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APPLIED SCIENCE UNIVERSITY

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 2nd issue of the 4th year of the President's News Digest.

In this issue of the News Digest, I will address the subject of “publications citations”.



The number and quality of publications are important elements in any academic promotion and in raising the reputation of an academic institution. Whenever possible, it is important to publish in ISI or Scopus listed journals, as they have more weights, and most international league tables use them in their rankings. However, it all depends on the discipline and area of research. The number of citations is also another important factor and the widely used h index demonstrates the quality and number of citations. The h-index, or Hirsch index, measures the impact of a particular researcher rather than a journal. An individual's h-index may be very different in different databases. This is because the databases index covers different years. For instance, Scopus only considers work from 1996 or later. You can look at your h index using the Web of Science, Scopus, or Goggle Scholar. The index is based on a list of publications ranked in descending order by the number of citations these publications received. The value of h is equal to the number of papers (N) in the list that have N or more citations.

Michelle Ebbs lists 10 simple techniques to boost citation counts in order to maximize impact

- Cite your past work when it is relevant to a new manuscript. However, do not reference every paper you have written just to increase your citation count.
- Carefully choose your keywords. Choose keywords that researchers in your field will be searching for so that your paper will appear in a database search.
- Use your keywords and phrases in your title and repeatedly in your abstract. Repeating keywords and phrases will increase the likelihood your paper will be at the top of a search engine list, making it more likely to be read.

- Use a consistent form of your name on all of your papers. Using the same name on all of your papers will make it easier for others to find all of your published work. If your name is very common, consider getting a research identifier, such as an ORCID. You can provide your ORCID in your email signature and link that ID to your publication list so that anyone you email has access to your publications.
- Make sure that your information is correct. Check that your name and affiliation are correct on the final proofs of your manuscript and check that the paper's information is accurate in database searches.
- Make your manuscript easily accessible. If your paper is not published in an open-access journal, post your pre- or post-publication prints to a repository. Check SHERPA RoMEO to find your publisher's copyright and self-archiving policies regarding sharing your published manuscript.
- Share your data. There is some evidence that sharing your data can increase your citations. Consider posting to data sharing websites, such as figshare or SlideShare, or contributing to Wikipedia and providing links to your published manuscripts.
- Present your work at conferences. Although conference presentations are not cited by other others, this will make your research more visible to the academic and research communities. Check out these tips for making the most of your next research conference.
- Use social media. Provide links to your papers on social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Academia.edu, ResearchGate, Mendeley) and your university profile page.
- Actively promote your work. Talk to other researchers about your paper, even ones not in your field, and email copies of your paper to researchers who may be interested. Create a blog or a website dedicated to your research and share it.

Hirsch reckons that after 20 years of research, an h index of 20 is good, 40 is outstanding, and 60 is truly exceptional. The advantage of the h-index is that it combines productivity (i.e., number of papers produced) and impact (number of citations) in a single number.

In the below example, an author has 8 papers that have been cited 33, 30, 20, 15, 7, 6, 5 and 4 times. This tells us that the author's h-index is 6.

INTERVIEW OF THE WEEK

We would like to feature the interview this week with:



Name: Dr. Ahmad Saleh Ali Shatat

Position: Head of MIS Department

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

I am from Jordan, I grew up in Amman and stayed there until I have completed my high school, then I departed to pursue my education abroad in 1998. My bachelor degree was in business administration, after that I did my MBA in MIS, and then the Ph.D. in MIS as well from Malaysia.

I started my teaching career at Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan in 2004, then I moved to Oman to teach at Sohar University on 2009 till July 2017.

2. Tell us about your job at ASU

I joined ASU last year in September 2017, as the Head of MIS Department. Throughout the last 14 months, we all worked together as a team and engaged ourselves in every activity to overcome several challenges in order to enhance the quality of teaching for our beloved students.

3. Tell us about your aspirations for the University

I wish to see ASU ranked among the top ten Universities in the region.

<u>Articles</u>	<u>Citation numbers</u>
1	33
2	30
3	20
4	15
5	7
6	6 = h-index
7	5
8	4

In the example below, the researcher would have an h-index of 8, as 8 articles have been cited at least 8 or more times, and the remaining articles have each been cited 8 times or less.

Publication	Times Cited
1	87
2	70
3	46
4	32
5	19
6	15
7	10
8	9
9	8
10	6
11	4
12	1

Cut-off

References

<http://journalauthors.tandf.co.uk/beyondpublication/optimizingcitations.asp>

<http://researchsupporthub.northampton.ac.uk/2013/02/05/2429/>

<http://www.jobs.ac.uk/careers-advice/working-in-higher-education/2172/how-to-increase-your-citation-rates-in-10-easy-steps-part-2/>

<http://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/50919/>

<https://www.aje.com/en/arc/10-easy-ways-increase-your-citation-count-checklist/>

<https://researchguides.uic.edu/c.php?g=252299&p=1683205>

<http://www.muhclibraries.ca/training-and-consulting/guides-and-tutorials/whats-your-impact-calculating-your-h-index/>

<https://www.aje.com/en/arc/10-easy-ways-increase-your-citation-count-checklist/>

4. What do you enjoy most about your job?

Teaching, I really enjoy teaching the students the practical part of the module.

5. Tell us about your hobbies

Swimming, Ping Pong, Volleyball

6. Tell us about your favourite food

Mansaf, Maftool.

7. Tell us about the book you are reading now

What Father Didn't Tell Me About Life!

8. Final words

We all should put every effort to see ASU shining as a star in the higher education sector.

BOT MEETING

On Wednesday 7 November, the BOT chaired by Prof Waheeb Alkhaja held its first meeting this academic year where they discussed issues related to risk register, operational plans amongst many others. During the meeting, the President of the University presented the end of year report 2017/2018 which included the achievements of the University. The Chair of the Board and its members expressed their joy for the recent ranking of the University (ranked 45) in the QS Arab Region University Rankings, and have passed their thanks to the University academic and administrative staff for this major achievement.



MEETING AT THE HEC

On Thursday, 1 November, the President attended a meeting involving all Private Universities Presidents with Dr Abdul Ghani Shuwaikh, Secretary General of the HEC

The following items were discussed:

- Cooperation between Higher Education Institutions and the Business Community: right specialisms and research
- Cooperation with private and public sectors, internships
- Professional advising
- Learning outcomes are appropriate
- QS and its importance in employer reputation
- Relationship with alumni
- Employability strategy, employability of students
- Academic accreditation: 3 universities are in process
- Participation of private universities in the QS Ranking
- Entrepreneurship
- 70% of specialisms are still in humanities and business
- Students file need to be finalized
- Students from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are not allowed to be admitted. RUW and RCSI can accept Saudi Students
- Master students supervision and examinations
- Research expenditure will be checked in May 2019. 3% of the previous year final account to be budgeted for. Advanced Researcher Connect Workshop with British Council.
- Bylaw 10 research expenditure needs to be studied
- Infrastructures: bylaws for buildings, labs, library, offices, and facilities and bylaws for sports facilities.

THE DEANSHIP OF RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES STARTS REGULAR MEETINGS WITH THE COLLEGES: COLLEGE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCES

Based on the vision of Applied Science University, and its philosophy of building bridges of permanent communication with faculty members in the University to achieve the objectives of the strategic plan in support of scientific research and development of graduate programmes, the

Deanship of Research and Graduate Studies took the initiative of holding meetings with faculty members of different colleges in the University to discuss issues related to scientific research and postgraduate studies. These meetings aim to listen to opinions and proposals, which contribute to the improvement and development of the procedures followed in the Deanship. The first meeting was with faculty members of the College of Administration Sciences, which was held on 1 November, 2018 in Abdallah Nass Auditorium.





Opening the meeting, Professor Yazeed Al-Sbou, Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, welcomed the audience and thanked them for their interest in attending the meeting. Professor Al-Sbou gave a brief about some issues related to research and graduate studies in the University. Then Professor Mansour Lotayif, Assistant Dean, set out the agenda of the meeting which included: updating staff members about the changes in master's guidelines, presenting the draft guidelines for feedback, setting the guidelines for master's discussion panels urging staff members to publish their research articles in refereed international journals and conferences, encouraging faculty members to form research groups and perform inter- and intra-disciplinary research projects, ... etc.



After that, there was a discussion with the audience about these points and their views about issues related to research and graduate studies, which the attendees found very interested and gave their comments. Finally, the audience thanked the Deanship of Research and Graduate Studies for holding such meetings and urged to continue holding them due to their effect on the advancement of research and graduate programs and ASU in general.

“ADVANCED RESEARCHER CONNECT: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR RESEARCHERS” WORKSHOP

Last Thursday and Friday, 9-10 November, Dr. Mansour Lotayif, Dr. Saed Al Delimy, Dr. Raad Kazem, and Dr. Samia Al Shinawi attended a workshop titled “Advanced Researcher Connect: Professional Development for Researchers” representing ASU. The workshop was organised by the HEC in collaboration with the British Council for 2 consecutive day and was attended by members from other universities in Bahrain. In the last day, Dr. Abdul Ghani Ali Al Shwaikh presented the participants with certificates.



THE DEANSHIP OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE SUPPORTS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

In line with the University's strategy of promoting scientific research for its great impact on the faculty member and the University in general, the Deanship of the Faculty of Arts and Science organized an annual programme to support and encourage scientific research.



The first workshop entitled "How to establish a research group" was held on 1 November 2018. The scientific research coordination team at the College were Dr. Uday Al-Jubouri - Vice Dean, Dr. Moayad Khader - Head of Computer Science Department, Dr. Mohamed Abdeldayem - Acting Head of the Department of Design and Arts, and Dr. Samia El-Shennawi - Coordinator of Scientific Research at the college, who presented an introduction on the importance of scientific research and the role of research groups in enhancing, implementing and promoting research. That was followed by a brainstorming session and discussions among faculty members, focusing on sharing research interests of each faculty member, thus to establish bridges of communication among the various disciplines that the college includes. The faculty members have shown positive interaction on this level that has been an important step in the process of establishing multidisciplinary research groups.

THE DEANSHIP OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

The scientific research coordination team in the College of Arts and Sciences continues to hold sessions on scientific research.

The second workshop for the academic year 2018/2019 was held on Thursday, 8 November 2018 titled "Successful Steps for Scientific Publishing". Prof. Ayman Al-Dmour, Dean of the College, presented a lecture on how to establish an effective academic profile for faculty members on Google Scholar and how this reflects positively on the faculty member and the University in general. He also explained in more detail how to boost your citation count to maximize impact of the researcher within the scope of his field of research. Furthermore, Prof. Ayman Al-Dmour explained how to use Research Gate and Scopus in a way that benefits the researcher and the University. He also presented of several relevant websites that help researchers to determine the quality of journals and international conferences in order to facilitate their decisions when comes to publish papers.



THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICE ACTIVITIES

ASU Hosted a Public Debate Titled “Allocation of seats for youth in the House of Representatives”

Within the initiatives and activities of the Community Engagement Office at Applied Science University; the University hosted a public debate titled “Allocation of seats for youth in the House of Representatives”. The event was organized by Bahrain Talent and Creativity Society, and Community Engagement Office at Applied Science University.



The event which was a part of Bahrain Debates Project, was held at the Dome Hall on campus on Wednesday 7-11-2018 from 7 pm to 9 pm. Public figures, media personalities, local community, University academic and administrative staff and students attended the event.

INTERVIEW WITH ALUMNUS



Name	Safa Ahmed AlNe'mah
Workplace	Recently graduated, looking for job opportunities
Academic Degree	Bachelor
Academic Major	Law
Do you intend to pursue further Higher Education? What Major?	Yes, Masters in Law.



Tell us about your Experience at ASU in terms of learning environment and teaching methods.

Applied Science University has been one of the most interesting studying experience that I have ever encountered; it gave me the opportunity to associate the studied theories into practices, which helped every student to thrive in their chosen academic major.

What did you enjoy the most about your experience at ASU?

I have enjoyed my student experience at Applied Science University; I had the opportunity to learn, to break out my comfort zone and engage more in the social part of the University. These prospects opened the door for me to become the Vice President of ASU's Alumni Club in its 3rd cycle (2018-2019)

In your opinion, What are the improvement areas you would like to see at ASU in the future?

I see that my University is perfect as it already is.

Final words

As a part of the Alumni Club, I encourage all of my fellow graduates to consider joining this club for its great role in keeping all the graduates in touch.

Interviewed By: Maheera Faisal, Alumni Affairs Committee Chair; ASU Alumni Club

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"In the absence of clearly defined goals, we become strangely loyal to performing daily trivia until ultimately we become enslaved by it".

Robert Heinlein

Happy Reading!