President's News Digest

ASU
جامعة العلوم التطبيقية
APPLIED SCIENCE UNIVERSITY
معتمدة من مجلس التعليم العالي
Accredited by the Higher Education Council

Message From the Editor

Welcome to the 13th issue of the 5th volume of the President's News Digest.

In this issue **Dr. Yusuf Janahi , Acting Assistant Dean of Students Affairs for Admission and Registration Affairs** will address the subject of "**Innovation is the Key to a University Future"**

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Mrs.Hessa Al Meraisi
Manager of President's Office

Message from a Colleague

Innovation is the Key to a University Future

University admissions and registration provides the necessary support to current & graduates students in all matters related to services that include managing student records, managing student registration schedules, liaising directly with faculty advising units, issuing official transcripts and graduation certificates etc.

By providing the best education to our students through a familiar and intuitive experience that differentiate our University, this will take education to the new era.

The digitization of information and the exceptional access to data is transforming every sector of our economy.

Students are empowered by the internet, they have access to information about anything and everything. Similarly, they have a lot of options and choices. They can access the details, specifications, reviews and alternatives to any product/event, services etc.

Here are some key opportunities for the next five years:-

- Around the clock 24X7
- On all channels like web, phone, App, face to face, kiosks ...etc.
- Students with special needs (special curriculum) for people who are visually impaired \or deaf.
- Reduce required documents and duplicate requirements
- Reduce number of complains
- Reduce number of calls
- Streamline payment processes

Dr. Yusuf Janahi
Acting Assistant Dean of Student Affairs for Admission and Registration Affairs

Dr. Yusuf Janahi has an experience in the Top management role in multiple banks with more than 20 years of experience in Information Technology/ business solutions. Holding PhD from University of Bradford, UK.

- Proactive services
- Predict the need before the student ask and offer them services based on their profiles
- Event based services (remind them about **payments, expiry dates, alerts** …etc.)
- Contextual services, taking the location and the event into consideration like suggesting doing **something before leaving the university**.

Today, technology and digital learning are critical to students' educational experiences and most of the universities are using the physical campus to incorporate technology that adapts to learning needs such as smart environments.

Use of Tech in HE and Bibliometrics workshops

We shouldn't assume that students are going to wait for us to catch up to them. We need to reach out and meet them where they are now. And right now, they're online. That means offering more online content. Technology is already allowing us to have an enormous impact on longstanding residential student problems. For example, because of large lecture halls, it can be difficult to know what freshmen have learned by the time they become sophomores. (Rich DeMillo, Director of the Center for 21st Century Universities, Georgia Institute of Technology).

As the current trends in ASU are the direction towards internationalization, ASDU, aiming at building up and raising the professional capacity of ASU academic members, has conducted two workshops for the academic staff on Thursday, Jan 23rd. Such workshops focused on two sides in the heart of the academics' profession, namely teaching and researching.

Written By
Dr. Adel AlSamman
Head of Academic Staff Development Unit

The first workshop was about "Use of Technology in Teaching" that was delivered by Mr. Rifaat Hussein and Mr. Muath Hussein from the Directorate of ICT & Knowledge Management. The workshop focused on three axes as follows:

1- E-learning facilities.
2- Vido- Assisted teaching.
3- The latest technology available to deliver online teaching.

It was an interesting and beneficial workshop for those who attended and highlighted that educational technology is a systematic and organized process of applying modern technology to improve the quality of education and a way of conceptualizing the execution and evaluation of the educational process (learning and teaching) and help with the application of modern educational teaching techniques.

The second workshop was an echo session of the workshop conducted by the HEC for selected academics from Bahraini higher education institutions. From our university, selected academics were Prof. Yazeed Al- Sbou, Dr. Saeed Al Dulaimi, and Dr. Mohamed Soltan. As per ASDU policies, academics who engage in external training/ development activities, are to conduct an "Echo Session" for the other colleagues so that we could share knowledge within the university.

This echo session was delivered by Prof. Yazeed Al- Sbou, Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, under the title of "Unpacking Bibliometrics and Boosting Citations" and covered the following axes:

- What and why we use Bibliometrics.
- How they are used in research evaluation.
- Journal Impact
- Citation Behavior
- Impact Factor Calculation.

This workshop which was attended by the President of University enlightened the attendees about some important elements of the research process, and was professionally delivered by Prof. Yazeed.

Memory and Learning

There is no doubt that there is a relationship between memory and the acquisition of knowledge. Students need to focus intensively on using the proper methods of learning coupled with memory. Using these methods helps them to acquire more knowledge and achieve more success in their academic lives.

How can students improve their memory to achieve more academic progress?

- Students need to study the material on gradual and regular bases. This will help them to comprehend it step by step. When the material becomes more difficult, they can manage easily because they had studied it in advance. In other words, because of the information they had learned before, the students' brain is capable to comprehend the new material in a better way.

- Students need to connect the new information they learn to the previous information that they had learned. They should organize it in a way by which they can reach it whenever they want. A good example is an organized room where we put things in their proper places. In certain drawers, we put things and in the other drawers, we put other things. This makes it much easier for us to remember the things we look for in case we need them.

- Students need to remember that silly things and stories make new information much easier to remember. If they try to connect what they learn to certain stories and jokes in their minds, this will make the material much easier for them to remember.

Written By
Mr. Hamzah Ramadan
Lecturer

- Students need to practice the material in order to remember it. They can teach and explain the material to each other in order to understand it. Or, if they are sitting by themselves, they can act as well as they are teaching the material. Imagining things related to the material will help the students to know and comprehend it.

- Students need to change their location if they feel bored after some time of studying in the same place. This helps them to feel fresh and comprehend the ideas in a better way. Moreover, students need to revise the material on regular bases to check if they have forgotten anything. Revisiting the material consolidates the information and clarifies what is comprehended from what is not comprehended.

- Students need to understand that memory and learning have much to do with improving the physical activity and reducing loneliness and stress. The more they continue with such a process, the better this will reflect on their existence and well-being.

- Many students do not know that there is a relationship between memory and food. In order to improve their memory, it is essential for them to eat less sugar and carbohydrate and increase fish oil supplement. Also, they should not stay waking up for long hours at night.

- Students need to restate what they hear and write in lectures or read in books. In order to memorize what they read, they need to restate it in their own words. They may need to repeat this procedure again and again each time using different words.

- Students must avoid anything that distracts them during the process of studying. This will help them to memorize the information in a better way.

To conclude, the most important thing for any student if he/she wants to learn is to be motivated, and use the proper methods to improve his/her memory. Taking notes, participating in discussions and debates are all factors that play an essential part in improving the memory and learning.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memory#Improving

https://gradepowerlearning.com/8-memory-techniques-better-study-session/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KHPJp_wK67g

Research in the United Kingdom

In a study visit organized by the HEC to a number of UK research institutions, I had the chance to learn about the history and practices of scientific research in the UK with regards to funding, policies, strategies and priorities. The visit included research officials at Bahraini universities and was led by Dr Ferzana Almaraghi, director of research at HEC and aimed at establishing links with UK research institutions in order to enhance the research output of Bahrain academic institutions and initiate research collaboration with UK institutions.

The visit was an excellent exposure for all participants to scientific research in the UK. The UK research system has two main players: the government which provides funding, research directions and policy making, and the second is academics, research institutes and centers in universities which seek funding for their research projects. The two parties work hand in hand to implement the country's research strategy leading to advancing the industry and the quality of people's lives.

Written by

Professor Khaled M. Gharaibeh

President's Senior Advisor for Academic Affairs and Development and Acting VP for Academic Affairs and Development

The government research funding is managed by the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) agency with funding of about 2.4% of the GDP amounting to more than 50 billion pounds. This amount is distributed among research institutions based on the merit of the institution and the merit of the submitted research projects. The funding can be used to support a wide range of research activities including basic scientific research, applied research, student and staff mobility, research networking, supporting entrepreneurs and startup companies, and supporting graduate students. The spending of allocated research funding is guided by the national research strategy and the national industry strategy which are set to achieve the national economical and societal visions of the country.

The question of how to bring academia and industry to work together has been a big issue in many countries. The UK is no exception where this issue has been addressed through providing funding to research projects that include partnerships with businesses leading to a big impact on advancement of technology and the society as a whole.

The research system has resulted in making the UK one of the top leading countries in research output and hence, UK universities have been holding leading positions in world university ranking. The more significant fact is that research vision of the UK could never be achieved without the public dialogue on what constitutes a research priority to the society, the industry and the standing of the UK among the world economic forces.

The main lessons learned from the UK experience are the following:

- Government funding is crucial for the advancement of science and technology and without it, individual institutions cannot produce research of high quality.
- The research strategy and the industry strategy of the country draw a roadmap for both academics and industries to direct scientific research to solve the problems that face the country and the world leading to research that is significant, useful and of high impact.
- Transparency and equity are key factors that motivate researchers to seek government funding.
- Cooperation between researchers from different disciplines has led to significant advancement in many areas and a high impact on society and people's lives.
- The world has become a small village, thanks to communication technology and hence, international cooperation between people from different parts of the world has had a significant impact on research and enabled complex problems that face humanity to be solved. Furthermore, the fruitful cooperation between people from different nationalities, religions and races has contributed to the common understanding of the problems that face humanity and reduces the tension between people of different backgrounds.
- scientific research is not a luxury but rather an action that stems from the needs of society and must support a national vision. Therefore, creating high impact research cannot be achieved without working in groups and for projects that have clear objectives and aligned to the research strategies and the national and perhaps the global vision.

Leadership Skills Training Session

The Training, Development and Continuing Education Center organized training on Leadership Skills on the 23rd of January 2020. It was a very interactive and interesting session that was led by Mr. Yasser Abu Seneh. We look forward to having the participants share their experience and learnings with their colleagues and implementing their learnings in their day to day activities.

Written by
ASUrise Team

Interview with Alumnus

Name:	Marwa Rashed Albutti
Workplace:	Research and Teaching Assistant in the College of Law
Academic Degree	Bachelor
Academic Major	LAW
Tell us about your Experience at ASU in terms of learning environment and teaching methods.	It was a great experience in which the environment was inspiring to acquire knowledge in the area of Law. The instructors have a rich knowledge and they conveyed it using different methods of teaching.
What did you enjoy the most about your experience at ASU?	The best experience I had was representing the students in the College Law.
Tell us a success story inspired by ASU.	I was a student at this university and now I am a teaching and research assistant.
In your Opinion, What are the Improvement areas you would like to see at ASU in the future?	Opening more majors, more fields for students such as media and medical majors
Final words	Thank you my beloved University for recruiting me in this position and always wish you all the success.

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

Advance-HE has officially awarded Accreditation to Applied Science University for another 3 years

On the 22 January 2020, Advance-HE has officially awarded Accreditation to Applied Science University for another 3 years to the following programmes; (the scheme is now validated until the end of August 2022)

- Applied Science University Fellowship Scheme (Descriptors 1-3)
- D1-AFHEA; D2-FHEA; D3-SFHEA.

This great success would not have been possible without the great vision and support from Professor Waheeb Al Khaja Chairman of the Board of Trustees; the great leadership and enthusiasm from Professor Ghassan Aouad the President of the University; and the hard work and dedication from team of ASUrise-HEA centre. The strategic plan for the ASDU (Academic Staff Development unit) is to ensure that all staff at ASU that are related to Teaching and Supporting Learning are affiliated to the fellowship of the Higher Education Academy through ASUrise HEA scheme by 2022

Written by
ASUrise Team

Applied Science University Received Friendship Society for the Blind

As a part of the Community Engagement Office at Applied Science University initiatives, on Wednesday the 22nd of January 2020, a delegation from the Friendship Society for the Blind represented by Mr Maitham Madan, spokesperson for the Friendship Society for the Blind visited ASU.

During the visit, a number of coordination meetings were held with Professor Ghassan Aouad, the University President, Dr Mohammed Youssif, the VP for Administration, Finance and Community Engagement, Dr Mohammad Alaa Al-Hamami, the Manager of the Community Engagement Office and Associate Professor in Management Information Systems Department, Dr Bishir Mhd-Mowafak, the Associate Professor in the Department of Accounting and Finance, Dr Ibrahim Abu AlSondos, the Assistant Professor in the Management Information Systems Department, Dr Ammar Esam Alsammarraee, the Assistant Professor in the Department of Accounting and Finance, Mr Nizar Y.A. Naim, a Lecturer in the Department of Accounting and Finance, Mr. Mohammad Azzam, the Manager of the VP Office for Administration, Finance and Community Engagement, and a number of academic and administrative staff.

Written by
Dr. Mohammed Al-Hamami
Office Manager of Community Engagement

These meetings complement the ongoing cooperation between Applied Science University and the Friendship Society for the Blind in order to achieve the mission and strategic goals in relation to serving the community and all its groups.

Quote of the Week

"Creativity is thinking up new things. Innovation is doing new things."

- Theodore Levitt

من روائع الشعر العربي

من لم يحتمل ذل التعلم ساعة . . . . بقي في ذل الجهل أبداً

ـالأصمعي