

Newsletter issued by
the Media and Communications Department
Issue 24, February 2016

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The UAEU:

Becomes the first state university to receive international institutional accreditation in the region..

The United Arab Emirates University recently became accredited with the international accreditation body WSCUC for the following 6 years. This means the adoption of globally recognized standards in programs and institutional processes and the assurance of certain qualities in educational policies. This is part of the university's national strategy.

Dr. Ali Rashid Al Nuaimi, Vice Chancellor of UAEU, stressed that institutional accreditation is only one of step being undertaken by the university in its attempts to pursue excellence on an international level. He said that, "the United Arab Emirates University is at the forefront of higher education in the UAE. It's the first university in the country and supplies the labor market with well-qualified graduates. It also has a role to play in the development of the UAE and a contribution to make to local society. UAEU supports sustainable development and research as the United Arab Emirates University continues to produce outstanding graduates who excel in a variety of fields."

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In pursuit of leadership and excellence in higher education:

The UAEU organizes the 2nd University Chancellors' Forum at the Government Summit in Dubai ..

The United Arab Emirates University organized the 2nd University Chancellors'. A number of chancellors from Arabic speaking and international universities were present. The forum was part of the World Government Summit 2016 which was being held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. The United Arab Emirates University is working to promote leadership and excellence in higher education at regional and global levels. The forum highlighted innovative academic practices by reviewing and exchanging teaching and research experiences. There were three main themes: the first was the future of higher education in terms of theoretical, scientific and academic approaches and the various institutions interaction with governments and international organizations.

To read more...



BETT Conference 2016:

The United Arab Emirates University participates in the BETT Conference 2016 in England..

The United Arab Emirates University participated in the BETT Conference. It is the world's leading education technology event and was held in London with a focus on innovation and educational technology. There were many experts, officials and investors from around the world in attendance. Professor Ghaleb Ali Al Hadrami, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies, stressed that the participation of the UAE's national university in this important global event is an opportunity to become acquainted with the latest findings in educational technology, especially with regard to smart phone applications. Participants can identify successful models and employ them to assist faculty in developing modern teaching methods.

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Editorial

In each issue we highlight UAEU's recent achievements during the previous month. This varies from patents and inventions through research activities and other accomplishments. Because of this we use different approaches in each issue to shed light on different aspects of these achievements to ensure transparency and that we give a complete and well-rounded picture to the reader. The Media and Communications Department is always open for communication and we invite you to make suggestions and send us your feedback. In this way we are all partners in the delivery of the latest news to all those interested in UAEU.

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The 1st Suppliers' Forum:
The UAEU honors 30 supplier
and calls for the highest
standards of quality and
transparency..



The Procurement Department at the United Arab Emirates University organized its first suppliers' forum to honor outstanding suppliers in 2015. It was held in the presence of Professor Faeqa Hilal, Secretary-General of the United Arab Emirates University, representatives from 250 suppliers and university staff, in the theater in the Crescent Building on the Maqam Campus. The Secretary-General stressed that UAEU is keen to strengthen its relationships with suppliers in order to gain mutual benefit, build lasting professional relationships, improve performance and share services. She added that, "The United Arab Emirates University is working to ensure the highest quality and transparency standards, especially in dealing with suppliers, by developing communication and the exchange of information. This facilitates a higher quality of performance."

[To read more...](#)

A researcher from the UAEU:
Takes part in a global study of solar storm
remnants in Greenland and Antarctica..



Dr. Ala Aldahan, a professor of Geology in the College of Sciences at the United Arab Emirates University, recently took part in identifying the remnants of a huge solar storm in both Greenland and Antarctica. The research group was made up of researchers from Lund and Uppsala universities in Sweden, the Paul Scherer Institute and ETH Zurich from Switzerland, the Niels Bohr Institute (Denmark) and the Berkeley Space Science Laboratory and Purdue University from the USA.

She highlighted the fact that, "The Sun's activity varies periodically as a result of unpredictable events associated with particle emission from the Sun. A massive emission is known as a solar storm." She further explained that, "One phenomena which follows a solar storms is twilight during which solar storms can cause such problems as the collapse of satellite communications and navigation aids, and more indirectly, ozone depletion and atmospheric corrosion."

[To read more...](#)

The UAEU:
Launches a Combating Drugs with the Pen
Competition in cooperation with Dubai
Police..



The United Arab Emirates University launched the 'Combating Drugs with the Pen' competition in cooperation with Dubai Police in the Business Hall of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences in a press conference.

Dr. Saif Al Qaydi, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences said that, "We thank Dubai Police for choosing UAEU to launch this competition to raise awareness of the dangers of drugs among young people to help society."

[To read more...](#)

To raise awareness of legal issues:

The United Arab Emirates University celebrates 'Law Day'..

The College of Law of the United Arab Emirates University organized a 'Law Day' event to discuss the societal role of law. It was held in collaboration with 14 law institutions and in the presence of Sheikh Salim Mohammed Bin Rakkad Al Ameri, a former member of the Federal National Council; Dr. Mohammed Mahmoud Al Kamali, Director General of the Institute of Training and Judicial



Studies; Dr. Ali Saeed Al Kaabi, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment; Dr. Mohammed Hassan Al Qassim, Dean of the College of law; Dr. Habiba Al Shamsi, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Chair of the Organizing Committee and faculty, legal advisors, experts, officers, representatives of the various legal entities and students.

[To read more...](#)

In cooperation with the Leadership Development Center of the Ministry of the Interior:

The United Arab Emirates University organizes a workshop called "Innovation in the age of Creativity"..

The Innovation Support Team in the College of Sciences at the United Arab Emirates University, organized a workshop on "Innovation in the age of Creativity" on Monday, February 15th, 2016 in the Crescent Building at UAEU. It was held jointly with the Leadership Development Center of the Ministry of the Interior. The workshop was designed to develop innovation and initiative in faculty,



staff and students as part of the university's drive towards promoting a knowledge economy.

Dr. Omar Ibrahim Al Ali, Director of the Leadership Development Center in the General Secretariat of the Ministry of the Interior, pointed out that there are many definitions for innovation and creativity. He explained that the most important idea was to improve operations, services and products and apply new ideas.

[To read more...](#)

To raise awareness of legal issues:

13 institutions take part in IT Industry Day at the United Arab Emirates University..

The College of Information Technology and the Centre for Career Placement and Alumni at the United Arab Emirates University organized an IT Industry Day (alongside the college open day) in the College of Information Technology. The open day was held as part of the 'Building an Innovative Generation' push and



involved government ministries, public and private institutions that deal with information technology. Professor Omar El-Gayar, dean of the college, faculty and students were all in attendance.

This event aims to introduce the college's courses and the career opportunities offered by these companies and institutions, including the scholarships available to UAEU students.

[To read more...](#)

Interview with Dr. Ahmed Murad – Dean of the College of Science

Dr Ahmed Murad is a major figure at the United Arab Emirates University. He has contributed to the establishment of the National Water Center (2012); helped to establish the International Hydrological Program National Committee (2005); is Vice Chairman of the Association of Water Sciences and Technology; a member of the advisory board to the International Center for Integrated Water Resource Management (UNESCO Category II); was a representative to the Arab states at the international center from 2010 to 2016 and is also a member of several societies and committees that specialize in water resources.

• To begin: who is Dr. Ahmed Murad?

Dr. Ahmed Ali Murad is an associate professor of Hydrogeology at UAEU and the Acting Dean of the College of Science for academic year 2015/2016. He has published 52 research papers in international peer-reviewed journals and has participated in 74 International, regional and local conferences. Dr. Murad has studied, taught and researched at UAEU and wishes to repay the university for the many opportunities it has presented to him.

• Tell us about yourself and why you chose your specialization?

I joined UAEU in 1992 as a student in the College of Science (Geology), graduating in January 1997 with an honors degree. Then I joined UAEU as a lecturer on 6th September 1997. On 15th of August 1998 I began a journey to achieve ambition to be a part of UAEU. I went to Western Michigan University to study English for two semesters and in May 1999 began studying for a Master's degree in Earth Sciences. In December 2000 I completed this degree then continued to earn a Ph.D in Geology (Hydrogeology) in 2004. I returned to take up a position as an assistant professor of Hydrogeology at UAEU. In September 2011 I was promoted to associate professor. I chose hydrogeology as, ever since I was a student, water security has interested me. I specialized in hydrogeology to research issues around water security.

• What is your main objective in the College of Science?

My goal is to make the College of Science at UAEU one of the best colleges in the region and internationally. We want to gain international accreditation for all our programs. We have already started on this.

• Update us on collaboration with international colleges?

The College has partnerships with a number of colleges and universities. We focus on research, publications and the exchange between faculty and students with our partner institutions. These include the University of the West of England; the University of Michigan; the University of Leeds; Uppsala University in Sweden; the Technical University of Denmark; the University of Hong Kong and the Chinese Hou Hai University. The college also has partnerships with major international companies such as TOTAL, Schlumberger, the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Geneva and the Japanese Oil Development Company (JODCO).

• What is the most difficult thing you have faced as dean of the college?

I have not faced any difficulties. Everyday problems are solved in a way that ensures the smooth functioning of the college.

• Do you plan to offer new programs?

The college seeks to launch new programs and develop existing ones. We have a plan that is determined by the needs of the labor market and the university's strategic plan.

• How do your programs meet the needs of the labor market? And where can your graduates be found?

The College of Science links its programs to local and global labor markets. The College of Science supplies the UAE with graduates in various disciplines. Our graduates can be found in many diverse corners of the labor market. Due to the economic boom and the diversification the UAE is witnessing our graduates are working in federal and local government institutions and in the private sector also.

• Is there any collaboration between the college and other educational institutions?

There is a close relationship between the College of Science and other education institutions such as education boards and the Ministry of Education. Our departments receive school students and also visit schools to attract new students. The college also has a good relationship with other higher education institutions, such as local and international universities like the University of Sharjah, Zayed University, New York University and others.

• What are the main problems faced by your students and how do you deal with them?

Students have different problems. Many students do not follow a study plan in order to graduate in a timely manner. They often don't follow-up with their academic advisor; are late to register, etc. The college deals with this on a case-by-case basis through the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs' office and in consultation with academic departments.

• What is the purpose of the distinguished lecture series launched by the College of Science?

The distinguished lecture series is an initiative to attract scientists and researchers from around the world and to host lectures relevant to the local community, faculty and students. We try to host international scientists to increase the opportunities for students to interact with scientists and attend lectures that will make them more prepared and suitable for the future labor market.

• What are your plans and ambitions?

Our plans are ambitious. We aim to make the College of Science at UAEU one of the world's leading colleges. On a personal level, I hope to complete a natural radiation map of groundwater in the UAE. Our two research teams can offer a lot of information to the various decision-makers.

• Anything you would like to add?

Seeking advice and confidence are the keys to success at work. You should be persistent and determined in all that you do.



مسائل
الجامعة

2016 – The Year of Reading

Our suggestion for you...

Book: 99%

Author: Dr. Khalid Al Khashrami

Topic:

Text messages published between 2007 and 2012 in the Gulf States by a variety of authors and other people. This volume includes a variety of text messages on the subjects of politics, literature, poetry, wisdom, history, geography, education, life, death, friendship, happiness, the arts and other topics. They draw on quotes from a variety of well-known figures such as Adonis, Wafa'a Kredieh, George Orwell, Martin Luther, Adel Imam, Aristotle and many others. The author has dedicated the book to, "those who refuse to answer rather than to lie" and discusses text messaging as a means of communication and the later development of voice messaging, the Black Berry and WhatsApp. He added that he, "chose to print this after the SMS revolution in order to document the five years or so of the golden era of SMS messaging." He also expresses his gratitude to the supporters of his book (99%) in the UAE, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. The author aims to spread cultural awareness and also expresses a desire to spread the habit of reading among Arab readers. In order to achieve this he pledges that for every copy sold another free copy will be placed in a public place for the use of the community. He asks his readers to suggest suitable places. He also offers free delivery of his book anywhere in the world if the buyer wishes the book delivered as a gift for someone else.



News in Brief - February 2016

In cooperation with the Dubai Foundation for Women and Children, the Student Counseling Center at the United Arab Emirates University organized an introductory lecture on the foundation's strategies to provide shelter and social and psychological care for women and children.

رسالة
الجامعة

The United Arab Emirates University participated in the BETT- 2016 Conference in London as part of the university's mission to be involved in the transfer of knowledge and skills that serve the community.

The United Arab Emirates University launches the 6th Big Winner Program under the slogan "Achieve Your Dreams...to Change Your Life". The program aims to help obese students by raising their awareness of the risks of obesity and its negative consequences on health.

The United Arab Emirates University organized a training workshop on the national voluntary program for emergency response - SANED. The workshop aims to train and prepare students to help in crisis situations and emergencies.

The United Arab Emirates University organizes the Times Higher Education MENA Universities Summit attended by the leaders of universities, researchers and others interested in global university rankings.

The United Arab Emirates University visited the University of the West of England in Bristol, England to promote cooperation between the two universities.

The United Arab Emirates University organized a symposium on the use of research in teaching and learning. It was held by the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

The United Arab Emirates University organizes a forum offering special offers and discounts for university staff in collaboration with 20 institutions. A large number of faculty, staff and students attended.

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The most prominent posts on our social networking sites in February 2016:

