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ASU
جامعة العلوم التطبيقية
APPLIED SCIENCE UNIVERSITY



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 19th issue of the 4th year of the President's News Digest. In this issue of the News Digest, I will address the subject of NQF (National Qualifications Framework) as described on the BQA web site.



National qualifications frameworks (NQFs) are developed to describe the relationships between formally recognized qualifications through structures of different levels. In the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Supreme Council for the Development of Education and Training, Chaired by His Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa the Deputy Prime Minister, took the lead in establishing a national qualifications framework in order to implement it in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The Labor Fund (Tamkeen) funded the NQF project in the Design and Setup Phases with technical assistance provided by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). In 2012, the responsibility of administrating and maintaining has been handed over to the BQA.

NQF Benefits

- provides a stronger basis for the understanding, comparison and recognition of national and foreign qualifications, thereby improving the understanding of employers, parents and learners of the value of qualifications
- provides fit-for-purpose qualifications that have stronger linkages with market and learners' needs
- increases the accountability of education and training institutions towards maintaining high quality standards in their provision
- improves the opportunities for mobility and progression of learners within and across higher education, vocational and general education sectors
- promotes the concept of lifelong learning through the promotion of all types of learning: formal, non-formal and informal.

NQF Characteristics

The National Qualifications Framework is an instrument for the classification of qualifications according to a set of criteria for specified levels of learning achieved. It integrates and coordinates national qualifications sub-systems and improves quality, transparency, access and progression.



10 levels: each level is described by a set of statements that describe the complexity of acquired learning in terms of knowledge; skills and competencies described in the Level Descriptors.

Comprehensive: covers higher education, vocational education and training and general education.

Mandatory: for all Education and Training Institutions in the Kingdom of Bahrain

Quality Assured Qualifications in Quality Assured Institutions and meeting required NQF criteria

Vertical and Horizontal progression.

<http://www.bqa.gov.bh/en/qaetunits/nqfu/pages/nqf.aspx>

THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICE ACTIVITIES

The Community Engagement Office Visited Gulf Disability Society



On Tuesday, 5 March 2019, The Community Engagement Office at Applied Science University visited the Gulf Disability Society as part of the initiatives in supporting the various sectors of society; and discussed methods of cooperation between the two parties.

INTERVIEW OF THE WEEK

We would like to feature the interview this week with:



Name: Dr. Mohammed Yasser Abbar

Position: Head of Training and Internship Unit & academic staff in the College of Arts and Science

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

I studied in Darya, a short distance from Damascus and then in the Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Visual Communication, a division of Graphic Design. I was the second in my graduation year in 1986. I completed the MA and PhD in the field of Typography in the Faculty of Applied Arts and Faculty of Fine Arts in Helwan University.

I was a faculty member at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Damascus, since 2000, Head of the Department of Visual Communication until 2012, Head of the Organizing Committee of the Arab Calligraphy Forum in Damascus 2008 and a member of the Jury of the Arab Calligraphy Festival in Sharjah in 2004. I received two awards in Arabic calligraphy from the International Committee for Preservation of Islamic Heritage.

The Community Engagement Office Visited the International Organization for Child Protection (INOCPT)



On Tuesday, 5 March 2019, The Community Engagement Office at Applied Science University visited the

International Organization for Child Protection (INOCPT) as part of the initiatives in supporting the various sectors of society; and a meeting was held with a number of heads of associations with a specialty in the field of childhood to discuss methods of cooperation.

INTERVIEW WITH ALUMNUS



Name:	Hamad Khaled Rashed Mejairan
Workplace:	Looking for an opportunity
Academic Degree	Bachelor
Academic Major	Law
Do you intend to pursue further Higher Education? What Major?	Yes, Masters in Commercial Law
Tell us about your Experience at ASU in terms of learning environment and teaching methods.	It was a different experience; it was not easy at the beginning of my academic journey; being outside of the school environment and moving to university stage, as school grounds you as a human, while college lifts you to the skies. ASU was a dynamic learning platform, which brought me into contact with people and interacts with academic staff, who helped me grow as a person. The very fact that my overall experience in the college was beneficial goes back to the teachers who approached teaching with a more conscious effort and taught me to approach learning, in the same way.
What did you enjoy the most about your experience at ASU?	At ASU, I didn't only get outstanding education, I also got the chance to take part in groups and activities – especially sports and attending workshops.

2. Tell us about your job at ASU

It is a pleasure to teach students here in beloved Bahrain. I consider my students here as my brothers and friends. I am always pleased to see my efforts with them become fruitful through their wonderful works of art and design.

It's been a pleasure to be the Coordinator of the Graphic Design Program since 2014 at ASU.

The program was awarded full confidence by the DHR of Bahrain the last year in 2018, thanks to the efforts of the university administration and thanks to the cooperation of the fellows in the program and the students.

3. Tell us about your aspirations for the University

Undoubtedly, thanks to the great efforts by ASU administration represented by His Excellency Prof. Waheeb Al-Khaja and Prof. Dr. Ghassan Aouad, President of the University and thanks to the efforts of all employees of the University. The University will position itself among the best international universities.

4. What do you enjoy most about your job?

It is certainly about sharing my experiences with the students and witness this to be reflected in their artworks, especially that the nature of the specialization makes me always highly interested to see the outcomes of my students, and see their artworks in the exhibitions that we are doing in the faculty which is really exciting and amazing.

5. Tell us about your hobbies

My hobby has always been drawing and calligraphy since childhood. I have been a painter and calligrapher since elementary school.

Tell us a success story inspired by ASU.	My proudest moment was to graduate from ASU, this was all due to my determination to succeed, thanks to God, my parents and friends support.
In your Opinion, What are the Improvement areas you would like to see at ASU in the future?	More sports activities.
Final words	With ASU I knew I would come out a winner!

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

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"It is better to be prepared for an opportunity and not have one than to have an opportunity and not be prepared".

Les Brown

Happy Reading!

Therefore, my specialization in graphic design is an extension of my hobbies in design, typography and calligraphy.

I have completed a large set of fonts that highlight my experience in graphic design and calligraphy. In addition, I have done a lot of graphic work in Syria's market. I have a collection of design logos that I am proud of and a range of modern calligraphy artworks.

6. Tell us about your favourite food

I certainly prefer the Syrian cuisine. I do not prefer ready-made meals. Therefore, homemade food is my favorite. The Syrian food in particular is very healthy because of its diversity, such as tabbouleh and stuffed vine leaves.

7. Tell us about the book you are reading now

"Graphic Design Thinking". This book deals with the process of design planning from studies related to the users expectations and behavior. It also explores the market needs and competitors and studies designs associated with a particular commodity in order to put the commodity in place in terms of visual design among the competing goods.

8. Final words

I am happy with my colleagues at the university, happy with my students and their results. It is a pleasure that I am at a University that all of its programs achieved full confidence by Bahrain DHR. ASU management and employees are characterized by their integrity and loyalty. Finally, I hope all the best to the beloved Bahrain.