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ASU
جامعة العلوم التطبيقية
APPLIED SCIENCE UNIVERSITY



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 35th issue of the 4th year of the President's News Digest. In this issue, I will cover the subject of “nature vs nurture”.



The debate about nature vs nurture has been around for a long time without reaching definitive conclusions. The nature versus nurture debate involves whether human behavior is determined by the environment during a person's life, or by a person's genes and whether particular aspects of behaviour are inherited or acquired through learning. The debate has gone to the extreme in some instances implying racist behaviour as some people argue that the IQs of certain races are higher than others because of heredity (nature).

Nature is influenced by genetic inheritance and other biological factors. On the other hand, nurture is generally taken as the influence of external factors such as life experiences and learning.

Human behaviour is influenced by both nature and nurture and this is reflected in personality, cognitive traits and temperament. The nature versus nurture debate can impact our behaviour in the academic sector and should be studied carefully as students are influenced by the personality, temperament and behaviour of their teachers and their abilities could be influenced by social factors and the way they were brought up.

Certain characteristics are observed at birth. However, it is how you are brought up (nurture) that governs the behaviour of people.

Some scientists stated that events in our childhood have a great influence on our adult lives, shaping our personality. In practice, hardly anyone today accepts either of the extreme positions, but the question of the balance of importance between the 2 aspects is that what needs to be studied.

This question was first framed by Francis Galton in the late 19th century. Galton was convinced that intellectual ability was largely inherited. However, others argue that intellectual ability is acquired and influenced by social inequalities.

The traditional way of studying nature versus nurture relies on identical twins as they share the same genetic code.

Their health and behaviour can be compared in order to determine whether genetic or environmental factors influence these two aspects. However, no firm conclusions were derived from many of the previous studies.

The importance of the subject of nature versus nurture in academia is paramount. This can also influence the concept whether leaders are born or made. It is widely known that a couple of theories emphasise that some people who are born with specific traits and characteristics will make them potential future leaders. However, some other theories stipulate that leaders are made through development and training and learning. The fact is that leaders can be born or made or both and this will influence the way academic leaders are chosen as they have the responsibility to promote a culture of learning and development and equal opportunities for all irrespective of whether some students are born with high intellectual ability or not. All students have the right to study and it is our duty to encourage them to do so. The social and domestic/home conditions (broken families, financial struggle, etc) can in some cases influence their academic performance, but it is our duty to create the right conditions at the University in order to unlock their potential and help them

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THE PRESIDENT DELIVERED KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The President attended and presented a keynote address on ASU success story and the importance of publishing and conducting research at the 4th international conference on Arab impact factors and its importance in universities rankings. The conference which took place on 21 to 24 June, was organised by the Arab Impact Factor Group under the patronage of the Secretary General of the Association of Arab Universities, Prof Amro Ezzat Salameh, and hosted by Nile University in Cairo.



GOODBYE MESSAGE



Name: Tania Kashou

Position: Director of the President's Office

Dear Colleagues,

After four years of exciting and memorable time with ASU, full of accomplishments and achievements, I bid you farewell today.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to Prof. Waheeb Al Khaja, Prof. Ghassan Aouad, Dr. Mohamed Yousif, Deans, my friends and colleagues. It has been a great pleasure working with you all.

During these last four years, you all have provided me with support and through your encouragement and commitment I have been able to excel at issuing the President's News Digest 191 issues on time every Sunday without missing my deadline.

Prof Ghassan, it has been a true honor working with you. Your leadership and warm support and team spirit will remain in my heart. I have learned a lot from you. Not to forget, I will miss your biscuits!!! 😊

Ayat, my friend and colleague, the University's memory... how can I forget the kindest heart! Hand in hand, the President's office was and will continue to remain the backbone to the University, colleagues and students. I am so proud of you 😊 and I will deeply miss you.



The conference was chaired by Professor Mahmoud Abdel Aty, Former Dean of Research and Graduate Studies at ASU in the presence of the Secretary General of the Association of Arab Universities and many universities presidents and an audience of around 150 researchers and scholars.

The President delivered a speech at the opening ceremony of the conference highlighting the importance of publishing in journals indexed in ISI and Scopus databases. He also highlighted the importance of joint research and publications between Arab universities and researchers. In his keynote address, he spoke about the ASU success story and how research has helped to put the University on the international map. There were various presentations by Elsevier and Universities Presidents who highlighted the importance of publishing and scientific research and many presentations covered the subject of universities rankings. Lessons learnt from the conference:



- Publish in top rated journals in your field
- Publish jointly with colleagues from other Arab Universities
- Research is a privilege and usually successful researchers conduct research in their spare time
- The Journal impact factor is an indicator of its quality
- Networking at conferences will always help the University in profile raising
- Universities league tables are usually based for their research component on papers published in Scopus and ISI listed journals.

THE COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAMMING COMPETITION- SECOND ROUND

On Thursday 20 June, Computer Science Students participated in the programming Competition SECOND ROUND between all Bahraini universities. The competition was organized by University of Bahrain, IEEE – Bahrain Section, and supported by Tamkeen



Two teams consist of:

With many of you, I have shared a unique friendship, which I hope will continue in the years to come even though I shall not be here with ASU.

We have shared laughs, jokes, ups and downs, had our time in arguments and debates. We spent days and months and years on projects which were challenging but very successful and fruitful at the end. These moments are unforgettable.

Please forgive me if I have ever hurt anyone.

I will deeply miss working with each one of you. I have enjoyed my time at ASU and I am grateful to have met each one of you.

This is not a goodbye, only “see you later”.

Do stay in touch.

My personal contacts are:

Email (tania_maz@yahoo.com)

Contact phone number (36006200).

Please do drop in a note with your personal contacts to my mail id.

Good luck and wish you all the best!

Favourite food: Seafood, Sushi... ☺

Hobby: I love yoga and sports ☺

Favourite book: Many Lives Many Masters ☺

Yours Sincerely,

Tania Kashou



- 1- Samah Fujo
- 2- Reem Yahya
- 3- Yaqoob AlBlooshi
- 4- Abdullah Qudair
- 5- Abdulrahman Bahar



Under the supervision of Dr. Moaiad Khder, the two teams represented ASU in the competition. It was a good experience for them as a first participation, and they did well against the other teams. In addition they attended the awards and participation ceremony on 26 June at Sofitel Hotel.

THE COMPUTER SCIENCE PROGRAM HELD ITS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING – 2ND SEMESTER 2018/2019

On Monday, 17 June 2019, the Computer Science Program held its advisory board meeting at ASU. Prof Ayman AlDmoor - Acting Dean of the College of Arts and Science, Dr Moaiad Khder – HoD of Computer Science, Dr Jamal Sultan – CS Program Coordinator attended as members, while, Prof . Abdulla Mohd Zin – CS external Review from Malaysia and Dr Samer Shorman from ASU attended as invited guests. External members from the industrial field: Mr. Nizar Ma'roof, Mr. Nawaf AbdulRahman, and Ms. Maha AlBanki attended the Computer Science Department advisory board meeting.



The meeting started with welcoming the audience by the chairman of CS advisory board: Mr. Nawaf AbdulRahman.



Dr. Moaiad and Dr. Jamal presented the progress of CS programme since last advisory meeting, and they showed the progress in NQF and the improvement in the courses, specially embedding the new technologies and computer science trends in the courses. Prof. Ayman, Prof . Abdulla Mohd Zin, and Dr. Samer took place in discussion with advisory board about the demand for Computer Science Program and its usefulness for Bahraini market. Mr. Nizar Ma'roof, Mr. Nawaf AbdulRahman, and Ms. Maha AlBanki highlighted how to take advantage of NGO and scientific societies in order to increase the cooperation between governmental, NGO, scientific societies and ASU, in addition they highlighted some ways to strengthen the relationships between the department and the industry. They praised the improvement in internship and graduation projects and engaged in a good discussion with Prof. Abdullah Mohd Zin after he explained the role of external viewer and his satisfaction of CS program progress.

THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICE ACTIVITIES

Awarding the participants of the campaign of Painting a House at Al Eker Village

On Sunday 23 June 2019, Dr. Mohammed Youssif Vice President for Administration, Finance and Community Engagement awarded a number of ASU Staff, students, and graduates in his office, for their participation in the campaign of painting a House at Al Eker Village on 28 May 2019.



The campaign took place during the holy month of Ramadan, and was in cooperation with the volunteers club in the University, and in coordination with the Al Eker Charitable Society who organised the campaign to paint a house.



ASU DELIVERED "PREPARATION OF PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH AND STUDIES" LECTURE

As a part of the activities of the Community Engagement at ASU, Dr. Baha Eldin Makkawi - Head of Department of Political Science in the College of Administrative Sciences gave a lecture at Bahrain Institute for Political Development entitled "Preparation of Parliamentary Research and Studies." The lecture dealt with a number of important topics such as the definition of parliamentary research, its terms and tools, using the scientific method in the preparation of parliamentary research.



The lecture which was held on 24 June 2019, was attended by a number of employees of Shura Council, Council of Representatives, and Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs Shura and Representatives.

INTERVIEW WITH ALUMNUS



Name:	Hanan Nabeel Mahdi Abdulwahab Radhi
Workplace:	Applied Science University
Academic Degree	Bachelor
Academic Major	Business Administration
Tell us about your Experience at ASU in terms of learning environment and teaching methods.	It was an amazing opportunity to have the knowledge needed to pursue my career. The teaching methods were innovative and the classes were practice-based.
What did you enjoy the most about your experience at ASU?	Dealing with academic and administrative staff and also dealing with my friends in classrooms.
Tell us a success story inspired by ASU.	I quit my dream to get an academic degree in 2013, but ASU gave me the GREATEST opportunity to start over. Also, being an outstanding student on the honor list every semester makes me proud of myself.
In your Opinion, What are the Improvement areas you would like to see at ASU in the future?	Perfect the way it is.
Final words	It is an honor and my pleasure to be one of ASU outstanding students in 12th graduation ceremony... ASU: you are my second family. I owe you a lot.
Name:	Hanan Nabeel Mahdi Abdulwahab Radhi

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

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"You inherit your environment just as much as your genes."
Johnny Rich, The Human Script

Happy Reading!