

President's News Digest

Message From the Editor

Welcome to the 51st issue of the 5th volume of the President's News Digest.

In this issue **Prof. Ghassa Aouad**, **President of the University** will address the subject of **" the Impact of the COVID 19 on the Higher Education sector "**

Email: Hessa.almeraisi@asu.edu.bh
T: +973- 16036161



Mrs.Hessa Al Meraisi
Manager of President's Office

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من روائع الشعر العربي

Message from the President

The impact of COVID 19 on the Higher Education sector

Reputable associations and organisations addressing the impact of COVID 19 on the Higher Education sector have published many interesting reports and articles. Some of these reports and articles are included at the end of this message.

The impact of COVID 19 on the higher education sector will be felt for years to come. As with any crisis, there will be losers and winners. Universities, which depend heavily on international students, will suffer financially whereas regional universities will benefit from students who may decide not to travel overseas to complete their universities' degrees. It is also important not to underestimate the social impact, as many students will be deprived from living a campus experience. Students' mental health should be given top priority as students are being educated in difficult circumstances because of the fear of the pandemic and because of studying from home. It is of crucial importance to communicate with them on a regular basis and give them every support they need. Beyond virtual learning, universities should give students a sense of belonging through technological means. Things like student and staff chats, online events, and virtual meet ups can play important roles.

COVID 19 has had its impact on many sectors including the Higher Education one. The move to online teaching wouldn't have happened that fast if it wasn't for COVID 19. However, this pandemic proved how vulnerable we are as a society and how business models could change overnight. If we want to become philosophical about this pandemic issue, we can all say that lives across the globe have been affected. However, the lessons we have learnt will shape our future aspirations and our outlook on life.

It is fair to say that higher education institutions have responded relatively well to the unprecedented new challenges faced by the sector because of COVID 19. However, we should all be using more imaginative and innovative practices in order to keep our students enjoying an interesting learning experience despite all the difficulties.

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Written By
Professor Ghassan Aouad
The President of Applied
Science University

The College of Arts and Science Conducted an Orientation Day for the 1st Semester of the Academic Year 2020/2021

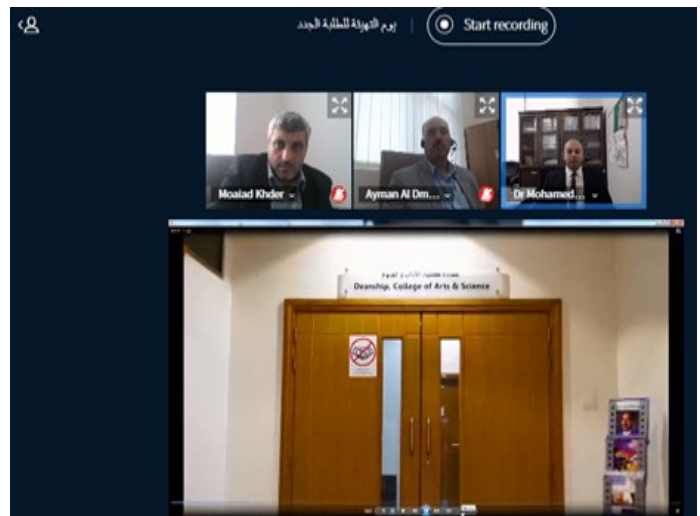
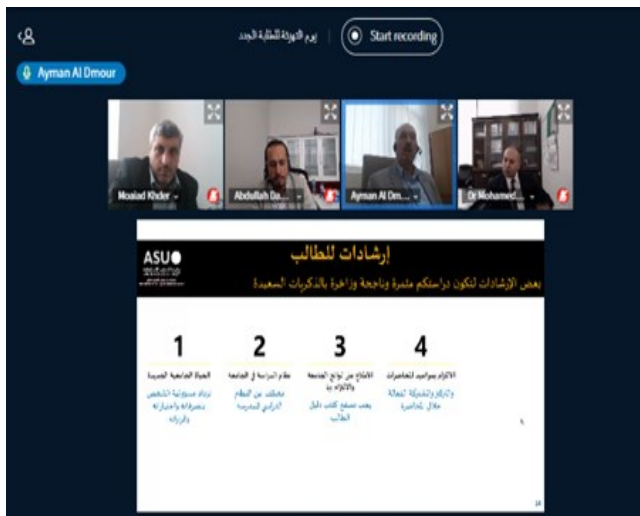
On October 5th, 2020, the College of Arts and Science conducted an orientation day for the newly joined students for the academic year 2020/2021. The purpose of the orientation day was to help the fresh students to be acquainted with the regulations and instructions of the University.

Prof. Ayman AIDmoor (the Acting Dean of the College of Arts and Science) welcomed the students and assured that the College is doing its best to support the students during their academic journey at ASU. He briefed the students about the College mission, vision, aims and organizational structure. Dr. Moaiad Khder, the Head of the Computer Science Department briefed the students about the Computer Science Programme where Dr. Mohammad Abdelday, the Head of the Design and Arts Department briefed the students about the Interior and Graphics Design Programmes, and Dr. Abdulla Aldagmseh, the Head of the General studies briefed the students about the importance of the University compulsory and elective courses. Helpful guidelines were presented to the students about the University life, academic advising, registration, regulations, attendance, assessment, virtual classes, different documents (student handbook, college handbook), and the different communication channels such as the College Deanship, Departments, Student Council and the Deanship of Student Affairs.

In conclusion, a video was hared to show the different facilities in the College of Arts and Science as well the computer and design labs.



Written By
Dr. Moaiad Khder
Head of the
Department of
Computer Science



Research Consortium of Universities

On October 14th, 2020, the Applied Science University along with three more regional universities held the first meeting to establish Research Consortium of Universities. ASU represented by Prof .Khalid AIGHaraibeh(Acting VP for the Academic Affairs and Development), Prof.Mansour Lotayif(Acting Dean of the Research and Graduate Studies), Dr.Ramzi Nikhaili (Dean of the College of Administrative Sciences), Dr Saeed AIDulaimi (Acting Assistant Dean of Research) and Dr.Moaied Khder(Head of the Computer Science Department).

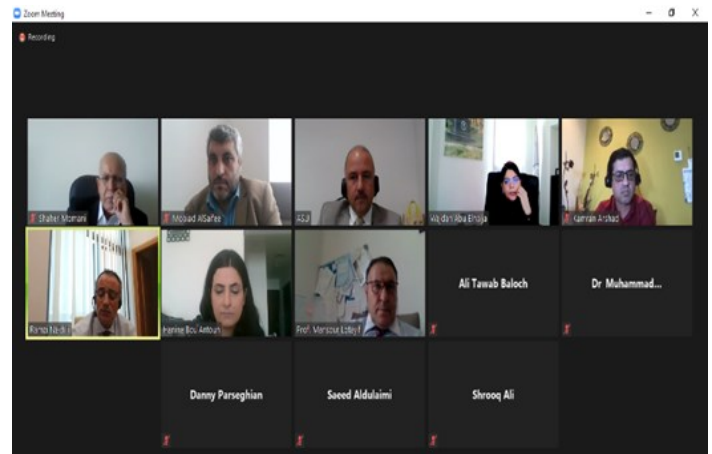
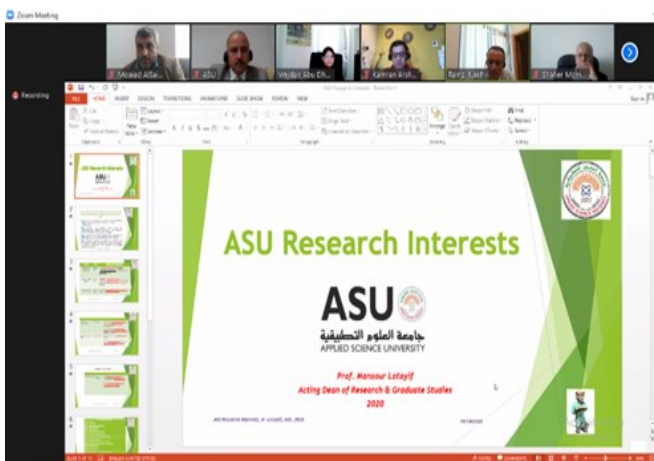
Prof.Khalid AIGHaraibeh briefed the audience about ASU and its distinct achievement in different fields and rankings. The research achievement and research interests of ASU staff was presented by Prof.Manour Lotayif.

The aim is of this consortium is to start with a few selected universities to expand in the future and to establish a long-term academic and research association in order to create meaningful partnerships for innovation in scientific research and education. The selected institutes were:

- Ajman University (United Arab Emirates)
- Applied Science University (Bahrain)
- COMSATS University (Pakistan)
- Princess Sumaya University for Technology (Jordan)

At this current stage, it is more like an idea that needs to be discussed and brainstorm in the kick-off meeting. This is something mutually useful for all partner institutes, where all institutes can work on focused areas and increase their indexed publications together. A discussion took place about research collaboration, collaboration framework, identify areas of mutual interests and how to develop an action plan in order to proceed.

This consortium will be mutually beneficial to all the partner institutes. It will help all the partner institutes to engage in the collaborative research, writing joint papers, sharing resources and research infrastructure, engage in collaborative research projects and apply for match funding ...etc. The combined efforts of consortium member institutions provide a broad range of expertise and knowledge that creates new, innovative solutions to complex and timely problems (such as COVID-19) as well as new creative opportunities. This improves the number and quality of indexed papers, enhance collaborative research network and improves University research outputs and ranking.

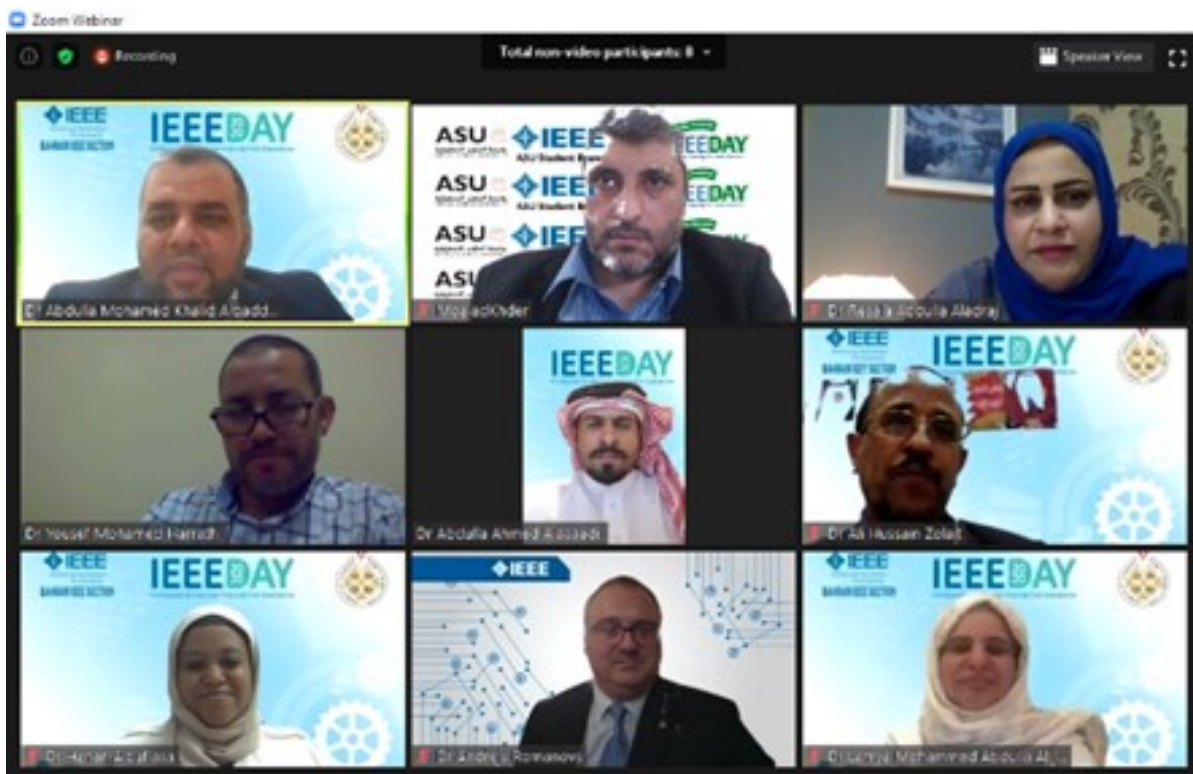


Written By
Dr.Moaied Khder
Head of the
Department of
Computer Science

ASU Computer Science Students participated in the Virtual Bahrain IEEE Day 2020

On the 15th of October, 2020, Dr. Moaiad Khder (Head of the Computer Science and the Counselor of ASU IEEE Student Branch) and the ASU IEEE student branch members attended the virtual Bahrain IEEE Day 2020 that was hosted by University of Bahrain.

SH. Dr. Eshaa AIKhalifa- the Chair of IEEE - Bahrain Section introduced the history of IEEE in Bahrain. the keynote speech titled (How Universities and Researchers can benefit from IEEE) was delivered by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Andrejs Romanovs from Technical University, Latvia, Chair of the IEEE membership recruitment and recovery committee. In addition, the student activities were presented including ASU students participation in the programming competition, research papers and research workshops.



Written By
Dr. Moaiad Khder
Head of the
Department of
Computer Science

Interview with Alumna



Name:	Aqeela Abdulhadi Hasan
Workplace:	Unemployed
Academic Degree	Bachelor
Academic Major	Business Administration
Tell us about your Experience at ASU in terms of learning environment and teaching methods.	Overall, it was a nice experience and the teaching methods were excellent.
What did you enjoy the most about your experience at ASU?	Attending classes with my friends together and encouraging each other to study more and do our best.
Tell us a success story inspired by ASU.	I was transferring from other university and the people around me were discouraging. Until I got into ASU and completed my bachelor's degree. And I aspire to graduate from master's degree.
In your Opinion, What are the Improvement areas you would like to see at ASU in the future?	ASU was and still one of the leading universities in the Kingdom of Bahrain and have so many achievements that are on regional and international scales. However; I would like to suggest that buying books to be optional rather than mandatory.
Final words	I would like to thank my family members who supported me through my academic journey. Also, I would like to express my special thanks to all academic and administrative staff efforts who made my experience successful and enjoyable.



Interviewed By: Mrs. Noora Musalam, **Manager of Career Development & Alumni Affairs Office, Deanship Of Student Affairs**

Quote of the Week

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day-in and day-out."

- Robert Collier

من روائع الشعر العربي

لا تمنعن يد المعروف عن احد ما دمت مقتدراً **** والعيش جنات
قد مات قوم وما ماتت مكارمهم وعاش قوم **** وهم في الناس اموات

- الإمام الشافعي