

# AI-Naura



الجامعة الألمانية الأردنية  
German Jordanian University

Monthly Newsletter issued by the PR department / German Jordanian University Vol. 2 - 9th Edition / 2014



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## “ Professional Diploma in Vision Rehabilitation Graduation Ceremony ”



Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Ra'ad bin Zeid, Chief Chamberlain and President of the Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities (HCAPD), and in the presence of her Royal Highness, Princess Majida Ra'ad, the German Jordanian University celebrated the 7th Graduation Ceremony for the Professional Diploma in Vision Rehabilitation on Thursday 16 January, 2014.

In his speech, HRH Prince Ra'ad praised the university's support and interest in this unique major; Vision Rehabilitation, stating that this program is compatible with the national strategy to support people with disabilities.

He also emphasized that this program empowers people with disabilities, helps children in different countries, and ensures a better life for them in their societies and countries.

For his part, Prof. Natheer Abu Obeid, GJU President, asserted that GJU is very proud to have the Vision Rehabilitation Program, which is considered an effective contribution serving the local community as well as other communities. He also expressed his gratitude to the successful German partnership to support the GJU's message to serve the community and make a difference in creating unique education in the kingdom. "Seeing is Believing" Prof. Abu Obeid said.

For her part, Dr. Nathalie Bussieres, Director of the Vision Rehabilitation Program, gave an elaborate presentation about the remarkable achievements of the program during 2013, particularly in hiring potential graduates. She also presented a video for the national expert in "Vision Rehabilitation", Krister Indei.

Ms. Yusur Qteishat, a lecturer at the Vision Rehabilitation Center, gave a brief about the student's projects and how to teach visually challenged students the metric measurements.

Two students, Inshirah Al. Bulbul from Jordan and Anne Orlina from the Philippines, gave speeches at the ceremony and expressed their appreciation for the support of HRH Prince Ra'ad bin Zeid for this program.

At the end of the ceremony HRH Prince Ra'ad bin Zeid distributed the certificates to the graduates, who were 12 students from Jordan, Philippines, Togo and Uganda.



## “ GJU President Inspects the Solar Desalination Project ”

Prof. Natheer Abu Obeid, the GJU President visited the site of the Solar Desalination Project, on 23 January 2014. This project was implemented by GJU two years ago.

This project was designed to exploit solar energy for electricity generation and seawater desalination as the use of solar energy in thermal desalination processes is still one of the most promising applications in renewable energy.

Prof. Abu Obeid affirmed that this project is a good model of the GJU educational approach in both (applied and technical methods). He further added that the project is in line with the governmental movements in solar energy exploitation as well as benefits to the economy and to the local community.

On his side, Dr. Ahmad Muhaidat, said that Jordan is one of the poorest countries in the world in the field of energy and water, adding that desalination does not require huge quantities of energy.

For his part, Dr. Mohammad Al-Addous, said that GJU is considered the only university in Jordan that has a specialization of Energy-Engineering. Therefore the GJU is keen to make site visits to keep



students involved.

It is worth mentioning that the work in this project was motivated by the increasing awareness of the need to enhance water supply schemes in arid lands featuring appropriate technology for solar energy use in the desalination field.

## “ The HIKMA Lab Opening Ceremony at GJU ”



Under the patronage of Prof. Natheer Abu Obeid, GJU President, and Ms. Majda Al-Labadi –Al-HIKMA group, Vice President of Human Recourses, the German Jordanian University celebrated the HIKMA Lab Opening at the Pharmaceutical-Chemical Engineering Department of the School of Applied Medical Sciences. This took place on Tuesday 21 January, 2014.

In his speech, Prof. Abu Obeid praised the HIKMA contribution to GJU that helps to strengthen partnership with the private sector.

He also emphasized that GJU and other universities should be unique models of revival and openness by following the rapid advancements being made in industry and the labour market espe-

cially in the field of Pharmaceutical Engineering.

For her part, Ms. Majda Al-Labadi, expressed her gratitude to GJU, pointing out that opening the lab at GJU is serving the objectives of Al-HIKMA group in supporting students, and helping to make strong connections between students and the private sector.

She further mentioned that Al-HIKMA group grants students and staff MA programs inside and outside Jordan.

Dr. Malyuba Abu Daabes, Dean of the Applied Medical Sciences School, gave a presentation about the distinguished aspects of the School. She explained the importance of the pharmaceutical industry in Jordan and how the HIKMA group contributed to introducing new students to the nature of the pharmaceutical Industry as well as seeking out GJU graduates and hiring them.

For his part, Dr. Mohammad Al-Naief, Head of the Pharmaceutical-Chemical Engineering Department, greeted his team, and spoke about the great experience they had working with Al-HIKMA in establishing the lab.

The event was attended by the Vice President of GJU, the Vice President for International Affairs, academic members of the Applied Medical Sciences School as well as representatives from Al-HIKMA group.

## “ The Omrania | CSBE Student Award for Excellence in Architectural Design ceremony ”

In collaboration with the German Jordanian University, the Omrania | CSBE Student Award for Excellence in Architectural Design ceremony was held at Othman Bdeir House for Architecture and Design in Amman honoring the five winning projects of the sixth cycle of the Omrania.

150 projects from 37 universities from nine Arab countries were submitted to the sixth cycle of the Award. The Award's jury members consisted of Shahira Fahmy, Founder of Shahira Fahmy Architects in Cairo; Bernard Khoury, Founder of DW5/Bernard Khoury in Beirut; and Murat Tabanlıoğlu, Co-Founder of Tabanlıoğlu Architects in Istanbul.

GJU President, Prof. Natheer Abu Obeid emphasized the importance of interaction between students and the natural environment, pressing socio-economic challenges and the shift away from commercial real-estate development oriented thinking in the field of Architectural Design. The entries clearly indicate that the students of the universities of the Arab world are aware of future challenges and opportunities that face their societies, and are willing to fully engage with them.

For his part, Prof. Mohammad Yaghan, Dean of the School of Architecture and Built Environment at the GJU praised the role of Omrania and Associates (O&A) and the Center for the

Study of the Built Environment (CSBE) in honoring distinguished architectural graduation projects by students from universities throughout the Arab World. He also presented a brief about SABE, its features and the role it plays in reviving the region architecturally, culturally, socially and economically.

For their parts, Mr. Basem Al Shihabi, Managing Partner of Omrania & Associates; and Mohammad Al-Asad, Director of the Center of the Study of the Built Environment, summarized the award's development stages, saying that the main goal of this student award is to honor distinguished architectural graduation projects in the Arab world.



## “ The launching of “Let us Cultivate our Country Together” Initiative ”



The first stage of the initiative of “Let us Cultivate our Country Together” was launched at the German Jordanian University on Wednesday, 22 January, 2014. This tree-planting event was led by Prof. Natheer Abu Obeid, GJU President, and Eng. Imad Dabbas, Environmental Activist.

The event marks the launching of the national initiative for greening and tree planting in 2014, to create enthusiasm in the minds of the populace towards the conservation of forests and the planting of trees.

Prof. Abu Obeid, emphasized that getting involved in this national initiative is a great thing to do. It inspires, and educates Jordanians to actively care for their unique land and create future generations of committed environmental custodians.

Eng. Imad Dabbas, said that several events will be held in the coming 4 years to mark this initiative covering various parts of the kingdom with trees which are suitable for the local environment of each area, adding that the aim of this event is to increase the green cover of the kingdom.

Eng. Imad Dabbas, Prof. Abu Obeid and GJU students participated in planting many forest trees and they will continue to plant a million seedlings.

## “ Seminar about Abdul Hameed Shoman Award for Arab Researchers ”

The Deanship of Graduate Studies and Scientific Research at GJU in cooperation with Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation organized a seminar about the Abdul Hameed Shoman Award for Arab Researchers, in the presence of Vice President, Prof. Manar Fayyad and the Dean of Graduate Studies and Scientific Research, Dr. Majed Abu Zreig.

The award is an appreciation for distinguished scientific works of scientific researchers the dissemination and publication of which will lead to the promotion of applied and scientific knowledge, increased awareness of the culture of scientific research, and will also contribute to solving problems of priority at the local, regional and international levels.

Mr. Abdul Rahman Al- Masri, Director of Scientific Research Support, said that from the time the award was launched in 1982 until the end of 2012, 361 professors and researchers have been granted this award. They represent 59 Arab Universities and Scientific Institutes from various Arab Countries.

He further added that in 2013 new award criteria was introduced, making it possible for all scientific researchers to apply for the award regardless of age. The award name also changed to become the Abdul Hameed Shoman Award for Arab Researchers.

For his part Mr. Nabil Abu Haneyah, Administrator at Scientific Research Support, displayed the foundation history in a video, which explained that the Abdul Hameed Sho-

man Award for Arab Researchers was launched by the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in 1982. The video also included, the award timeline (1982-2013) and, the new criteria for the award.

He also pointed out that the award fields and specializations are spread among, Medical and Health Sciences, Engineering Sciences, Basic Sciences, Literature and Humanities, Social and Administrative Sciences, Agricultural Sciences in addition to, Applied Sciences including Water, Energy, and Environment.

It is worth mentioning also that the award goals are, contributing, promoting, supporting and enforcing Arab Scientific Research, as well as raising a generation of Arab researchers, experts and specialists in various scientific fields.



## “ Emotions Design Lecture ”

The School of Management and Logistics Sciences at the German Jordanian University organized a lecture entitled “Seeing Emotions in Consumer Products; a Marketing Perspective” presented by Mr. Jan Bayo, Lecturer and Designer at Nan and Jan Bayo’ Barcelona Design Studio.

Mr. Jan Bayo, explained what emotional design means, saying that emotional design refers to the elements of a product that will stimulate an idea/feeling in different ways: rational,

sensitive or nostalgic.

He further pointed out that the object of each method he mentioned must provoke emotions in students through mental associations linked to memories of various designs like, visceral design, behavioral design and reflective design.

He also showed a video of designs by some artists to show students the rules of design.

### Notice:

We are pleased to invite you to help us enrich the content of Al-Naura Newsletter through providing us with news and articles of the different events in your School or Department. Contributions should be sent to the contact details mentioned on the last page.

## “iceamman” Workshop at GJU

The Office for Industrial Links at GJU collaborated with Eng. Jamil Khatib, Project Consultant at CIM – the German Center for International Migration and Development, to organize for an initial workshop that should spread the spirit of entrepreneurship among students and staff, support their innovative and creative ideas and aim at establishing “iceamman” at GJU.

Entrepreneurship is not deep-rooted in the Jordanian society, but this is changing. Notably, the idea is to build up an innovation center called “iceamman”: i stands for innovation; c stands for collaboration and e stands for entrepreneurship.

“icehubs” do currently exist in Cairo and Alexandria, Addis Abeba and Weimar (Germany) and are supported by GIZ, the German Agency for International Cooperation.

The lack of ventures in Jordan means that almost all entrepreneurial ventures rely on informal funding through family and friends who are limited by to the country’s low per capita

income level. However, two GJU graduates joined the workshop to share their experience of opening their own businesses and to explain that they still face many barriers trying to run their businesses and continue to be somewhat risk-averse.

From his side, Eng. Jamil Khatib, said that “iceamman” aims to support students, providing them with a professional environment to showcase their work. It also remains an open outlet for creative people to engage with ideas, people, and businesses that move the world forward.

Moreover, he praised the exceptional efforts of GJU for organizing the various youth workshops and field activities.

Entrepreneurship is not limited to the slogan of such workshops at GJU, but stretches to cover organizations, and distinguished youth participants that play a major role in ensuring success in Jordan.

## Congratulations!



The GJU family congratulates Dr. Eyad Hamad, from the School of Applied Medical Sciences- Biomedical Engineering Department, for his new membership in the Global Young Academy. He is the voice of young scientists around the world, with his distinguished qualifications and outstanding track record as a successful scientist.

The GJU family wishes Dr. Hamad more progress and success.



GJU Family would like to congratulate Prof. Ahmad Harb, from the School of Natural Resources Engineering and Management at GJU, for being an editor-in-chief at the International Journal of Power and Renewable Energy Systems (IJPRES) in the USA. He was also a Keynote speaker at the International Renewable Energy Congress (IREC) 2014 in Tunisia.

Congratulations to Prof. Harb. We wish him continued success in everything he does.

## “ Training Agreement between GJU and Al-Layyan Co. for Logistics Services ”



The university and Al-Layyan Company for Logistics Services “Total Logistic Solution“ (EasyLog) signed an agreement to establish a framework for mutual cooperation in the field of logistics services. This cooperation was initiated by the School of Management and Logistics at GJU.

Prof. Natheer Abu Obeid, GJU President, on behalf of the GJU, and Mr. Samer Al-Shami, General Manager on behalf of Al-Layyan Company signed the agreement, which aims to evolve GJU to the best level of logistics services and to provide the management and logistics sciences students educational training courses.

The company will prepare special offices for such purposes, with machines and a number of devices. Students will be trained at these offices or at the offices they deem appropriate.

The agreement purposes to provide a program for students for the duration of “160” training hours, and it will include the provision of a specialist training program under the management and supervision of Al-Layyan Company.

In addition, the training of students will include Logistics Planning, Operations and Analysis, Supply Chain and Logistics Information Systems and Customer Relationship Management.

Prof. Abu Obeid, emphasized that GJU encourages technological developments, applied research, experiential learning, and professional excellence oriented towards the needs of the labor market and the industry, both in Jordan and the region.

He further added that this training agreement helps to bridge the gap between academic education and the labor market’s needs as well as their application on the ground within the European countries in general, and Germany in particular.

For his part, Mr. Al-Shami said that Al Layan is keen to develop human resources in order to meet the national needs of the workforce in the labor market.

It is worth mentioning that the signing ceremony was organized by the Office for Industrial Links and the School of Management and Logistic Sciences, in the presence of the Vice President of GJU, the Vice President for International Affairs, academic members of GJU as well as representatives from Al Layan Company.

## “ Partner Universities Fair ”

The international office at GJU in participation with the incoming students from Germany organized the “Partner Universities Fair “. This event was a “students to students “event that aimed at enriching GJU students information and ideas about their year in Germany.

Each group of incomings students represented their University through well-prepared presentations which included the campus, disciplines, work programs, internships, as well as the city life.

Additionally, the universities were from many different cities in Germany and specialized in different subjects, for example the University of Bayreuth, the University of Heilbronn, Frankfurt University and many more.

GJU students got answers about programs, curriculum, admission requirements, and student life.



The event was attended by Dr. Anton Mangstl, Vice President for International affairs, Dr. Dorothea Jecht, the Director of the International office, as well as GJU students and incoming students.

## “ Delegation from KFAS Visits GJU ”



A delegation from the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement Sciences visited the German Jordanian University on Monday 27 January, 2014. The purpose of the visit was to explore the university's profile and educational system while at the same time looking for cooperation opportunities in the fields of innovation and creativity.

Prof. Natheer Abu Obeid, GJU President, gave a brief about the university's educational programs, pointing out that GJU is a role model for an applied sciences university and high tech educational institution.

He further added that GJU presents a critical role in com-

bining theory and application and directs these toward the needs of the labor market and industry. He also explained the importance of the exchange year that students spend in German universities.

On his side, Dr. Bassam Al-Faili, Assistant Director of the Management Development Program at KFAS, emphasized that KFAS strives to stimulate, support, and invest in initiatives and human resources that contribute to the building of a strong culture while fostering and enabling the environment.

Dr. Lubna Ukasheh, Assistant Director of the Program of Support Companies at KFAS, said that KFA'S strategy is based upon determining the basic elements of development and the needs of human resources.

The Dean of Student Affairs, and the Director of the National Program of Faculty for Factory asserted that this program helps to strengthen the role of academic institutions serving industry and economic in the region.

It is worth mentioning that KFAS is a private, non-profit organization, established in 1976 to form an effective sciences, technology, innovation and culture, which underpins the sustainable development of the state.

## “ Workshop on “Successful Accountant” by KPMG at GJU ”

The International Accounting Department of the School of Management and Logistics Sciences at GJU organized a workshop about becoming a “Successful Accountant” in particular and “Pursuing Accountancy” in general . This workshop was presented by Mr. Hatem Kawasmy, Managing Partner at KPMG, Jordan.

Accounting is basically the language of business. To have enough knowledge about accountancy is essential for the International Accounting students who need to know how to work their way up to their chosen career paths.

Mr. Hatem Kawasmy, gave a brief about the company, saying that KPMG is one of the best known names in business. It provides Audit, Tax and Advisory services to local, national and multinational organizations.

He also affirmed that accounting will enable students to interact with all levels of business and they will learn a lot from it.

Students need accreditation or license from a certain organizations, such as CPA, a license by the STA or the State Board of Accountancy.



For his part, Dr. Malek Alsharairi, Chairman of the International Accounting Department, said that this workshop represents the goal of the School to communicate with national and international companies and organizations.



## “ Honoring GJU Cleaning Workers ”

A group of students at the university organized a humanitarian initiative to express their appreciation for the hard work of the cleaning staff in keeping the university buildings clean.

The students said that they wanted to honor those workers and thank them for the services they have been giving to GJU students, faculty and staff.

The students took on the roles of the cleaning staff wearing their uniforms and cleaning different facilities at the university for two hours. The students cleaned several classrooms and offices at the university while expressing their pleasure at doing these tasks.

The students cleaned the university garden, several classrooms, moved the desks, and chairs, wiped floors, cleaned desks, and threw away the trash.

Dr. Yousef Abdalat, Dean of Student Affairs emphasized that GJU is an active participant in such initiatives, through students. They can develop the community and enhance cross-cultural competence and humanitarian perspectives.



For her part, Hala Jurf, a GJU student and one of the organizers of this initiative, said that GJU student participation in these initiatives gave them greater confidence and skills to work in unfamiliar environments. She also added that they are very proud to take on the role of cleaning the University.

The students also invited the cleaning staff to the university's cafeteria for lunch and paid for their meals. The cleaning staff were extremely pleased with this initiative and thanked the students for their support and care.

## “ A Group of Students from GJU visits Al-Zahra'a Nursing Home ”

A group of students from the German Jordanian University taking the National Education course visited Al-Zahra'a Nursing Home, in collaboration with Everest Hotel and Al-Khatib Est.

The visit is aimed at developing stronger connections between these older adults and their community especially young people.

Students can benefit from the experiences of others. Learning about life from those who have lived a long life is an invaluable gift.

Mr. Adel Hawatmeh, Lecturer at GJU, pointed out that this visit represents the meaning of social solidarity. He also added that the sight of so many elderly people who have suffered some form of disability may be upsetting, but those people were once able bodied, useful and acknowledged. Now, primarily because of advanced age, they exist in a vacuum that is penetrated only by the kind touches of an occasional visit.

It is important for our students to look beyond the physical appearances and to think of each resident as an important in-



dividual who has lived a long and full life, and whose uniqueness does not depend on physical appearance.

At the end of the visit, students listened to the concerns of the elderly people and distributed gifts to them.

## “ New Consultations and Training Center Partnerships ”



King Hussein Cancer Center



Jordan River Academy



Experts of Distinguished Performance



Tashkeel Consultations and Training Company



Azalya Training and Consultations



Al-Nejma Company

## “ Photography Exhibition at GJU ”



The School of Architecture and Built Environment at GJU organized a “Black and White Photography Exhibition, which reflected the artistic awesomeness of cultural heritage places in Jordan”.

The exhibition took place at Darat Othman Bdeir, on Tuesday 28 January 2014. It aimed at keeping cultural heritage for the

future as photos.

The gallery contained a combination of heritage studies, the majority of which fall into the contemporary issues category, demonstrating aspects of pollution and noise.

Prof. Mohammad Yaghan, the Dean of SABE, praised the great idea of this exhibition that shows students’ talents and creativity.

However, each photo is well annotated with enough description of the event to draw the viewer into the scene without being boring. It reflects the magic of nature as well as capturing tangible culture.

Ola Sawaei, Lecturer, Cinematic Arts, said that the exhibition is a good step to showing student creativity in art and photography.

The SABE and Darat Othman Bdeir represent the best environment to respond to the ever changing and interactional educational needs regarding the historical significance of Jabal Amman.

## “ Football Championship at GJU ”



The Deanship of Student Affairs at the university organized a Football Championship which was held at Al-Nashamah Stadium to select a football team that will represent the university at championships and official events.

This championship aims to motivate students to play sport and discover their skills and talents as well as forming the university team.

Dr. Yousef Abdalat, Dean of Student Affairs, emphasized that the University seeks to refine student skills and abilities by supporting extracurricular activities and sports.

For his part, Mr. Fawaz Saqqar, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, expressed his satisfaction with the performance of the teams and the special skills they showed.

It is worth mentioning that the championship included 25 teams of 300 students. At the end of the championship, the dean of Student Affairs distributed prizes to the winner teams.

## “ Delegation from GJU visited Tourist Sites in Madaba ”



A group of students from GJU visited the most spectacular tourist, archaeological and cultural sites in Madaba to find out more about these remarkable ancient sites.

The visit was organized by the Center for the Study of Natural and Cultural Heritage and the Deanship of Student Affairs at GJU. The visit conceptualized many valuable dimensions - functional, social, emotional, epistemic, and conditional - which are all parts of the value theory that students must apply to achieve interaction with the local community.

Dr. Nizar Abu-Jaber, Head of CSNACH, emphasized that Jordan has an amazingly rich cultural and archaeological heritage with places such as Petra, which is one of the wonders of the world, as well as particularly welcoming people.

He further added that the center will focus on creating a good network with national areas. In addition, the center will develop programs to maintain heritage buildings.



For his part, Dr. Yousef Abdalat, Dean of Student Affairs, pointed out that the site visits are very important to keep students involved with their cultural country.

It is worth mentioning that CSNACH signed a joint agreement with the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority to promote the development of Wadi Rum in Jordan.

