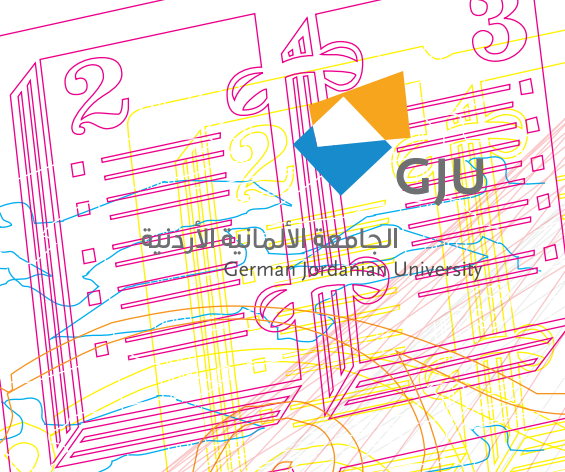


GJU
times



summer

is

here



2nd issue

5th of June
2011

Issued by:

The German Jordanian University

Facing the Challenge

Dear reader,

As our second edition sees light, smiles are drawn on team members faces; it's a new betel fought, new challenge faced and a new trophy won.

The first edition was a challenge, the second was an easier challenge since now we gained some experience, this makes me think of all the challenges that we as a university have faced since establishment, the experience we all gained through the journey so far, old and new members... we learn and gain experience every day.

It's a blessing that our life is filled with challenges; it's a blessing to be equipped with the right skills and knowledge to able to conquer them, and still we are going to face more, new changes are coming in our way.

All what comes in the future can be made a success by us; each staff members, faculty members and students, our unity and team spirit is what will keep the ship floating towards the light.

Another group of outgoing students is leaving in September, the largest group so far, with all the discomforts of the preparation phase there is still lots of excitement.

Anne Bradstreet , an American poet wrote: "The truth is that our finest moments are most likely to occur when we are feeling deeply uncomfortable, unhappy, or unfulfilled. For it is only in such moments, propelled by our discomfort, that we are likely to step out of our ruts and start searching for different ways or truer answers."

Hopefully all our outgoing will benefit from this experience and face all the challenges with a winners smile and as the song says:

"I hope you never lose your sense of wonder.... You get your fill to eat, but always keep that hunger...."

May you never take one single breath for granted.... God forbid love ever leave you empty-handed.

I hope you still feel small when you stand beside the ocean.... Whenever one door closes, I hope one more opens...."

--

Eman Abida-Alasker

From a Jordanian Student Abroad .

Dedication:

To my family, you are the world to me and the best of what I'll ever have.

To my friends, having you is what made it worthwhile.

Nama'a Qudah

At the end of every big turn in life, we tend to stop and think everything through, but why?

Really?

Do we really think that going through all the details and bits would help? Would it allow us to fix the mistakes we made, bend some rough edges, freeze moments we don't ever want to lose?

Do we think that these big moments of life pushed on rewind will reveal the small notches we were too caught up to see , would widen our perspective and broaden our of understanding of situations we were too involved in ?

Honestly, I don't know why we do that. I just know that I always need to do it, to be able to sort out the remaining unresolved matters, and neatly stalk my life in labelled boxes to send along my stuff inside that moving truck.

A bit of cliché? Probably.

Doesn't make it any less true.

Funny thing about that change is that, the further I move away from the start line, the more attached to it I become .

As the years pass I realize how nostalgic I am becoming, how attached I am to home. To my family , my childhood , my mother , our little house , a place where time isn't always pushed to fast-forward . There are those years in the beginning of life, the first 18 years of your life, where the biggest change is re-dying your room, fighting with your best friend, a massive crush you have on the boy next door, getting your braces removed, going to the coolest parties and driving a car for the very first time. Trust me; I am not rewinding another lame Hollywood chick flick. That was really my life, It was all there was, I thought it was too much, I thought that I had been handling a lot. There were nights when I stayed awake in my bed trying to figure out how to get through the next day with all the 'obstacles' it had.

Things are a little different now. I do stay awake in my bed the very same, to think about things a 'little ' bit more complicated.

I wonder about the city I am going to sleep in tomorrow, I wonder about the new job I will be starting in a few days. I think about the people I am going to share my apartment with for the next 6 months, the people which I hadn't even met.

I think about travelling endless miles , getting through my days in an absolutely foreign in country with a foreign language I have only started learning 3 years ago , and which I am , now after all this time , almost good at .

I think about a society which is so different, about people with totally new backgrounds. About having to walk the streets with my own beliefs and background put out for the world to see , about my head scarf , which turned out to be a major part of my identity in ways I hadn't understood before , while living in a society where I was one amongst many others .



Out here , I sometimes I feel that I am on the top of the world ;I wake up in the morning , carry that bag of mine and hit the streets , the morning cold breeze attacks my lungs and there I am , taking the hugest of gulps , feeling my insides shake with oxygen , feeling like there is nothing more I need .

I ride that tram and watch my reflection on the mirror as the images flash by, the city in its entity turning into flashes of light that just strike and disappear in seconds.

Nothing there I can't do, I can be whatever I want to be. No one can stop me.

And then there are the hard times, when even the thought of a world map paralyzes me, realizing how far I am from home. It doesn't get easier, the body and the strength you relayed on back then aren't enough.

Suddenly , you are obligated to up your game , add more guts for reinforcement , count in your head to 20 every time your hands start to shake , and then continue to 50 , when you hit 20 and the feeling still hadn't gone away .

We are all bound to grow up; we are all bound to change. It's not a question of biology, and how many days mark the calendar since the day you were born.

Some people take longer than others ; some people stay undecided about it and just hang around , until something major happens and forces them to step up and do it , because at that point , they have no other choice .

Others , those with more guts and courage , step in showing how brave and strong they are , and then step back and undo it , feeling that there are still things they need to figure out .

And then there those who never really do it .

No matter which one of these we are, no matter which approach we choose to life , or which approach life chooses for us , all that changes once we are back home.

Once we are back to our start. Once our mothers step into the picture, and our dads are the ones driving the car. Once we are back to the whole concept of sharing with our brothers and sisters, depending on our parents for food and money, and sleeping under a roof we never really thought we'd go that far from.

It has to start, for it to end. We have to leave, to be able to return.

What really counts is what we have achieved out there, and what we'll be bringing back with us, as we knock on that door, and step inside.

The Obsession with

twilight

in the Realm of
Science Fiction and Reality

A quote recognized by many fans of the famous novels and movies of Twilight the Saga. The novels encouraged reading and it became popular once again amongst teenagers who would normally at this age watch a movie instead of reading a book. However, because of Twilight's gripping story, many young adults have become curious about the books' contents and have found the novels to be far better than the movies. Some say it's because the character of Bella and the romance she shares with a vampire is what caught their attention, others would prefer Edward Cullen with his masculinity and nobility, not to mention the Cullen family and their peaceful secret vampire coven that exists secretly amongst humans is what many find fascinating.

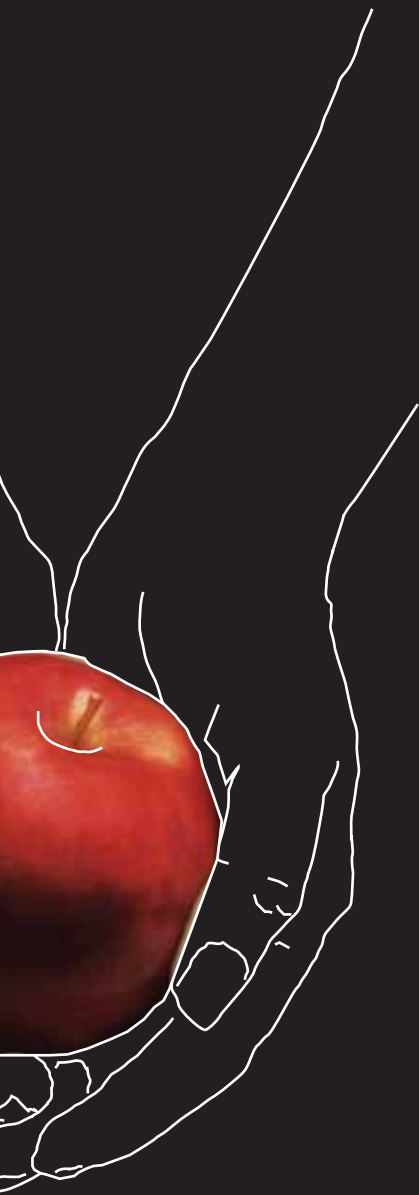
With this epic story, myths and legends intertwining with reality are brought under the microscope for many readers who prefer this kind of genre; science fiction. Although Literature does not whole heartedly adopt science fiction as one of its genres; therefore, many critics and scholars do not define science fiction as literature. James Gunn, a science fiction scholar and novelist, defined science fiction as a fantasized world filled with its own concepts, beliefs, and differences. These differences cause a person to ponder and pause as he asks why and how, and sometimes what from the incredible worlds the writers create; the same way as Twilight's characters and the small town of Forks have awed many readers, wondering about the idea of coexisting with vampires. On the other hand, Darko Suvin, also a scholar of science fiction, envisions the science fiction world of audacity and creativity as captivating the readers under the spell he calls "cognitive estrangement", meaning it stimulates the thought of the reader as it brings him or her back to a fresh start in his or her instincts of the imaginary world. For example, the land of Pandora in Avatar or simply the classic Wonderland of Alice in Wonderland.

So why is Twilight so fascinating? Has it become equal in fame and bewilderment to Harry Potter and Lord of the Rings' Trilogy? Many critics and readers believe it is not fascinating at all, but simply a journal of a seventeen year old teenager who falls into a trap of obsession and ends up in an unhealthy relationship with a vampire, who in return controls her under the



And so the lion fell in love with the lamb...

Edward Cullen, *Twilight*, Chapter 13, p.274.



pretense of what he calls protection. If this is the case of how some critics view it, then it does reflect on how the young mind works. The idea of vampires and werewolves, as bewitching as they may sound, is surely the key that opens the heart of every young imagination. A world out of the ordinary is what mankind is eager for in order to break out of their daily routine. And so excitement is unleashed, gripping to the point of turning into the characters while their inner obsessions and fears resurface as the novel allows them to let loose. *Twilight* seems to be most popular among young adults, especially among young girls who link the novel to themselves. Does that mean if a person loves to read crime and murder that makes him a criminal? Or that a person who simply adores romantic novels, is a hopeless romantic? Actually, a human being is more like a black hole; he or she sucks in all the energy around him or her. It is what makes many people turn to wrestling, music, movies, and books, to release all the negative or excess energy they have piled up inside and therefore undergo what literary scholars call a catharsis.

The secret in locking the readers in to the characters of Bella Swan and Edward Cullen is similar to the individual's suppressed obsessions. W. Edward Craighead defines obsession as "thoughts, ideas, images, or doubts that are experienced as senseless, unwanted, and distressing. Although the person recognizes the thoughts as irrational, they often evoke anxiety about dreaded consequences" (Craighead 633). As Bella is obsessed about Edward and vice versa, it touches the point of the reader's own possible obsession and fears, whether he or she has buried them six feet under or simply denies them. Every reader turns into Bella and Edward in the land of *Twilight* hoping to act out their obsessions in this world of science fiction. Therefore, the need of wanting to obsess about a wild romance without any strings attached becomes a sense of great pleasure, as well as for exchanging the limited human abilities with supernatural powers that enable jumping over trees, running as fast as the speed of light, and being strong enough to stop cars.

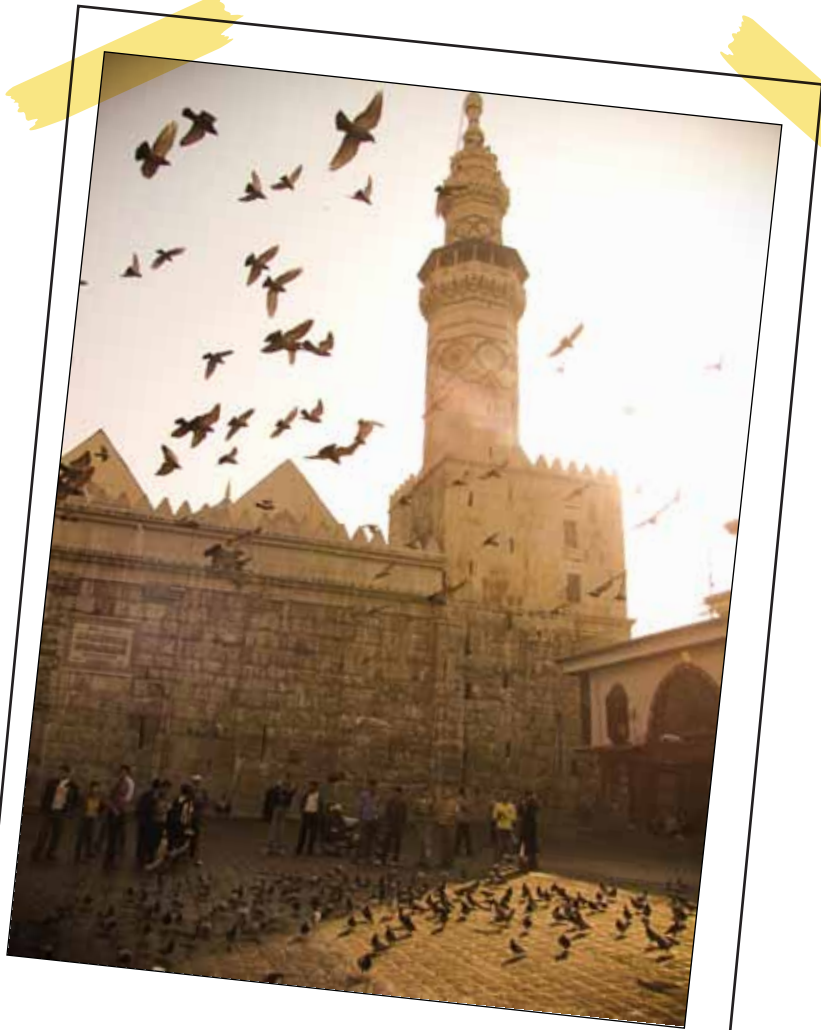
Hence, *Twilight* is an international success not only for its theme of it, but also for the mixture of reality and imagination it brings to its readers in order for them to relate, dreams, and let go.

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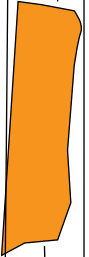
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A Special thank you to Mrs. Mary O'Brian.





Photos by:
Nama'a
Qudah



GJU Alumni

Emad AlZoubi



“Life After Graduation”

Life after graduation can be scary, exciting, confusing, and tons of fun. These are some of the feelings Emad felt as he approached his graduation day.

Emad is an Industrial Engineer who graduated in June, 2010 from the German-Jordanian University (GJU). During his study at GJU, he got the chance to learn various things in life such as: German, German Culture, experiencing living in a foreign country, learning about a new culture, adapting to change, and foremost showcasing his engineering ideas through his successful internship project.

The first thing Emad did and which every graduate should do is take a break. Well for Emad, one week was his maximum relaxation period. Once the week ended, he began writing his curriculum vitae by using the tools he learned in his Soft Skills class at GJU. This task took him two days. Thereafter, he began asking friends and relatives about any industrial engineering vacancies they may have heard of.

Determined to find a job, Emad began searching through online job engines like Akhtabout and ads in local newspapers. Full of hope and enthusiasm, Emad took the initiative by sending his internship project to an Automotive Company in Jordan. As luck was by his side, this company was fascinated by his project and decided to hire him solely for his project.

His internship project entitled “Warehouse Management System” has definitely impacted his life since it was the reason for nailing him his current job at Advanced Industries of Arabia (Automotive).

The project’s influence does not stop here. Emad has recently received an award for the excellent job he and his fellow graduates Nizar Shubeikat and Ayssar Abbadi have accomplished in this internship project. The award was granted to him by the Jordanian Engineering Association where he ranked 2nd place at the Kingdom’s level. With a mind full of fruitful and innovative ideas, Emad aspires to further enhance his education by applying for a Masters Degree at Aalen University in Germany. He is primarily interested in research and applied sciences, so hopefully with his optimistic smile and spirit he will reach his desired future goal.



Wie schwer es ist

Wie schwer es ist von dir weg zu bleiben

Wie schwer es ist dich zu verlassen

Wie schwer es ist, wenn alles Schöne zwischen uns sich verändert
Und wir heute sterbende Erinnerungen haben, weil sie nicht leben konnten.

Wie schwer es ist, wenn ich dich liebe und das war für dich nicht genug, deshalb unterschätztest du meine Liebe.

Wie schwer es ist, wenn ich dir mein Herz schenkte und das obwohl mein Herz mit deinen Händen getötet wurde.

Wie schwer es ist, wenn du „ich liebe dich“ gesagt hast
dann lässt du mich allein und gehst.

Wie schwer es ist, wenn meine Tränen aufhören aber
danach sehe ich sie über meine Wangen laufen.

Wie schwer es ist, wenn ich deine Hand halte und
in dem gleichen Moment lässt du meine Hand.

Wie schwer es ist, wenn die anderen mich überreden dich
zu verlassen aber ich bestehe auf Bleiben.

Wie schwer es ist, wenn die Zeit des Gehens kommt und
ich fühle, dass ich dich bis jetzt liebe.

Wie schwer es ist, wenn wir uns für das Leben entscheiden.
Leben, obwohl wir das Leben nicht mögen.

Wie schwer es ist, wenn du das Gehen einfacher machst,
weil du einverstanden bist.

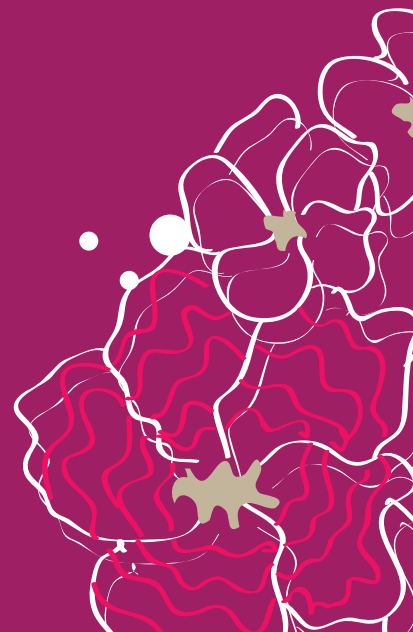
Ich gehe weg ... Ja, ich werde weit gehen.
Der Ort, den ich gestern in deinem Herz hatte,
wird heute nicht mehr für mich sein.

Ich werde die Erinnerungen an die Vergangenheit verlassen.
Was gestern ein Traum war.. viel habe ich an ihm gearbeitet
um Realität für morgen zu werden, aber dieser Traum starb.

Also, was verbirgt morgen? Für mich ist alles egal
und die Schwierigkeiten sind kein Schrecken mehr!

Aber wie schwer es ist, wenn wir schon Schwierigkeiten haben
und das Morgen bringt uns andere Schwierigkeiten.
Aber sie schmerzen uns nicht mehr, weil wir uns an sie gewöhnt haben !!

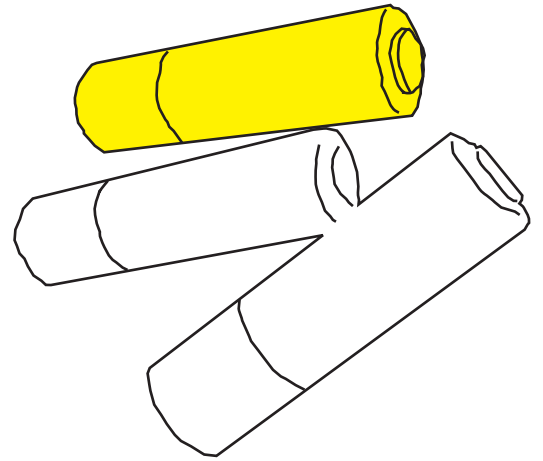
Done by Haneen Subhi, School of Languages.



كم من الصعب؟

كم من الصعب أن أبتعد عنك ..
كم من الصعب أن أتركك ..
كم من الصعب أن يجلس غيرك في مكانك ..
كم من الصعب أن تصبح حياتي معك مجرد ذكرى تموت يوماً لأنها لم تصلح لأن تحيا ..
كم من الصعب أن أحبك فلايكفيك حبي فتستهن به ..
كم من الصعب أن أسكنك قلبي فتذبجه بيديك ..
كم من الصعب أن تخبرني بحبك لي ثم ترحل ..
كم من الصعب أن أحبس الدموع فأراها تنهمر صامتة ..
كم من الصعب أن أتمسك بيدك في نفس اللحظة التي تفلت أنت بها يدي ..
كم من الصعب أن يبعدني الكل عنك وأن أصر على بقائي ..
كم من الصعب أن يأتي الرحيل مع أنني لا أزال أعتز بالحب ..
كم من الصعب أن نقرر تأقلمنا مع الحقيقة مع أنها لاتعجبنا ..
كم من الصعب أن أعلن الرحيل مع أنني كرهته ولكنك هونتته بترحيبك به ..
سأرحل ..
نعم سأرحل ..
فلم يعد لي المكان الذي طالما أحببت ..
سأترك صفحة الأمس كي تمحي ما كان ..
ما كان بالأمس حلماً تمنيته حقيقة للغد ، سعت لأن أحققها ولكنه مات قبل أن يتحقق ..
ماعدات الصعوبات تخيف ..فماذا يخيب الغد ؟
ولكن كم من الصعب أن تكون في جوف الصعب وأن تنتظر الصعوبات التي يحملها الغد وأن لا نشعر بها عند قدومها لأننا إعتدنا عليها..





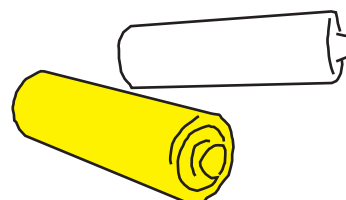
Batteries survive longer by recycling them

Recently, protecting the global environment and harmonizing human activity with it, in order to be able to pass on a sound environment to the next generation has become one of the most pressing issues. Traditionally, being environmentally friendly in Jordan was linked mainly to reuse and recycle papers, but today this link is about to be broadened by adding a new concept which is reusing and recycling batteries.

Our Society buys, consumes and discards millions of batteries a year without realizing that many of them can be maintained in a like new condition via applying one simple process for the battery which is "de-sulphation"! This is done through using a new technology called the BATT-RECON System, a battery can be maintained with low or no Level into 2 or 3 Levels. Sulfation buildup on the internal battery plates. This buildup can be scientifically measured and removed fast enough to become a commercially viable service offering. Battery sulfation can be measured by using an impedance tester, also it can now be quickly and safely removed allowing the battery to charge and discharge more efficiently, in addition to extending the life of the battery this process can be often done in less than 1-hour!

Electrical Sense Company that describes itself as being able to provide a "State of the Art" battery optimization services is bringing an amazing opportunity for us in the Middle East to implement different technologies of recycling batteries. In other words we are able now to maximize the performance of died battery, as well as saving money on costly battery replacement!

Broadening our definition as businesses and individuals to include reusing batteries in addition to paper, will bring us to keep our resources and use them in other dimensions which will result in a chance to invest the kept resources in new proposition.





The 1st of January 1963 marked a new era- the launching of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). After a merger between the Institute of Radio Engineers and the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, the institute branched and extended to more than 400,000 members in more than 160 countries. Being primarily directed towards the advancement of both theory and practice of Electrical, Electronics, Computer Science and Engineering, Communications, the allied branches of engineering and the related arts and sciences, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers' main purpose is a scientific and educational one.



The IEEE GJU branch was officially launched in 2009 comprising Dr. Mohammad Nazzal as branch advisor, Tariq Al-Adaileh as the branch founder, Yousef Wadi as the branch president, and 4 more students. With a project oriented approach, the main goals were the initiation of applicable projects for students, empowering leadership, team work and communication skills, serving the local community, regaining faith in our history and culture, and being able to perform unique projects on the Middle Eastern level.

With 30 students and 2 months, the "City Light Hack" was the first project that would announce the presence of the IEEE GJU. They had worked from scratch on turning a building into a large Dot Matrix Screen by controlling the building's lights using only a computer and board.



Photos from the project "Lab on Wheels"

On the 3rd of March 2011, with 90 volunteers and members from the IEEE GJU branch and sponsorship from the Madrasati initiative, the “Lab on Wheels” project was launched after a year and a half of planning.

Volunteers traveled with buses provided by GJU to schools in poverty stricken rural districts of the Kingdom to provide students with the opportunity to conduct some of the scientific experiments they learn about in school. The Lab has ‘been’ to several schools from Ma’an, Zarqa, Badyeh and many other locations.

Exciting, educational and amazing is what the volunteers used to describe their life changing trip to these schools while the students described it as fun, interesting and enjoyable to finally be able to apply what they have been taught theoretically.

On March 14, a team of four GJU students and IEEE members travelled to Doha, Qatar to attend the second IEEE Middle East Student Branch Congress (ME SBC) hosted by the Texas A&M University at Qatar. The students participated in this four-day event alongside 120 students from countries from all over the Middle East, including delegations from Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman and Iran. In this congress, the students benefitted from numerous informative programs and workshops in soft skills and up-to-date technical subjects held by some renowned speakers. Also, the participants had the opportunity to interact with each other and learn about the different IEEE student branches. It was a great marketing opportunity for GJU.



Sponsored by Dar Al-Handasah, Bino for Design & Marketing, Natural Looks, Sharky’s Town, Sahara mall and Khaberni News, the “Toothpick Bridge Competition” was next. There were 4 universities, 18 teams and lots of fun. All that had to be done was the building of a model bridge out of toothpicks which proved trickier than it sounds. Bridges were put to the test to see how much weight they could handle with the emergent winning bridge (from Al Balqa’a University) holding 35 kg, breaking last year’s record for 25 kg.

The club proudly boasts the presence of 40 members and 80 volunteers learning more about time management, multi tasking, leadership and dedication which you could be a member of! Turn your spare time into a more productive, interesting and pleasurable time! Join IEEE-GJU today!

GJU News



Tuesday the 17th of May 2011

The German Jordanian University's Deanship of Student Affairs organize "A Day to Celebrate Jordan".

On Sunday the 15th of May 2011

The School of Architecture and Built Environment, organized a short films screening night "Silence experimental", in the Royal Cultural Center.

GJU Mechatronics Students Wins the First Place in the National Technology Parade

On Tuesday the 10 of May 2011

H.E. Fayez Al-Tarawneh, a former Prime Minister of Jordan, visited the German Jordanian University to participate in the Communication Skills class, conducted by Ms Maysoun Al Armouty

On Tuesday the 10th of May 2011

a delegation from GJU visited Maani ventures to discuss cooperation opportunities between the University and Maani group.

GJU's .Net IT Club team got the third place in the Drivers of change's Video competition which is supervised by the National Campaign on Public Awareness by the cooperation with Microsoft Jordan

On Wednesday the 4th of May 2011

the Office for Industrial Links organized the first logistics day in cooperation with Jordan logistics Association.



On Tuesday the 3rd of May 2011

the Vision Rehabilitation Diploma program at the German Jordanian University organized a fund raising event in cooperation of the Landmark hotel "A Taste of Darkness" challenge your scenes.

On Tuesday, the 26th of April 2011

GJU launched the preparation phase of "Othman Bdeir House for Architecture and Design"

On the 19th of April 2011

GJU's Job Fair was organized in cooperation with Akhtabook, the career network, where over 20 companies participated

On the 19th of April 2011

The Road Safety Center of Excellence organized a workshop titled "The needs of institutions working in the field of road safety"

On Thursday the 14th of April 2011

GJU students participate in planting trees in GJU's permanent campus

On Wednesday the 13th of April 2011

GJU and King Hussein Cancer Foundation signed an agreement to support "Siwar" volunteers program.

On Tuesday, the 5th of April 2011

a delegation from GJU visited the Japanese Embassy, to pay condolences to all the lives lost during the recent tragic events