

# 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 29th issue of the 4th year of the President's News Digest. In this issue I will cover the academic staff development week at ASU.



The whole week was about developing staff, the most important asset of the University. A university can only prosper and progress by the quality of its staff and students.

The week started with 3 days workshops on “crossing the bridge together”. What a fantastic title which indicates team spirit and that we are all in the same boat to take ASU to an exciting ground. The three days covered very important topics like academic advising, Masters viva, student experience, assessment and feedback amongst many others.

The last 2 days were dedicated to the 3rd Good Teaching conference/forum, where colleagues from all four colleges presented and shared good experiences.

I attended many workshops in the first 3 days and few presentations at the last 2 days. I was impressed by the quality of delivery and the level of innovation

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all those colleagues who presented at the week long staff development workshops and conference/forum held at the University from 12 to 16 May. It was a comprehensive programme of useful workshops and a well planned conference/forum. I couldn't imagine that many other universities are doing the same thing. The Masters Thesis Examination act playing was very innovative and informative. Our actors examiners Professors Yazeed, Jaafar and Mansour and our actor student Dr Mohamed Alhamami were brilliant. We should do more act playing as it is powerful in passing the right messages and it should be used more in the classrooms. I understand now that Dr Faiza will compile all the presentations in a booklet and share them. This is the type of activity, which will help us immensely during institutional reviews and any other quality reviews. We have always been commended for our staff development activities and the last five days provide the evidence that we could be exceptional in developing the most important asset in the University, our staff.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr Mohammed Yousif, Dr Faiza and Dr Adel and other colleagues for putting a comprehensive programme and managing it really well. I am grateful to those colleagues who made efforts to attend most sessions. Our colleague photographer Mohamed spent a lot of time recording all the sessions, we should thank him for this.

All those colleagues listed in the workshops programme and conference/forum have helped in developing the University further.

In academia, there is never the right timing to organise a week long staff development activity, as we are busy the whole year. I am grateful to those colleagues who have adopted a positive attitude. The feedback I received from colleagues was amazing, and many of them have asked for this activity to be repeated on a yearly basis, as they found it extremely beneficial in their phase of development. The full programme is listed below:

**Crossing the Bridge Together #2 (a series of workshops)**  
**Academic Staff Development**  
**12-13-14 May 2019- the Dome Hall-**

Ser.	Topic	Presenter	Day	Date	Time	Target
<b>Day 1</b>						
1.	Academic Advising	Dr. Faiza Zitouni Mr Siddiq Babaker	Sunday	12- May	10:00 11:00	All
2.	Active Learning- student centered	Dr. Adel Al Samman	Sunday	12- May	11:30 12:30	All
3.	ISO 21001	Mr. Hatem	Sunday	12- May	13:00 14:00	All
<b>Day 2</b>						
4.	How to have a Good Viva?	Prof. Yazeed/ others	Monday	13- May	10:00 11:00	All MSc Supervisors
5.	ASUstart Incubation Centre	Ms. Manal Al Matrouk	Monday	13- May	11:30 12:30	All
6.	Creating an innovative and responsive student experience	Dr. Ahmed Al Mohammady Dr. Saeed Al Dulaimi	Monday	13- May	13:00 14:00	All
<b>Day 3</b>						
7.	Conducting Action Research/ Reflective Writing	Dr. Omar Dr. Hashem Dr. Oudat	Tuesday	14- May	10:00 11:00	All
8.	Assessment and Feedback in Higher Education	Dr. Adel AlZeyoud Dr. Rayeq Mr. Hamza	Tuesday	14- May	11:30 12:30	All
9.	Student Recruitment- College Oriented	Dr. Mansour Dr. Horeya Dr. Ahlam	Tuesday	14- May	13:00 14:00	All

Academic Staff Development Unit

## THOUGHTS ON THE THIRD "GOOD TEACHING PRACTICES FORUM" BY: DR MOAIAD KHDER

The University organized the third "Sharing the Good Teaching Practices Forum" which I attended last Thursday, 16 May as a participant and as a panel member.

Before the forum, we may have had different opinions and doubts on the timings for organizing the event, the content, the disciplines and the participants in the lecturers, but after the event we realised that this was not the case.

We all agree on the importance and impact of attending such an event, which benefits both the presenter and the audience, where everyone shares the experiences of many years of

## INTERVIEW OF THE WEEK

We would like to feature the interview this week with:



Name: Prof Yazeed Ahmad Al-Sbou

Position: Acting Dean of Research and Graduate Studies

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

I was born and raised in Al-Karak city in Jordan in 1974. I got my BSc in Electrical Engineering/Communications from Mutah University in 1997, MSc in Telecommunications Engineering from University of Jordan in 2001, and PhD in Computer Engineering from Sheffield Hallam University (UK) in 2006. I am married and a father of 3 lovely girls (Mariam, Manar and Salma).

Regarding my teaching job journey, I started at Mutah University as an Assistant Professor in the Computer Engineering Department in 2007. While working at Mutah University, I was appointed as Head of Computer Engineering Department and as an Assistant Dean for Academic affairs for two years (2013-2014), then, as Vice Dean in the Faculty of Engineering for the 2015-2016. Thereafter, as a Vice Dean, Deanship of Research for 2016-2018.

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

I joined Applied Science University in September, 2018 as the Acting Dean of Research and Graduate Studies and as a faculty member in the Computer Science Department. Therefore, my role at ASU is twofold: teaching and administrating. As acting Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, I am in charge of following up all aspects activities, and issues that are necessary for achieving the required progress and development in scientific research and graduate studies at the University.

teaching, the experiences of different universities, experiences of different cultures, experiences of many languages and experiences of many fields.

Personally, I am not a fan of multiple disciplined sessions, due to my expectations that I would not benefit from the information if the topic is not in my discipline, however, by the end of this wonderful event, I became a strong supporter of the importance of organizing a session of diversity of disciplines.

I attended the session where more than 16 participants presented their qualitative lectures in different disciplines and were highly responsible and creative.

The diversity of presentations and information was unique, which enriched our knowledge: Dr. Ahmed Atallah for Arabic language, Dr. Ammar Al Jalamneh presented about what eBooks are and how to use the e-library system. Unforgettable learning experience on how to give lectures in English language was creatively delivered by Dr. Abdullah Shahabat, Mr. Noel Lavin, Ms. Diana El Hageova, Ms. Dagmara Pluta.

I also learned a lot from my dear colleagues Dr. Jamal Sultan, Dr. Samer Shorman and Mr. Ammar Yousef in my specialization in computer science in terms of designing systems, algorithms and dealing with various computer programs.

More interesting presentations were delivered from staff of the Department of Design and Arts: Prof. Samia Al-Shennawi, Dr. Mohammed Al-Abbar, Dr. Eman Al-Juwaili, Dr. Mohammed Abdul-Dayem, and Ms. Hessa Ajaj on how to design a commercial advertisement, using Photoshop, 3D Studio MAX and the history of photography.

Points that caught my attention were:

- Commitment to the start and end of the lecture
- How to manage time to give the scientific material within a specific timeframe
- Using the lesson plan
- Focus on how to prepare for the lecture
- How to start the lecture
- Linking the current lecture to the previous one
- Emphasis on the objectives of the lecture
- The use of realistic examples

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

Actually and undoubtedly, I have a strong belief in ASU's vision under the guidance and leadership of Professor Waheeb Al-Khaja and Professor Ghassan Aouad which will enable ASU to become a prominent regional and international university. I am, as all ASU staff, very happy to witness the University success day by day. I am very proud to be part of ASU family. I hope to see ASU, very soon, as one of the top universities in the region and to be a center of research excellence as a result of its continuous and confident progress.

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

As I said before, as a faculty member, I am enjoying my primary role of teaching and my daily entrance of teaching classes. In addition, I am enjoying my role as an acting Dean of Research and Graduate Studies in trying to make use of all possible options to develop and promote scientific research and increase and enhance the presence of our beloved University among other universities in the region and in the world by enhancing the quality and quantity of article publications in reputable journals and conferences.

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

I like reading, swimming, and traveling.

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

My favourite food is the traditional Jordanian Mansaf...

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

Actually, I enjoy reading Arabic poetry.

### **8. Final words**

Firstly, many thanks for having me in this issue. Also, your commitment in preparing of the weekly issue of the News Digest is much appreciated.

Finally, wish you and all ASU colleagues' success and a bright future of ASU.

- Using technology (PowerPoint, ELearning, Websites, Images, Videos, Music, ...)
- Involvement of students in classroom activities
- Interaction with students
- Ensuring that the lecture contents delivered correctly to students by conducting some classroom exercises
- Summary of the lecture
- Use of references

Finally, I think that everyone who attended the sessions in the forum both as a listener and a presenter has benefited greatly and it was clear to everyone how much fun, excitement, joy, and benefits were gained.

## THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICE ACTIVITIES

### Bahraini Talent and Creativity Society Visited Applied Science University

On Sunday, 5 May 2019, Professor Ghassan Fouad Aouad, the Univeristy President, in the presence of Dr. Mohammad Alaa Al-Hamami, Manager of the Community Engagement Office received a delegation from the Bahraini Talent and Creativity Society to discuss cooperation between the two parties.



The visiting delegation included Ms. Huda AlKhalidi Chairman of Board of Directors, Ms. Zain AlHasan Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mr. Salman AlSendi Secretary of the Society, and Mr. Abdullah AlDosary Member of the Society.



At the beginning of the visit, Prof. Ghassan welcomed the visiting delegation and appreciated the Bahraini Talent and Creativity Society activities. The visiting delegation thanked ASU for supporting the Bahrain Debates Project of the Bahraini Talent and Creativity Society.

## INTERVIEW WITH ALUMNUS



Name:	Yusuf Fuad Yusuf Mubarak Aalahmed
Workplace:	Public Prosecution
Academic Degree	Bachelor
Academic Major	Law
Tell us about your Experience at ASU in terms of learning environment and teaching methods.	Giving us practical tips on how cases are actually litigated in the reality and also learning about litigation-oriented skills training through courtroom simulations e.g., questioning a witness or arguing a motion, transaction-oriented skills training through contract drafting exercises and mock negotiations.
What did you enjoy the most about your experience at ASU?	Being a member of ASU's family and attending events ASU held or participated in.
Tell us a success story inspired by ASU.	AS soon as I graduated I worked in one of the main underlying foundations of the political, social and economic reforms stemming from His Majesty the King's wise leadership and insight, is the creation of the public prosecution office.



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

ASU is really doing well.

Final words

Nothing, "GREAT was ever achieved without enthusiasm", Emerson

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

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"A good teacher must be able to put himself in the place of those who find learning hard."*

***Eliphaz Levi***

*Happy Reading!*