

# GJU times



الجامعة الألمانية الأردنية  
German Jordanian University

Issue of Oct. 2011

GJU's 2<sup>nd</sup>

# Bloom BOOM Festival



## An Amazing journey at



During the summer I had the privilege of doing an internship at DHL Express Jordan. The experience was absolutely amazing. For the duration of my stay I worked at the IT & Marketing department on an Email marketing campaign & eCom solutions upgrade.

What I loved most about DHL Express is that they took me seriously and actually gave me responsibilities and tasks to do. Moreover the atmosphere as well as the environment was very pleasant and joyful, everyone was welcoming, friendly and completely incredible. My direct supervisor was Mr. Tariq Bassuoni, IT & Marketing manager, who was very understanding and patient with me. He has really helped me to experience the work life by assigning me tasks, deadline and the whole works.

I would like to thank every single person at DHL, especially Mr. Tariq Bassuoni. Moreover if I had the chance I would do it all over again in a heartbeat.

By Sabaa Abbadi



# مع السلامة

## Servus means

( From a Jordanian Abroad II )

### Dedication :

To all those who had made it worthwhile.

I once read in a novel, " Travelling is pointless, you come back all different and nothing is ever the same" I remember stopping for long at that quote and thinking, really? That's what's going to happen to us?

Today, and as I stand there with my dark red suitcase and last hours in Germany, I can say for sure, that yes; It's true.

Around one year ago, I left Jordan and came to live in Germany. I wasn't sure what to expect, I had never set a foot in Europe before, I wasn't sure my language skills were that adequate, I was not sure how Germans were going to react to my Muslim head- scarfed self. I left my family on September 14, 2010 with a big excited smile and two shaking hands. I knew it was going to be something different.

One of the things I have learnt through this year of travel is to just let things be. I am the kind of person who likes to plan and organize things, believing in my heart that those schedules and arrangements will guard me against the unexpected, will save me from last minute changes and sudden unexpected failures. Even if something bad was going to happen, I would rather be informed ahead of time, to know exactly what to do.

But later, and as the boundaries of my daily life stretched 100 miles in each direction, I started to realize that with that much of variables in the equation, there was no way for me to guess the outcome, or even come close to it.

One of the great things during my year abroad was the people I met here, and the people I had known for so long but didn't really know

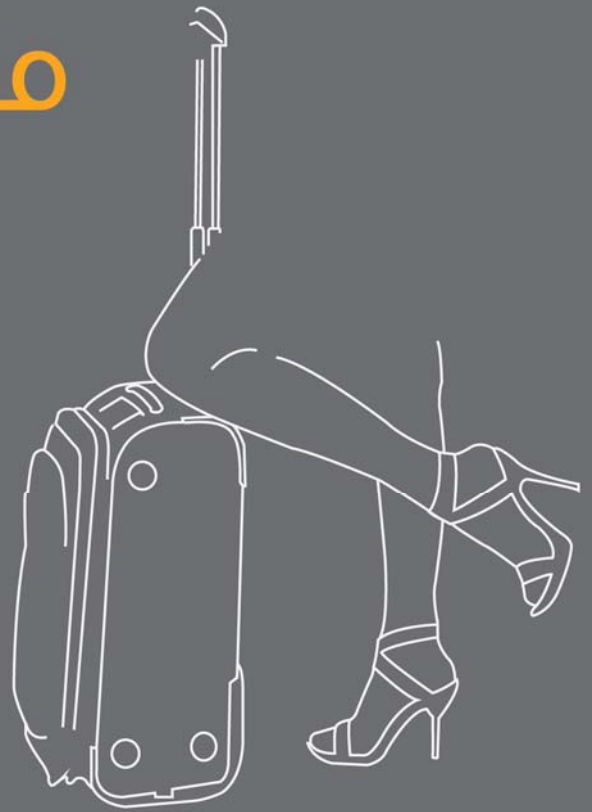
until we all came here. She was of my friends from my same major back in Amman, we were total opposites.

I believed in order, she believed in chaos. I used math and science; she used her guts and instincts. At first hanging around her was something new and challenging all together. In my head, I wasn't able to put together how she managed to get through her life living like that. With time... her randomness started to make sense. Now, and as I look back, I realize that she taught me two of the most important lessons from Germany. The first lesson was, Good things will start happening to us when we stop trying to architecture our lives into buildings we want them to become, forgetting that we are all residents of a much bigger city, one that will never stop expanding.

No matter how hard you try, things will always get out of hand. There will always be an upper power and flow of circumstances that will blow away our neatly drawn plans. no matter how hard and how long we had worked on them.

The other lesson was how sometimes we need people in our lives, ones who are so different from us... to show us the other side of things, the sides we have been missing out on. People who remind us how good it feels to just let go, and be happy. Now I know that fun is a legitimate right, that it is a cause one ought to break a sweat for. That it is a pursuit, and a destination. That happiness is worth it all.

Among the other people I met, there were some who at the first



glance seemed to have it all figured out; they had good grades, good reputations, and impressive social skills. To anyone looking from the outside, they appeared to be golden children. To anyone who decides to open the door and step in, they will appear to be slightly slanted.

To understand the true meaning of your life and where you want to head with it is something we all struggle with at some point or another. Sometimes we feel that we have found it, during one moment of true understanding, we almost feel ourselves touching the reality of it with our own bare hands. In other times and as things start to get tougher and our knees start to get weaker, we start to question things we have based our lives on.

It's not wrong to stop every now and then, and check your navigation system to make sure you are still on track, heading in the direction of your next destination. In other more extreme times, you might as well question that destination itself, and decide if you really want to head down that road, and if the journey is worth it after all.

I used to be so nostalgic, poetic... I



missed home in many occasions; I reminisced days I knew I was never going to have again... I missed the good life, the simple life; days when everything existed in a 2 dimensional reality, where everything was what it was, when it was, days when I didn't have to worry about the third dimension of things, about what lays in the depth and shadow of every object out there in that never ending space.

Today, I am surprised to find myself accepting things, rather more rationally.

I know that my year in Germany will probably be one of the best years of my life when my time to leave was approaching, I started to lose my mind; I started to count all the things I am leaving behind, all the things I will be trying for the last time.

I didn't realize how attached to everything I had become. It might have had to do with the fact that my life here was one I built a piece after the other, all on my own, that house wouldn't have been mine if I hadn't rented it, that job wouldn't have been mine if I hadn't done so

well in that interview, these people would have never been my friends if I hadn't smiled in their face that day and stopped for a little chat after work.

Life back at home was one we were handed down, in a way or another, our families and friends had been there, and before them were their family and friends. Many of the things there are products of a much older process many participants had contributed to. Life here is rather a process itself, a celebration of all what we have achieved by our own, a testimony of how much we can make and how far we can go as individuals, and as grownups in the real world.

To that fact alone I owe so much, to that realization alone, I will cling for long. It was my life, and no one else's.

To say that I have entirely changed will be too dramatic and an underestimation to the 21 years old person, I started this year with. I wouldn't have become what I am now, if it weren't to all what had already been there in me.

I guess in a way now I understand how I work better, It's easier to make my way through the things that make me who I am.

My parents will still recognize me as I walk through that terminal door, sure they will comment on my new clothing style, my quieter more contained self, my new interests and hobbies, my new friends and taglines, but that doesn't make me any less of myself.

I bet they themselves have changed while I was away, why wouldn't they?

We all move out, move in, and move on.

I have done it once, twice, and even thrice, now will be just another round.

The only difference is that I will have one year's worth of awesome memories and great moments to keep me entertained.



Nama'a Qudah  
Leipzig , Germany  
03.08.2011 , 12:44 am







## Cultural Meltdown Party

Club President  
Ayman Nagi

The Arabs and Foreigners Club – GJU Branch held in March the Cultural Meltdown Party. It's one of the important missions in the AFC club to blend different cultures together and to do this, the administrative team of the club in cooperation with the Deanship of Student Affairs decided to make an event that included cultural exchange activities from cultural presentations, stand-up comedy show, and dinner (Open Buffet) that included famous dishes and cuisines from different countries. The Party also offered a variety of shows from singing, guitar music, dancing! In this day, it was a great advantage to communicate and share ideas with the other Foreign and Arab students who study at our university. In addition, raising the cultural awareness and strengthen the cultural relationships between the different students played an important role. A stand-up comedy show done by our talented comedians ( Hamza Zablawi – Yousef Wadi – Abdulrahman Saqr ) that included different funny scenarios gave such a funny atmosphere to this event. Giving cultural presentations, and giving the foreign students the chance to talk about their cultures and their experiences in Jordan, in the other hand, gave the evening a special cultural taste. Mjf Faraj – mechatronic student in GJU – gave a short presentation about the experience and the knowledge he gained during his fourth year in Germany. At the end of the party, there was a quiz show with many great prizes. The Party was taking place in Motaraf el Remal Café for Entertainment & Arts in jabal Lwebdeh where the cultural atmosphere is absolutely fascinating.



# Cultural Meltdown Party

The Arabs & Foreigners club invites you to a Cultural Exchange night at Mohataraf Remaal (Lweibdeh) on Saturday 5th of March at 7 PM.



STAND UP COMEDY SHOWS

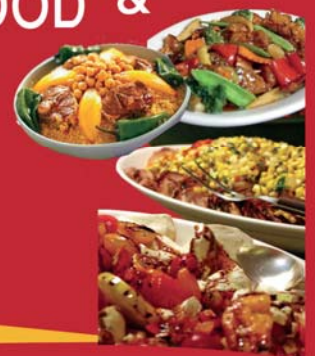


HIPHOP DANCING PERFORMANCE



MUSIC

DRINKS  
FOOD &



For tickets & more info. please contact:

Thaer Tafesh 0795358517

Ayman Nagi 0799164527



**GLANZ**  
Jewelry

Will be selling there

# A team of GJU students participates in the IGVC (Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition) held at Oakland University, Michigan, USA

By Ahmad Bino

It was a great opportunity for us to be one of the teams to participate in this competition among 55 registered other universities, 44 of which were able to make there and participate. Thanks to the fund of KAFD (King Abdullah Fund for Development) we were able to travel and participate in this competition and achieve the 21st place out of 44 universities. Of course we would like to gain a better score, nevertheless we were the first university from Middle East and the Arab region to participate in this competition, and were competing against universities that have previous experience this competition.

The idea of the competition is to build autonomous unmanned intelligent ground vehicles, that are able to navigate toward certain GPS navigation points, while at the same time staying in a lane marked by two white lines and avoiding obstacles that are put in its way. This simple idea is actually the background that the future cars will rely on. A future car should be capable of receiving a destination point from the driver, and then by selecting "Auto Driver" mode like that used in aviation "Auto Pilot", the vehicle should be capable of driving it way to the destination using the same roads we use today while avoiding any obstacle present on the road, and that all with no or minimal human intervention.



The competition is held at Oakland University, Rochester Hills, Michigan. It's sponsored by a number institutes and companies in the USA, many of which are producers of military defense systems. Also, this competition is a great interest of commercial vehicles manufacturers. The innovations and engineering in the vehicles developed by the students at this competition, could be adopted by those companies.

The challenges were big, first of all we were faced by the logistic challenges represented by the traveling and taking the project with us in the same airplane. To do this, we had to dismantle our vehicle, JO-CAR, put its mechanical components in a bag, put other electrical components and sensors in another bag, and the whole mechanical skeleton as another unit. Fortunately, the skeleton was a foldable wheel chair. Otherwise there was no chance to get there and pass it through the luggage check points at the airports.

Secondly, we faced many problems on site at the competition. Not to mention the problems associated with the Jetlag, we were faced by the biggest problem when the development board, our main controller, went dead. That day, we were really shocked and frustrated, but after a couple of hours, we summed up our mind, and started to think of other solutions. One good idea was when we started to ask other teams



about the components and the type of controllers they are using. One of the teams where the team of Oakland University, BOTZILA. This team knew about our problem, so they offered us a development board that will convert the serial communication between laptop and the rest of the devices to logical communication so we can send logical levels to the PIC microprocessor of the slave controller to control the motors. Also we got a lot of hints to implement the tasks that we had previously as a code on the main controller into MATLAB, so at the end, we were able to convert all the controlling to MATLAB and Simulink. Not to mention that Dr. Nathir Rawashdeh did a great job in this task, since Dr, Rawashdeh is an MATLAB expert and he did work with Mathworks, which is the developer of the software MATLAB.

the other side of the world was a great opportunity to open some locked doors. We actually had on one of the corners a booth to represent Jordan, were we had pictures from Jordanian attraction sites, brochures, DVD's and maps. Therefore, our booth was one of the busiest booths we a lot of people got interested and came to get those brochures and ask some questions. We were able to prove that the students of the GJU in particular, and the Jordanian students in general, are capable to achieve great achievements and to break the outside the region and prove to the world that our countries real capital is its people, and that with hard work, we can anticipate a bright future were we pass a developed and will infrastructure country to the next generation.



So the above experiment was really a great experience to how the team work should be and how to face problems and never give up even that every door seems to be locked. Somehow, we managed to be strong, and with strong team spirit we had, we did it to the qualifications and were able to qualify for the finals. The attached photos show how it looked like as we were trying to bring the vehicle into the right order.

To sum up, these competition was a great chance for us, student at the verge of graduation. It gave us both technical and humanitarian experience. Beside all what we learned regarding the technical part of the competition, but traveling to such a far country with your colleagues and doctor, and meeting people from

# GJU 2<sup>nd</sup> Bloom BOOM Festival



Under the Patronage of Prof. Labib Khadra, President of the University, the School of Architecture and Built Environment organized the second Bloom Boom Festival at the University's garden area on the 6th of June 2011, to celebrate achievements of its students in the past semester.







# GJU Alumni: Ali Kabarday



## Could you please introduce yourself to the readers?

My name is Ali Kabarday, 24 years old, I was born in London and raised in Jordan, I studied at GJU for 5 years, majoring in Logistic sciences, we were the first class at GJU – at that time we were only 14 students in the whole department, I graduated in November 2010, and currently I hold the position of a Supply Chain Manager at MARKA VIP.

## Tell us about your life at GJU

The Studies were really great here at the beginning, we had a German Dean and lecturer, his name was Professor Klaus Jürgen Teller, he made us understand that Logistics is something you cannot approach from one side only, which also gave us a broader view of business in general, he helped us create a strong base for the studies of the years to come.

For me it was really a great experience. When I started studying, GJU was something never seen before in Jordan, we were taught to think out of the box, I remember especially Mr. Fadi Dababneh, who asked us to bring in business news everyday and asked us to tell him our opinion and what we think will result from it in the future.

## So tell us about your time in Germany? How was your study-semester?

It was really great! Actually, before my official "Deutschlandjahr" I went to study German very intensively at the "Herderinstitut" in Leipzig, which helped me to understand a lot about the German language. Than HTWK-Leipzig was truly amazing – I miss everyone there!!! Especially Frau Mühl from the International Office, who really made us feel so comfortable, and Frau Herrmann, the exchange officer from the Business

Faculty, she was so funny and helpful, they made everything so easy, everything was so organized; they made everything so simple for us, registration, etc...

Studying was a really really nice experience, the Jordanian group was not the only group of international students; we actually got to know more than one culture in the same place. The lecturers gave us some extra office hours explaining sometimes a whole lecture again, they were so cooperative; they completely understood the difficulties we had with understanding. There was one Professor whom I certainly bored to death with all my questions, going after each lecture just asking him and he explained everything again in his office hours.

What really made it easier for me was that the professors gave us the option of doing the required researches in English and just writing a brief summary in German, which helped me a lot to understand the subject and the German language. Writing the English part helped me to understand the topic first and not waste my time on the language and then writing the summary made me do researches on the vocabulary which I know now by heart because this is what lasts. Learning German is one thing, learning the technical vocabulary which goes with it is something else. Professor Teller once gave us a list with words which helped us a lot in Germany, but for writing reports it was just not enough.

## Could you please introduce yourself to the readers?

My name is Ali Kabarday, 24 years old, I was born in London and raised in Jordan, I studied at GJU for 5 years, majoring in Logistic sciences, we were the first class at GJU – at that time we were only 14 students in the whole department, I graduated in November 2010, and currently I hold the position of a Supply Chain Manager at MARKA VIP.

## Tell us about your life at GJU

The Studies were really great here at the beginning, we had a German Dean and lecturer, his name was Professor Klaus Jürgen Teller, he made us understand that Logistics is something you cannot approach from one side only, which also gave us a broader view of business in general, he helped us create a strong base for the studies of the years to come.

For me it was really a great experience. When I started studying, GJU was something never seen before in Jordan, we were taught to think out of the box, I remember especially Mr. Fadi Dababneh, who asked us to bring in business news everyday and asked us to tell him our opinion and what we think will result from it in the future.

### **Let us talk about the Internship now. What did you do?**

Finding an internship was a bit hard at the beginning for all of us the outgoing students, because we had to wait 2-3 month to get interviews, plus it was hard to find places, often we got lost and were late for interviews which gave a bad first impression, sometimes we also ended up in the wrong office, it was funny in a way. After a while I got an interview at Goldschmidt Thermit, in Leipzig at the Augustusplatz, right in the town center, they gave me a reply in the same interview which was a big relief! They told me to start working after 3 days, and so I started as a supply chain officer. My manager, Mr. Jürgen Kremling, was really great, in the first days they introduced me to the business the company is in, which is railway services and products, I thought, "okay, I'm gonna be lost" because I had no idea about neither railway services, nor products, after a week he gave me a task about optimizing and analyzing the supply chain process and warehousing of a daughter company in Australia, this really helped me to better understand how supply chain and logistic work in a global manufacturing company. This internship made me decide to specialize in supply chain management rather than just staying in the logistic field. During the internship I grew passion for supply chain management, because my manager helped me to grasp the importance of supply chain management, it's like the veins in the human body. I really learned a lot in this internship and I am really grateful to everybody there who helped me to understand and to develop myself.

You know, there is one thing about Leipzig I miss the most; its serenity... I really had a great time there.

### **How was your graduation from GJU?**

When I came back from Germany there were two new subjects – one of them was Arabic, which was weird, I found myself in a beginner's class. For the rest there is not much to say, Graduation was really nice, being among the first ones to graduate, you are the one giving the first impression of GJU on the market; it is a big responsibility because it will reflect on the next generations to graduate from the university.

### **What do you do now?**

I am currently at MARKA VIP, which is an online shopping community in the GCC, Jordan and Lebanon. I started working with them 3 months ago as a supply chain officer a month ago I got promoted to a supply chain manager, which is a testimony to our university's high level of education.

To be honest, what I do now is basically only related to one subject I took at university, but is completely related to my internship in Germany, a lot of my work is related to interaction with international businesses, that's something we learned during our year in Germany. The actual experience we had in Germany was much more realistic than the book theories we had at the university. University taught us how to think, while the year in Germany taught us how other people think, and that is what is really necessary in the world of business. Why is all of this important in my job? Because I have to deal with a lot of European suppliers, and

knowing how they think and how to deal with them helps break the ice and ease the dealings.

### **Does the German language help you?**

It comes in handy if you have to deal with German suppliers, it really helps to build a common ground between you and the supplier; it really makes him happy to know that someone knows his language and understands his culture, which creates a healthy environment for doing business. Plus the German language is very much attached to our memories; it is really hard to forget.

Thank you for your time Ali, we wish you great success in your job and all the years to come.



# Leaving to Germany soon?

Many doubts & questions in mind ?  
looking for contacting returnees  
but you don't know how?

# Or

## Just came back?

And have many stories to tell?  
**want to share with the outgoing  
your experiences?**

Join us on "Outgoings Index" facebook Group:  
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/Outgoing.Index/>

This Official group was established for returnees and outgoing to communicate and exchange information and experiences of the daily life activities in Germany, in order to help the outgoing make the right choice about the city they want to go to, the university, internship, and creating a small communities in each German city.



# News and Events

Year of 2011

## September

- GJU Vision Rehabilitation Program published the first edition of the booklet "Come Closer", under the permission of the original booklet Author Mr.Kom Närmare - Sweden.
- The German Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Ralph Tarraf, visited GJU.
- GJU Road Safety center of Excellence organizes a training program for Pedestrian Safety.
- GJU Hosted the First Global Politics Summer School in Jordan "Regional Dynamics in the Middle East: Local and European Responsibilities".
- GJU's School of Languages hosts a specialized translation workshop in cooperation with the Center of Oriental Languages in Leipzig Germany.

## August

- 15 GJU students selected to join AIESEC Global Internship Program
- GJU signs a cooperation agreement with INJAZ
- GJU's School of Management and Logistic Sciences launches its "Leader in Progress" program in a fund raising "Suhur"

## July

- DHL strengthens ties with German Jordanian University by an educational visit from a senior European representative
- GJU and Roya TV signs an Memorandum of Understanding to enhance cooperation between the parties in the field of film production, and animation.
- GJU's graduate Architecture student Razan Al-Hmoud participated in the International Youth Forum Seliger 2011, Russia.
- Oasys team wins the 3rd place in Microsoft Imagine Cup 2011

## June

- GJU Participates at International Robotics Competition
- GJU's 2nd Bloom Boom Festival