



PRESIDENT'S NEWS DIGEST

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 18th issue of the 4th year of the President's News Digest. In this issue of the News Digest, I will address the subject of “the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals”.



The Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, prosperity, and peace and justice. The Goals interconnect and in order to leave no one behind, it is important that we achieve each Goal and target by 2030.

THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development



The 17 goals are all very relevant to universities across the globe, and ASU is no difference. We should design our curriculum to address some of these goals. In addition, we should educate our staff and students about these important goals through training and awareness workshops. Specific goals like quality education, affordable and clean energy, decent work and economic growth, industry and innovation and infrastructure, sustainable cities and communities, and climate action are of particular importance.

It is our duty to produce graduates that care about the environment in a world, which is competing, for scarce resources. Our staff should take the lead in demonstrating to our students how to become more efficient and more sustainable. Many universities have developed sustainability strategies to address this important area.



Office No: (+973) 16036161

Email: tania.kashou@asu.edu.bh

In our University, we should have a framework that guides our performance in this area. This framework should cover 4 important pillars, the first one is related to energy use, green issues, and sustainable buildings and campuses, the second pillar is related to the use of technology, the third one is associated with economic sustainability, and the last one is related to social and behavioral habits. On the environmental side, we should become more efficient by relying more on natural lighting, switching devices when they are not in use, avoiding printing documents when they are not needed in order to save on costs and trees, switching off the lights and AC when we are not in our offices, recycling of waste water and use of solar panels if feasible. A green campus should always be our biggest dream. In the area of technology, we should automate most of our processes in order to become more efficient and to reduce the consumption of printing materials. Centralized printing is now the norm in most universities. The economic sustainability could be addressed by relying more on our internal talents and the efficient use of external resources through rigorous procurement approaches. Finally, with regards to the social and behavioral habits, our staff and students should embrace the idea of car sharing; this will help in the efficient use of the car park and savings on fuel consumption. In addition, it is important to embed sustainability in our culture and thinking and our curriculum should incorporate some issues related to sustainability.

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2015/09/what-are-the-sustainable-development-goals/>

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

THE PRESIDENT PARTICIPATES AS PANELIST IN THE INNOVATION ARABIA 2019



The President participated as Panelist in the Innovation Arabia 2019 held in Dubai, UAE (25 – 27 February 2019). The panel discussion covered the subject of the 4th industrial revolution and its impact on higher education.

WORKSHOP ON FIRST CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS PROPOSALS FUNDING

Under the Patronage of Professor Ghassan Aouad, President of the University, and based on the University's strategic plan in supporting scientific research, the Deanship of Research and Graduate Studies held a workshop on Thursday, 28 February

INTERVIEW OF THE WEEK

We would like to feature the interview this week with:



Name: Zahra Isa Hider Haji

Position: Administrator in the Library and Information Services Directorate

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

I was born in Muharraq 1993. I have beautiful memories about my childhood with my big family. Now I am a mother of 2 angels (Ahmed & Fatima).

I have high national diploma degree certificate in Finance and Accounting from Bahrain Training Institute. My plan for the future is to complete my study and improve myself.

2. Tell us about your job at ASU

I am an Administrator in the Library. My job is cataloging and classifying the books in the library system, reserving books, in addition to some secretarial work and photocopying. The most interesting part of my job is to help students and staff in learning how to use the library facilities.

3. Tell us about your aspirations for the University

I wish all the best for the University, by having the accreditation and to be on the top and the best competitor between universities.

2019 to announce the first call for funding of research projects proposals.



Professor Yazeed Al-Sbou, Acting Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, welcomed the audience and gave a talk titled by “Research@ASU”. Professor Al-Sbou stressed in his talk on the significant role of research in developing the university and in achieving distinguished rankings among universities locally, nationally and globally. During his talk, Professor Al-Sbou highlighted several important issues related to establishment a scientific research excellence and creation of research environment and culture at the university. The talk included several interesting topics like: ASU research strategic research plan and its key priorities, ASU pyramid of research excellence, importance of research for ASU (individual, institutional, and national), ASU research challenges, HEC research bylaws, Bahrain Research National Strategy (2014-2024), ASU research themes, types of funded research projects, research proposals framework, project proposals evaluation criteria and many other interesting topics.



After the presentation, there was a valuable discussion by Professor Ghassan, the President, and the audience about these points and their views about issues related to research. Moreover, the Deans of the Colleges announced a number of research proposals that the staff would like to apply for funding. In addition, Miss Eman Alsadeq, Head of Governance and Strategic Planning Unit, presented the ASU research annual operational plans in terms of strategic objectives, key priorities and KPI.

By the end of the workshop, the attendees were very interested and made many observations and comments. Finally, the audience thanked the Deanship of Research and Graduate Studies for holding such meetings and urged to continue in holding them due to their impact in the advancement of research at ASU.

4. What do you enjoy most about your job?

My job requires providing good services with high quality in order to achieve student’s satisfaction. As I am a sociable & friendly person it is a pleasure for me to interact with the students and staff.

5. Tell us about your hobbies

I like all kind of sports.

6. Tell us about your favourite food

My mom is the best cook in the world, so I like to eat her food and I love her taste in food. But I don’t like seafood a lot.

7. Tell us about the book you are reading now

I am not a reader but I like to read some positive books and real stories.

8. Final words

I wish all the best and prosperity for ASU.

THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICE ACTIVITIES

The Community Engagement Office at ASU Organized the Second Campaign to clean the coast of East AlEker

Under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Hisham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, the Governor of Capital Governorate, the Community Engagement Office at ASU in collaboration with the Capital Governorate, AlEker Charitable Society, (وثيقة محافظة العاصمة للتطوع); organized the second voluntary campaign to clean the coast of East AlEker.



Dr. Mohammad Yousef - the Vice President for Administration, Finance and Community Engagement and Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs and Development, Mr. Hassan Al Madani - the Deputy Capital Governor, and Dr. Abdulwahid Al-Nakal - the Board Member of Capital Municipal Council attended and participated in the campaign that was held on Saturday 23 February 2019.



ASU staff, students and alumni, as well as members and volunteers from AlEker Charitable Society, (وثيقة محافظة العاصمة للتطوع), One Heart Media Team, Positive Wings Voluntary Team, and a number of volunteers

from the local community participated in the event, and planted 20 mangrove trees to preserve the environment and public coasts of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The aim was to engage the citizens in the clean-up initiatives and raise awareness among members of the University and the community.



Applied Science University Visited Bahrain National Museum

Within the initiatives of the Community Engagement Office at Applied Science University about linking theory to practice, ASU students and staff visited Bahrain National Museum on Sunday 24 February 2019.



The visit was organized by the Community Engagement office at ASU in coordination with Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities.

Applied Science University Visited Aysha Intervention Center

The Community Engagement Office organized a visit to Aysha Intervention Center on Wednesday 17 February 2019, where a number of academic and administrative staff and students from ASU took part in a series of activities and distributed gifts to cheer up and support the members of the center.



At the end of the visit, the management of Aysha Intervention Center thanked ASU academic and administrative staff and students for their warm visit.



The Community Engagement Office Received Al-Kawther Society for Social Care

On Wednesday, 27 February 2019, the Community Engagement Office at the University received a delegation from Al-Kawther Society for Social Care, where they discussed Methods of cooperation between the two parties.



INTERVIEW WITH ALUMNUS

Name:	Mohammed Khalid Ebrahim Alhiddi
Workplace:	Ministry of Interior
Academic Degree	Bachelor (ASU) Masters Student (RAP)
Academic Major	Law
Tell us about your Experience at ASU in terms of learning environment and teaching methods.	Since I was working while studying, my study period was considered a very positive atmosphere which helped me to learn easily and smoothly, especially with the existence of the elite and experienced faculty members where each one of them has his unique and distinctive style that raises the instinct of Scientific Research and passion of knowledge which led to facilitate the process of education.
What did you enjoy the most about your experience at ASU?	Without any compliments, I enjoyed the most at the University; the lectures which were delivered by Dr. Hussein Bani Issa, of which I still keep a copy. I was craving for his classes and the way that he was not confined only to the words written in the books, but to his extensive knowledge and experience. Those lectures were treasures and he was my teacher and mentor, in fact he raised my passion towards the criminal law with the analytical and problem solving skills.
Tell us a success story inspired by ASU.	I do not consider myself to have reached the ceiling of success or ambition, I am still at the beginning and I have a lot to learn, but thankfully I am proud to be an ASU alumnus; people praise the fact that ASU produces high-achieving and the cleverest graduates.

In your Opinion, What are the Improvement areas you would like to see at ASU in the future?	Focusing more on the practical side to prepare the students for the world of work.
Final words	Thank you ASU

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

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Sustainable development is the pathway to the future we want for all. It offers a framework to generate economic growth, achieve social justice, exercise environmental stewardship and strengthen governance.”

Ban Ki-moon

Happy Reading!