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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 21st issue of the 2nd year of the President's News Digest.



I would like to start this edition by thanking all colleagues who helped with the preparation and submission of our institutional accreditation application to the HEC today. This is a milestone activity and achieving institutional accreditation is a top priority for the Board of Directors and Board of Trustees and all of us.

On Wednesday and Thursday of last week, the Dome Hall was buzzing with more than 40 colleagues who helped in editing the application and its supporting documents which include university prospectus, programmes handbooks, details CVs and job descriptions of the senior management and all academic staff amongst many other documents. The HEC will soon start scrutinizing our application and the website. If we meet all their requirements, they will plan an inspection visit. Four weeks before the inspection visit, they will ask us to submit our SER and all supporting documents. This is a very demanding task, but we are at a very advanced stage in our SER report preparation and should



be ready when an inspection date is allocated to us by the HEC. Prof Newton is visiting us this week and he will spend a substantial amount of time checking our progress and providing feedback on the work we have done so far.

Achieving institutional accreditation is perhaps the most important activity in the University and should be our top priority over the next few months. As I mentioned many times before, the visiting panel will attend classes and observe the quality of teaching in the classrooms. In addition, they will scrutinize all our supporting materials including course portfolios, course syllabi, assessment methods, and achievements of learning outcomes by students, website and marketing materials amongst many other things. We need to be well prepared and everything we do should be to the highest quality.



On Monday 20 March, we received a high level delegation from the University of Messina in Italy which was founded in 1548. The President gave an overview presentation of the

University and our colleagues from Italy briefed us about their activities and opportunities for collaboration. The visit concluded with a tour of the University and our Italian colleagues expressed strong interests in collaborating with us in areas like staff and students exchange and joint research and publications.

On Tuesday 21 March, the President and many colleagues participated in the Bahrain Education and Training International Exhibition



(EDUTEX) which was organised under the patronage of HE the Minister for Labour and Social Development. Our stand at the exhibition was visited by many potential students and our colleagues from Marketing and PR and volunteering students



did a fantastic job by promoting our existing and new programmes. It is worth noting that the University was a gold sponsor of this exhibition and this has given us a lot of publicity.

On the evening of 22 March, the President and Dean of Students Affairs attended a dinner hosted by HE the Italian Ambassador to Bahrain at his residence to honour a high level delegation of academic visitors from Italy who were touring the Kingdom to explore opportunities for collaboration with Bahraini partners. We were very fortunate to receive a group of colleagues from this delegation who visited us in the University.

I would like to conclude this edition by reminding all of you that quality should be at the heart of all what we do and our students should be at the centre of all our activities. A student centered institution will achieve better results as demonstrated by research. It is our moral and professional duty to support our students and produce graduates that the University will very proud of. Our students and alumni are our best ambassadors and we should look after them and support them and provide them with every opportunity to succeed.

## INTERVIEW OF THE WEEK

We would like to feature the interview this week with:



**Name:** Prof Hilal Al-Bayatti

**Position:** Director of the Quality Assurance and Accreditation Centre (QAAC).

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

I was born in 1947 in Baghdad, Iraq. I grew up in a family of five brothers in an atmosphere full of joy, fun and firmness where education was very important in our family. At my youth age, I was very fond of sports especially basketball. I was also interested in politics because of what was happening during that time to Iraq and other Arab countries.

As for my academic achievement, I have a BSc degree in Mathematics from the College of Science, University of Baghdad. I completed my MSc in Computer Science from University College London, UK and my PhD in Computer Science from Loughborough University of Technology, UK. I am married and have one son, two daughters and eight grandchildren.

### 2. Tell us about your job at ASU

I joined ASU as Professor of Computer Science and worked as VP Academic, then became the Advisor to VP Academic and now Director of QAAC. Throughout my career at ASU, I worked in a team spirit with my colleagues, taking into consideration the academic standard and the interest of the University and students as a priority.

## DR. AL-HAMAMI PUBLISHED A RESEARCH PAPER



Dr. Mohammad Al-Hamami, Manager of the Community Engagement Office and Assistant Professor in the Management Information Systems Department published a paper titled “A Proposed Framework for Photos Copyright Protection in Facebook”

in “The International Journal of Computer Applications”, a refereed journal - ISSN 0975 – 8887 in its Volume 162 – No 1, March 2017.

The paper suggests a framework proposal to protect the copyright of photos on Facebook.

## CE OFFICE PARTICIPATED IN A TRIP FOR THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS TO AL-AHSA, KSA

On 18 March, and on behalf of the Community Engagement Office, Ms Hanaa Duwisan participated and joined widows and orphans from Bahrain in a trip to Al-Ahsa in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The trip was organised with the cooperation of Al-Sanabel Orphans Care Society and “Bahrain Deserve” voluntary team. Around twenty two widows and twenty orphans participated in the trip.



The trip took off early in the morning and included five tourist stations.

## DR. AL-JANABI AWARDED A RECOGNISED CERTIFICATE

Dr. Murad Al-Janabi, Associate Professor of Religion and Islamic thoughts at Applied Sciences

University received a recognised certificate after completing "دورة التزكية النبوية الشريفة" which lasted for two years. The course was organised by the Educational Center of Islamic Association in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The aim of the course was to identify the origins of values, morals and virtues, and establish them in civilized societies. Participants were from different disciplines such as doctors, universities' professors, and scientists.



### 3. Tell us about your aspirations for the University

My ambition in my work at ASU is to see the University at the forefront of universities at the level of Bahrain and the Gulf and to have a global standing. I would like to see the University expand into unique disciplines in the field of Science at graduate and postgraduate levels. I also would like to see the University have a distinguished relationship with international universities and business and industry.

### 4. What do you enjoy most about your job?

My enjoyment in work stems from the work environment and the sincere relation between the Senior Management team, the academic staff and staff in general.

I feel that working and teaching students is fun by itself.

### 5. Tell us about your hobbies

My hobbies can be summed up with having fun with my grandchildren and communicating with the family, besides watching sports (tennis) and animal world programmes.

### 6. Tell us about your favourite food

My favourite food is the traditional Iraqi dish, the Teshreeb.

### 7. Tell us about the book you are reading now

The last book I read was about the history of the region.

### 8. Final words

Honesty, Sincerity and selflessness in work is the path to success. I am sure ASU by its leadership will become a world class University.



## THE VISIT OF STUDENT COUNCIL AND WOMEN CLUB MEMBERS TO ELDERLY CARE HOME

On 21 March 2017, in celebration of Mother's Day, Student Council members, and Women Club members visited the National Bank of Bahrain Elderly Home in Isa Town and shared some memorable time with the elderly. Gifts and sweets were presented to elderly women and men to make them feel that they are not forgotten in our Bahraini society. All elderly women, men, ASU' students and staff from the Deanship of Student Affairs enjoyed the visit and shared memorable moments. All visitors from ASU were so touched by the visit and promised to make more frequent visits to the care home in the future.



## LECTURES AT AL-ZAMEL MOSQUE

As part of Applied Science University's commitment to support the community, Dr. Murad Al-Janabi, Associate Professor in the College of Law, delivered lectures on weekly basis at Al-Zamel Mosque in Al-Hidd city. The lectures included tutorials in the purification of thoughts from racism and sectarianism and building society away from subversive tendencies.



## ASU GOLD SPONSOR AT (EDUTEX) 2017

Applied Science University has participated in the 5th Bahrain Education & Training Exhibition (EDUTEX) 2017 as a gold sponsor for the third year. The exhibition was held under the patronage of H.E Jameel bin Mohamed Humaidan the Minister of Labour & Social Development. The official opening was attended by ASU President Prof. Ghassan Aouad, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Development Dr. Assem Al-Hajj, Vice President for Administration & Finance and Community Engagement Dr. Mohammad Yousef, Dean of Student Affairs Dr. Faiza Zitouni, Director of Administration and Finance Mr. Abdulla Alkhaja, and other officials.



The Minister, Thai Ambassador to Bahrain and other VIPs visited ASU stand and expressed their admiration for the level of the offered programmes along with launching the new College of Engineering.

The University presented its new programmes in Architecture and Design Engineering, and Civil and Construction Engineering in cooperation with London South Bank University in addition to its existing academic programmes. The Admin staff from the Directorate of Marketing & Public Affairs and the Deanship of Admissions and Registration and ASU students played a major role during the 3 days exhibition and they were great Ambassadors for the University.

## ALUMNI CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR ITS 2ND CYCLE

The constitution of the Alumni Club Board members is now finalised, as announced by the Career Development and Alumni Affairs Office Manager Ms. Noora Musalam.

The organizational chart is shown below:

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world”.*

**Harriet Tubman**



Happy Reading

