PRESIDENT'S NEWS DIGEST

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IN THIS ISSUE

- o Message from the President
- o Quality Audit Action Plan
- o Interview of the Week

Dr Jamal Al Sultan

- Interview with Alumnus
- Quote of the Week

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 28th issue of the 4th year of the President's News Digest. In this issue I will be reporting on receiving the accreditation certificate from HE the Minister of Education, Dr Majid Bin Ali Al- Nuaimi.



On 7 May, HE the Minister of Education in Bahrain awarded the certificates of accreditation to the three institutions, that have undertaken institutional accreditation's inspection by the HEC in association with the British Accreditation Board, namely ASU, RCSI and AMA in the presence of the Secretary General of the HEC, and the Chair of the Academic Accreditation Committee and its members. It was a day to remember, as the HE Minister was full of praise for achieving institutional accreditation by the aforementioned institutions. On the same day, the University celebrated this fantastic achievement by holding a staff meeting



that was attended by the Chair of the BOTs and many colleagues. It is such a fantastic achievement, which is dedicated to Professor Waheeb for his big vision and great leadership.

What does it mean to be an accredited university? It means a lot; I am just listing few benefits:

- 1. It is a stamp of quality. It is an HEC Accreditation in association of an international organisation, the British Accreditation Board
- 2. Our students are now studying and will graduate from an accredited university
- 3. We will be listed on the HEC register of accredited universities
- 4. We should be able to attract international staff and students
- 5. It will become easier to be accredited by international professional bodies
- 6. It will help in raising the University's profile and in international league tables
- 7. Our graduates will find it easier to pursue higher degrees
- 8. Our graduates will become more employable
- 9. Sense of pride
- 10. Long term sustainability of the University



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Having achieved accreditation, we should not be resting on our laurels, as the HEC will review us on a yearly basis and will do interim inspections and spot checks.

I would like to conclude by congratulating the BOD and its Chair Mr Sameer Nass, and the BOT and its Chair Prof Waheeb Alkhaja, and all staff and students



and alumni and others. I am grateful for all your hard work, especially the tireless efforts of the Institutional Accreditation Committee who worked day and night to achieve this accreditation. Our students' council and students have also helped us a lot especially during the accreditation visit, I am grateful for all their efforts.



Just to remind ourselves of the hard work we put into this activity. The self-evaluation report was 192 pages long and 300 SMs (supporting Materials) were submitted. The

institutional accreditation inspection visit took place in June 2018 (24th- 27th). The visit was well planned and conducted to the highest standards.

QUALITY AUDIT ACTION PLAN

As a measure of continuous improvement, and based on the operational plan, the QAAC conducted an awareness session regarding "Quality Audit Action Plan" on 6 May 2019 at Abdulla Nass Auditorium, delivered by Dr. Nympha Joseph, Head of QAA



Administrative Affairs Unit, and Mr. Salem Alateyyat, Assistant Director QAAC.

The aims of the session was to guide the Academic Heads and policy owners, including administrative staff, about the process of the Quality Audit Action plan done by the QAAC, and assist them to know the details of documents required from the time of submitting the Audit check list, to the submission of the action plan.

The Director of the QAAC, Prof Hilal Bayatti, encourages every staff to take advantage of such sessions, by making the effort and time to attend, as there will be more workshops and awareness sessions to be conducted in the near future.

INTERVIEW OF THE WEEK

We would like to feature the interview this week with:



Name: Dr Sultan Jamal

Position: Computer Science Programme Leader

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

My birth date and place coincided within two landmarks, first on Christmas day 1949, and second I was born 200 meters away from shatt Alarab River, which is the convergence of Euphrates and Tigren rivers at Basrah Governorate in Iraq. My father was a teacher and we moved to the Capital Baghdad in 1960.

I got my BSc in Physics in 1971, MPhil in Computer Science in 1981 from the UK, and my PhD in Computer Science from Iraq. I started my work in 1973 as a programmer at ICT Center of Iraqi Airforce headquarters.

I joined ASU in January 2006 as Assistant Professor and Dean of the College of Arts and Science.

2. Tell us about your job at ASU

My current job is Computer Science Programme Leader; coordinating and solving the academic issues with my respective colleagues within the department, college and across the University. I am also an academic staff in the department of Computer Science and I enjoy teaching my beloved students.



INTERVIEW WITH ALUMNUS

| ASU | ASU Alumni Club |
|---|---|
| Name: | Abdulaziz Tariq Ghali |
| Workplace: | Bahrain Defense Force |
| Academic Degree | Bachelor |
| Academic Major | Accounting |
| Tell us about your Experience at ASU in terms of learning environment and teaching methods. | Accounting classes, not only focused on memorization of technical facts, it also taught me the skills and strategies that helped me learn more effectively how to use these effective learning strategies to continue to learn throughout my lifetimes. Faculty used active participation techniques in the learning process, and didn't consider students as passive recipients of information. They made us identify and solve unstructured problems. |
| What did you enjoy the most about your experience at ASU? | The community spirit that connects both students and the staff. The staff treat students professionally, and do everything according to their potential to help us, as much as possible, on a regular basis. I am thankful that the staff and leadership here are supportive and have helped us, as students, so well in the transition from high school to university. |
| Tell us a success story inspired by ASU. | I am really confident while implementing, speaking and answering all bookkeeping and accounting questions using many of the strategies and techniques taught at ASU. |
| In your Opinion, What are the Improvement areas you would like to see at ASU in the future? | ASU always impresses us with good news of impressive achievements. |
| Final words | Thank you ASU |

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Success isn't always about greatness. It's about consistency. Consistent hard work leads to success. Greatness will come."

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

Alumni Club

Dwayne Johnson



3. Tell us about your aspirations for the University

ASU is shining and received a lot of deserved golden certificates from well recognized academic bodies from across the world based on its big achievements. ASU continues to strive to become a top university in the region under the wise and experienced leadership.

4. What do you enjoy most about your job?

The most enjoyable thing in my job is trust and respect within our workplace environment.

5. Tell us about your hobbies

I like to do long distance walking, in addition to reading social and scientific topics.

6. Tell us about your favourite food

My favourite food is Arabic bread, grilled fish and lamb meat with rice

7. Tell us about the book you are reading now

The book I am currently reading concerns the impact of the ethics on nation's development and sustainability. The aim of the topic is to remind people to control their behaviour and be more acceptable to societies.

8. Final words

ASU is a diversified place with a multinational and multicultural staff, which makes it an enjoyable place to work at. I hope ASU and our beloved Kingdom more prosperity and continuous success. Many thanks go to Prof Waheeb and Prof Ghassan for their leadership and support.