me Bahrain is always considered as home. I completed my O' Levels from Sacred Heart School Bahrain, and then moved to India after receiving a scholarship to work with the Oberoi Group of hotels. During that time, I completed my Bachelor's in Tourism Studies.

2. Tell us about your job at ASU

In September 2016, I joined ASU as a Training Coordinator. My job entails assessing the training requirements of our administrative staff and helping them achieve their training needs by providing them with various courses, and activities that enable them to develop their required skills. It also involves the handling of ICDL registrations and administrative procedures for ASU students and staff.

3. Tell us about your aspirations for the University

I hope that ASU achieves the Institutional Accreditation and becomes one of the top universities not just in Bahrain but in the GCC.

24. First students conference was held in order to enable our students to present the finding of their research and graduation projects
25. ASU was honored for its efforts in supporting and cooperating with the community in various fields by. H.H. Sheikh Nasser Bin Hamad Al Khalifa, H.H Sheikh Khalid Bin Hamad Al-Khalif, Council of Representatives, Royal Charity Organization, etc
26. Launch of the Female Students lounge
27. Approval by the HEC to build a state of the art sports complex
28. Strong presence in the media and press
29. Implementation of campus-wide Turnitin application at ASU (3000 students and staff)
30. Introducing the new course 'Introduction to Entrepreneurship' as a University compulsory subject
31. Clear admissions guides were developed
32. Establishment of the University's Graduate Attributes
33. Successful faculty development plans based on Training Needs Analysis
34. Financial aid to support poor and outstanding students (more than 100,000 BDs were spent)
35. Establishment of the Alumni Club
36. Various MOUs were signed with companies to enable the provision of internships for our students
37. The Establishment of the IEEE Student Chapter
38. The Development of an e-learning strategy
39. The Open Day: 201 students from 8 different private schools attended
40. Various visits to Government and Private Schools
41. Successful job fairs, alumni dinners, etc were organized
42. Successful running of the 10th Graduation Ceremony
43. The initiation of a staff satisfaction survey
44. Membership of the IFI association for the interior design program

4. What do you enjoy most about your job?

My job provides me with the opportunity to interact with not just ASU staff but our students as well. I enjoy these interactions, as it enables me to work with interesting people and create great results while constantly learning and gaining knowledge.

5. Tell us about your hobbies

Traveling, photography, DIY activities and solving jigsaw puzzles

6. Tell us about your favourite food

Spice is the key. I enjoy trying various cuisines, the spicier the better.

7. Tell us about the book you are reading now

Higher Loyalty: Truth, Lies, and Leadership is a book by James Comey - he was the former Director of the FBI

8. Final words

I would like to wish ASU the very best of luck in achieving the institutional accreditation. Hope everyone has a blessed and memorable summer break.

45. The development of an internationalization strategy
46. An application for the QS stars was submitted
47. Internal audits of colleges and administrative departments were conducted
48. Various students events like National Day, London Day were organized
49. Various staff social events like Ghabgha, Camping, etc were organized
50. The development of a lesson plan template and various good practices by the QAAC
51. News Digest is still being circulated on a weekly basis
52. President Report on short articles published in the News Digest in the Messages from the President
53. Recognition of our Health and Safety procedures by the Bahrain Civil Defense
54. Special achievements: The election of the Chairman of Board of Directors of the University, Mr Sameer Nass, as President of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Chairman of the BOTs, Prof Waheeb ALKhaja, as a Member of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Chairman of its Educational Committee

Priorities over the next few months are specified below:

- 1 Preparation for BQA institutional review
- 2 LLB Law submission, needs to be finalized
- 3 Students Recruitment
- 4 HEA Centre
- 5 Preparation for the next semester, timetables, etc,
- 6 Engineering Labs
- 7 Auditing of course portfolios
- 8 Closing the loop for internal audit
- 9 Operational plans and KPIs
- 10 Printing of Strategic Plan Booklet
- 11 University prospectus and program handbooks 2018-2019
- 12 HEC annual report

ALUMNI CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS INTRODUCTORY MEETING WITH THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

On 19 July 2018, the Alumni Club Board of Directors for its 3rd cycle in coordination with the Career Development and Alumni Affairs Office organized the first introductory meeting with the University President, Professor Ghassan Aouad.



The Board of Directors introduced themselves and presented their ideas for the next academic year 2018-2019 and their latest achievements mainly their contribution in the Alumni Reunion. Professor Ghassan Aouad thanked them for their successful contribution in the accreditation visit and mentioned the significant role of the alumni club members in the University strategic planning and future development and highlighted that continuous communication is pivotal for the success of the University strategic objectives.



THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICE ACTIVITIES

CE Office Attended “قمم” Programme Open Ceremony

On 16 July 2018, Dr. Mohammad Alaa Al-Hamami, Manager of the Community Engagement Office and Mr. Thaer Mustafa AlRamini, Member of the Community Engagement Office and Student Care in the Deanship of Student Affairs attended the Open Ceremony for “قمم” Programme in Um Al - Hassam Sports & Cultural Club.



“قمم” Programme was held under the patronage of Mr. Nabil Yousif Angner, the Honorary President of Um Al - Hassam Sports & Cultural Club and with the participation of a number of institutions and organizations that support voluntary projects and community dialogue.

The youth training programme that was organized by Um Al-Hassam Sports & Cultural Club in cooperation with Creative Training Lab and with the participation of a selection of youth trainers in the Kingdom of Bahrain and Saudi Arabia aimed to create a group of innovative youth leaders and teams to initiate creative volunteering programs, initiatives, business projects and meaningful community dialogues.

ASU Students Participants of the Fourth Charity Exhibition “Artwork for Children in Need” Honoured by the President

Professor Ghassan Aouad, President of Applied Science University honoured the University students who participated in the fourth charity exhibition for the Sovereign Art Foundation Students Prize 2018 “Artwork for the Children in Need” that was organized by the Royal Charity Organization and Sovereign Art Foundation under the patronage of H.E. Shaikha Mai Bint Mohammed Al Khalifa, the President of Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities.



ASU Students from the College of Arts and Science: Zainab hubail, Fatima Ali, Jumana AlQattan, Ali AlQari, Fatima Abdulmajeed, Lulwa Showaiter, and Ali AlKoheeji participated in the charity exhibition with a collection of creative art works.

Lulwa’s portrait was nominated as one of the top paintings and it was presented at the Fourth Charity Dinner, which was held under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, His Majesty's Representative for Charity and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Royal Charity Organization.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Knowing Is Not Enough; We Must Apply. Wishing Is Not Enough; We Must Do.”
Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe

 *Happy Reading!* 