

President's News Digest

Message From the Editor

Welcome to the 27th issue of the 5th volume of the President's News Digest.

In this issue **Dr. Khairi Mohamed Omar, Head of Business Administration Department College of Administrative Sciences**, will address the subject of **"Virtual Life During the Pandemic Era, the Sign of New Era COVID-19"**

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Mrs. Hessa Al Meraisi
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من روائع الشعر العربي

Message from a Colleague

Virtual Life During the Pandemic Era, the Sign of New Era COVID-19

Let us have a closer look at the current situation caused by COVID-19, businesses either small or big have been affected and many stock markets have been impacted as well because of the carnivorous pandemic issue. The great transformations and changes in the small and big financial markets would affect many aspects of life, such as investments and on the pension's even or individual savings and accounts.

The well-known financial market such as Dow Jones Industrial Average, FTSE, and the Nikkei have all witnessed tremendous falls since the outbreak began earlier this year where the world has not seen such falls since 1987 (Blas & Kennedy, 2020). Henry A. Kissinger, (2020), reported that the world would have a long time to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. We can see every day that factories are closing or in another way whole nations are in lockdown (Cristiani, 2020).

This global economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic will have many consequences; these consequences might be beyond the spread of the coronavirus pandemic itself and efforts to quarantine it as far as we can tell. The virus quickly spreads around the globe with no alarm like wildfire. It continues to affect human beings' daily life, changes the way people behave and act, socially, economically, and even the way people gain knowledge and learn.

COVID-19 turned the world's economies from supply side manufacturing to businesses in the services sector. Indeed, the COVID-19 will cause the largest global recession in history, with more than a third of the global population at the time being placed on lockdown.

In the education sector, people are forced to find other ways to communicate. The daily face to face (physical) meetings has been replaced by virtual meetings (virtual life), where individual or groups can meet, study, and so on. This considerable change would not have happened without the technology enablers, yes, it is the technology that this world is crazy about it nowadays, yes the era of technology has begun.

Online technology has played a tremendous and significant role in promoting the reform of the education system and training of professional talents during the COVID-19 global pandemic. As the technology continues to mature, the application of virtual classrooms in universities and corporates will be more extensive and flexible.

I



Dr. Khairi Mohamed Omar
Head of Business
Administration Department
College of Administrative

Dr. Khairi has more than 13 years of experience within the academic, private, and public sectors. Currently, he is one of the Applied Science University academic family team, and the Head of the department of business administration at applied science University College of Administrative Sciences. He has held many administrative and academic positions through his professional and administrative work such as Libyan National Bank, as well as academic work at prestigious universities such as Applied Science University and other universities.

Dr. Khairi is an active scientific researcher and he has a number of researches published in various disciplines and in refereed journals as well as he is one of the reviewers and arbitrators of many journals in different fields, most of them are under the umbrella of Emerald Group Publishing.

In many ways, the virtual classroom simply mirrors the physical classroom. In a physical classroom, the participants either students or trainers are able to communicate in the same space. However, in a virtual classroom, a student can see and hear the teacher and participants via the video audio stream. In this environment, there are tools which allow the teachers and participants to share ideas visually and to work through exercises collaboratively.

Perhaps, there are still lots of efforts to determine a complete set of virtual classroom application solutions (technology, services, security, management and maintenance mechanisms, etc.), but what we are practicing so far is really fantastic and will be a topic that needs to be continuously researched in order to arrive at more practical solution.

References:

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Master Theses Vivas

I have attended 6 online masters vivas so far, I would like to highlight some observations:

- All examiners should be briefed properly before the viva. The examiners should usually allow the students to answer questions about the methodology, findings, recommendations, literature review and not to do most of the talking.
- All vivas including the result should be recorded.
- The supervisors should help their students to produce power point presentations, concise, to the point, not crowded slides and should make sure that they can deliver the presentation in 15 minutes. The slides should cover the problem, hypothesis or research question, methodology, findings, and recommendations and maybe one slide about the main literature. The students should demonstrate knowledge, critical thinking and originality.
- The examiners should avoid to show any negativity, but let the students express themselves positively, and then the panel can decide on the final result. The students should be coached properly to develop confidence to defend their work.
- The external examiners should be selected very carefully and now we can have a bigger space to choose from. The external examiners should be briefed about our bylaws and the thesis guide.
- The examiners should not like to hear their own voices, but they should give the students enough time to talk and defend their work.
- The IT infrastructure should be tested before the viva and all examiners and the student should ensure that they have the right infrastructure and the internet speed required to run a smooth viva.



Written By
Professor Ghassan Aouad
The President of Applied
Science University

ASurise Scheme Board Meeting

ASurise scheme board meeting was carried out for cohort 3 (academic year 2019-2020) on Thursday 30 April 2020, involving internal and external reviewers, the board was chaired by Professor Hilal Al Bayatti.

A great number of our Colleagues have successfully completed the Advance- HE Fellowship through our own ASurise Accredited scheme.

Many Congratulations to our new members of the Advance- HE Fellowship, including;

| | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Mohammed Abdulrazzaq Nasser Alghbari | College of Administrative Sciences | SFHEA |
| 2 | Ghada Nayer Labeeb Ihsan | College of Law | AFHEA |
| 3 | Nizar Y.A. Naim | College of Administrative Sciences | AFHEA |
| 4 | Yasser Abo Sennah | Human Resources | AFHEA |
| 5 | Fajer Ben Shams | College of Administrative Sciences | AFHEA |
| 6 | Noora Musallam | College of Law | AFHEA |
| 7 | Abdelnasser Taha Ibrahim Mohamed | Business Administration | FHEA |
| 8 | Samer Moh'd Salem Alduros | College of Law | FHEA |
| 9 | Qais Khaleel Maaitah | College of Law | FHEA |
| 10 | Ammar Esam Abdulrahman Alsam-marraee | College of Administrative Sciences | FHEA |



Written By
Dr. Faiza Zitouni
Assistant Vp for
Academic Development
(Principal Fellow of HEA-UK)

We are so proud of this fantastic achievement that would not have been possible without the great and continuous support from Professor Waheeb AlKhaja, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Professor Ghassan Aouad, President of the University.

Many thanks are attributed to the guidance and endorsement from our two Vice Presidents; Professor Khaled Gharaibeh, and Dr Mohammed Yousif, and the continuous support from Mr Abdulla AlKhaja, Director of Administration & Finance.

Exceptional thanks to all our Respected Mentors and Reviewers for their hard work in producing quality guidance, and great success rate.

Last but not least, many thanks to our ASUrise team Dr Adel Alsamman and Mr AlMahdi Hussain for their excellent contribution in making the process running smoothly. (Many thanks to Professor Hilal Al Bayatti for chairing the board, and Mr Noel Lavin, as the silent observer) .

The latest figure of the total number of Advance- HE Fellows, is detailed below;

Completed and Successful Applications

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Principal Fellow | 1 |
| Senior Fellow | 15 |
| Fellow | 39 |
| Associate Fellow | 10 (65 total) |

3 additional successful applicants will be joining shortly in the next few weeks.

Our beloved University always raises the bar, and we are all proud to be part of ASU, (**Masha-Allah**).



E-Course Portfolio Workshop

The QAAC in coordination with ASDU and ICTKM conducted a virtual workshop on the preparation of soft-copy course portfolio (E-Course Portfolio), the workshop was held on the 23th of April using BigBlueButton web conferencing system, and delivered by Dr. Mohammad Alaghabari, Mr. Salem Alateyyat and Mr. Ammar Yousif. The targeted audience was all academic staff.

The workshop was organized in consequence of the directions of the UMC to transform to paperless course portfolio in line with the ASU sustainability strategy and Green practices, and in the light of measures taken by the National Taskforce for Combating the Coronavirus (Covid-19) in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

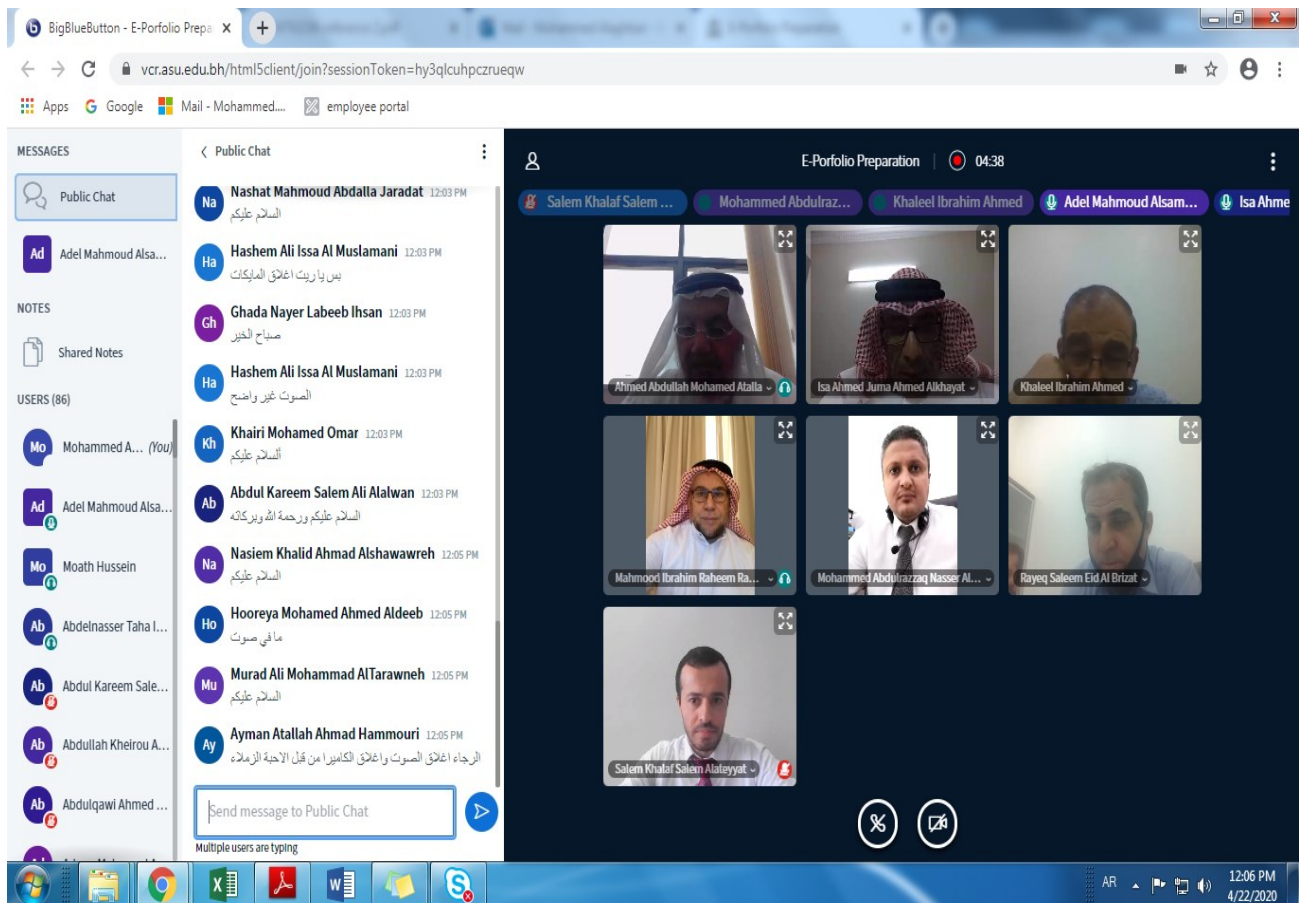
The workshop was held successfully and attended by 104 faculty members from all academic programmes with high participation and involvement. At the end of the workshop the ASDU provided all academic staff with an online evaluation survey and a link of the workshop recordings.

The successful delivery of this workshop ensured that the QAAC will carry on all other quality assurance activities virtually and as per the operational plan and the QA Manual in addition to the requirements of the regulatory bodies during the era of (Covid-19).



Written by
Mr. Salem Alateyyat

**Assistant Director of
Quality Assurance
and Accreditation
Centre**



العمال في يومهم

بقلم د. علي الددا- قائم بأعمال
رئيس قسم العلوم السياسية



لأجل من يسعون في الأرض كدًا وجدًا...
ولأجل من لا يركنون الى التراخي والدعة...
أصحاب العزيمة والإصرار...
المنافحون عن قيمة أعمالهم...
المثابرون في شتى ميادين الإنجاز والإنتاج...
من يمثلون القوة الكامنة في تمهيد طريق الأجيال المتعاقبة...
العاملون بتقوى الله وخشيته...
الذين يسمون بأخلاقيات أعمالهم ونشر فضائل رسالاتهم...
من يقرأون فصول التعب وتندى جباههم بقطرات من سمو البذل والعطاء...
ولأجل من أتقنت كفوفهم مهناً...
ولأجل من لم يصب سواعدهم وهناً...
المتطلعون الى أحلامهم وغاياتهم فما استكانوا...
من يسعون الى النهوض بمهامهم فما لانوا...
ومن رسموا ألواناً من التفاني لتحمل المسؤولية والنهوض بواجباتهم...
ولأجل المدركين أن ظروف التباعد ما هي إلا مدعاة لمواصلة العطاء وتقوية العزائم...
من يبثون روح الإنجاز وإثارة حس المبادرة والمبادرة...
المؤمنون بأن الرأي عمل، والعون عمل، وحتى الفكرة عمل...
من يطورون قدراتهم ومهاراتهم لإتقان أعمالهم...
ولأجل من يغرسون أملاً، ويصنعون مجداً...
المواظبون على إكمال ما بناه غيرهم...
الدافعون لعجلة الإنتاج بتفانيهم وصبرهم...
ولأجل المخلصين في أداء أدوارهم...
المؤمنون على الحاضر والمستقبل...
من يكرسون معاني العطاء على اختلاف مواقعهم...
ولأجل من لا تقف في طريق تحقيق غاياتهم عقبات...
تسع جغرافية القلم وتُبحر الكلمات، شكراً وثناءً وتقديراً...

Quote of the Week

“Pleasure in the job puts perfection .”

- Aristotle

من روائع الشعر العربي

ولو لم تهزّ الرياحُ الزهورَ

لما فاحَ عطرُ وماتَ الزَّهرُ

(أبو العتاهية)