



Yarmouk Newsletter

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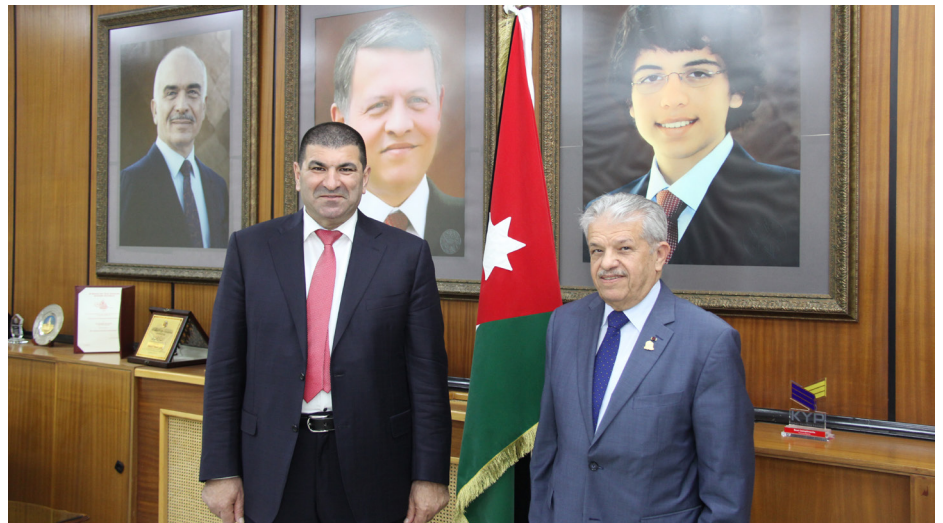
Welcome to the first issue of Yarmouk Newsletter. We hope you will enjoy this Newsletter which aims to keep you informed about the important news of our Faculties, Administrative Departments and Centers.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Following the directions of the president Prof. Zeidan Kafafi, the Department of Public Relations and Media issues its first edition of Yarmouk Newsletter after its last issue of 2005.

We are excited for the first issue of this newsletter which will cover the most important news at the University, and will show the relations between the University and various Educational Institutions, universities, Embassies and other Agencies worldwide. It is going to be issued on a monthly basis to keep you updated with the news of the University.

Yarmouk Newsletter will be available online on the official website of the University. We are also heading towards establishing an electronic newsletter later, which will be an opportunity to address everyone everywhere.



We also plan to use this platform to update students, employees and faculty staff about the conferences, workshops, meetings and partnerships held at Yarmouk University. This platform aims to enhancing cooperation between the

University and the various institutions and agencies which have an impact on strengthening the academic reputation of the University on both local and international levels.

Director of Public Relations and Media
Mukhles Ibbeni

Prince El Hassan Calls for Using Nanotechnology

HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal, President of the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST), called for the use of nanotechnology to develop innovative policies and scenarios that will enable us to address the challenges facing the region.

The Ninth Conference of the Petra International School of Physics at the University of Jordan was held through cooperation between the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University and The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics, based in Italy. During his sponsorship of the conference which came under the title (Nanotechnology: Basics and Applications), Prince El Hassan affirmed the importance of the concept of ethics in science and innovation which aim to place human at the top priorities.

Prince El Hassan also referred to the importance of using the nanotechnology due to its impact on various sectors and fields in life and science stressing the need to develop the region's potential capacity and to develop regional participants to meet the challenges through holding, supporting and activating the information systems regionally and nationally. He also called for identifying priorities, concepts and overall vision before starting programs and projects as well as developing a system that enables us to move from crisis management to crisis prevention.

The Chairman of the organizing Committee for the conference, Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Science at the University of Jordan Dr. Mahmoud



Al-Hussein, said that nanotechnology is considered the basis of a new industrial revolution and it will lead to huge leaps in all the branches of basic science and engineering; he also added that it represents a great opportunity for countries with limited resources to build a knowledge economy that will find solutions for societal problems. Furthermore, he stated that such technology became the focus of a large number of universities and scientific research centers, while pointing out that the University of Jordan is seeking to establish a National Center for Nanotechnology Research in cooperation with the Higher Council of Science and Technology.

130 researchers from the USA, UK, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine and Jordan participated in the Ninth Conference of Petra International School of physics aiming at stimulating the scientific research in physics and basic sciences, providing a platform for exchanging scientific ideas and experiences among researchers.

HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal is the founder of the Petra International Physics School in 1980; it held its first conference in 1982 through cooperation between the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University and the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics.

President Meets Delegation from US Embassy

President Prof. Zeidan Kafafi met a delegation from the US Embassy in Amman included vice consuls Mr. Paul Wulfsberg and Ms. Ana DeLaCruz on Oct. 1, 2018. The visit came to discuss the mechanism of the admission of students to the «Summer Work and Travel» program in the United States.

At the beginning of the meeting, Kafafi asserted that the University is keen to cooperate with American universities and educational institutions, while pointing out the importance of the «Summer Work and Travel» program in giving students the opportunity to learn languages and cultures of other nations, reflecting on their educational career, broadening their understanding and promoting the concepts of constructive dialogue. He also added that “the Language Center in Yarmouk University is ready to welcome American students who want to learn Arabic”.



In return, Wulfsberg asserted that the «Summer Work and Travel» program, offered by the U.S. Embassy to students who want to spend 3 - 4 months during the summer time in the United States of America, will have a positive impact on the development of their English language skills and their education in terms of the nature and culture of the American society.

The meeting was attended by Vice Presidents Prof. Ahmad Al-Ajlouni,

Prof. Fawwaz Al-Abed Al-Haq and Prof. Anis Khassawneh.

During the visit, the Department of International Relations and Projects organized a meeting between the American Embassy delegation and the students of the university to show the procedures of admission in the program through the offices of the embassy, which are committed to provide job opportunities to the admitted students. Further, the delegation answered students' questions and queries.

Swiss Ambassador to Amman Visits Yarmouk



Yarmouk University President Prof. Zeidan Kafafi and some officials in the presidency met with the Swiss Ambassador to Amman, Lukas Gasser on Oct. 2, 2018.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged ideas on promoting bilateral academic ties between Yarmouk University and universities in Switzerland.

Kafafi stated that Yarmouk University has scientific and research cooperation with various prestigious international universities; these ties created opportunities for exchanging

faculty members and allowing students to pursue their postgraduate studies at these universities. The President called the Swiss embassy to build a bridge of academic and scientific cooperation in various fields between Yarmouk University and various Swiss educational institutions. He further talked about the possibility of adding a corner of Swiss science and culture to Al-Hussein bin Talal library to allow students to discover the achievements of Swiss scientists and researchers in various fields of science.

Mr. Gasser assured the embassy's interest in establishing scientific and cultural cooperation between the Swiss universities and Yarmouk University in areas of common interest, while pointing out to some scholarships which the students of Yarmouk University can apply for in the next academic year 2019 / 2020.

The meeting was attended by Vice president Prof. Ahmad Al-Ajlouni, Prof. Fawwaz Al-Abed Al-Haq, Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts, Prof. Wa'el Rashdan, Director of Hussein bin Talal library, Dr. Omar Al Ghouh and the Director of Public Relations and Media, Mr. Mukhles Ibbeni and a number of officials at the embassy.

Yarmouk Participates in a Debate Activity under Erasmus+

A team from Yarmouk University participated in the debate activity, which is one of the most important activities of the program (Erasmus+ Virtual Mobility), along with a team of students from Turkey, Morocco and Bulgaria; the debate took place through technological platforms via the Internet. It is the first of its kind in Yarmouk University.

The activity included two debates; the first one tackled the E-learning and its features and it involved students Rodana Rawashdeh, Maria Haddad and Mays Al-Momani as a supervisor. The second one tackled the harms of electronic games to youth and it involved Mona Al-Omari, Ranim Abu Mousa and two supervisors: Rodana Alrwashdah and Maria Haddad.



The Director of the International Relations and Projects Department, Dr. Mwaffaq Ootom trained the students on the skills and the management of the two debates. He stressed out the importance of involving students in such activities to enhance critical thinking skills, internet usage, use of means of social networking, and practicing foreign languages. He added that the (Erasmus+ Virtual

Mobility) was developed this year and it aims at expanding the size and type of academic exchange programs through virtual exchange by adopting electronic platforms as new means for youth in Europe and the South-Mediterranean countries to interact and learn about each other's cultures and promote concepts of tolerance and acceptance of others.

Yarmouk Participates in Two Projects Supported by Horizon 2020

Yarmouk University obtained the approval for funding two research projects under Horizon 2020 on migration, asylum and forced displacement.

The University received a financial fund for the project entitled «Reshaping Attention and Inclusion Strategies for Distinctively Vulnerable People among the Forcibly Displaced» RAISD, a project run by Complutense University of Madrid, Spain, at a total cost of (2 million and 662 thousand Euros).

Dr. Anas AlSobeh, a member in the faculty of Information Technology and Computer Science, stated that the RAISD project aims at reforming strategies for the integration of vulnerable communities, particularly the forcibly displaced. The team included: Dr. Amani

Shatanawi and Dr. Mohammed Al Zamil from the Faculty of Information Technology, Dr. Ayat Nashwan from the Department of Sociology and Social Service, and Dr. Abdel Karim Al Tamimi from the Computer Engineering Department.

The Refugees, Displaced Persons and Forced Migration Studies Center also obtained a funding for conducting a research under the title «Transitional Figurations of Displacement-Connectivity and Mobility as Solutions to Protracted Refugees Solutions» run by Internationales konversionszentrum Bonn GmbH from Germany; the project aims at improving protection mechanisms for refugees and framing cooperation between refugees and hosting communities on the long term.

A Delegation from the German Embassy and DAAD Visits Yarmouk

President Prof. Zeidan Kafafi met the first secretary head of Cultural and Press Department in the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany Dr. Jaime Sperberg and the representative of the German Academic Exchange Service in Jordan (DAAD) Gabriela Von Ferix. During the meeting, cooperation between the University and different German Higher Education Institutions was discussed.

Kafafi stated that the University has been cooperating with many German universities and institutes in terms of exchanging faculty members and implementing research projects in various fields. Further, he urged the German embassy to enhance such scientific cooperation. The president added that many faculty members benefited from the German scholarships including the DAAD and the Alexander Von Humboldt.

Dr. Sperberg stressed on the Embassy's keenness to establish a strong participatory base between Yarmouk University and various German educational institutions to provide an opportunity to exchange faculty members and students. Moreover, he stressed on the need to enhance the knowledge of students and faculty members regarding the way of benefitting from scholarships provided by various German agencies.

Dr. Hani Hayajneh, Dean of the Faculty of Archeology and Anthropology and Dr. Ayat Nashwan, the Director of the



Refugees, Displaced Persons and Forced Migration Studies Center attended the meeting.

During her visit to the University, Dr. Ferix presented a lecture on DAAD and its role in supporting many German and international students and researchers and its role in developing the educational and the academic activities of developing countries; she also explained the conditions of applying for the scholarships.

Hayajneh, the Scientific Ambassador of the German Alexander Von Humboldt Foundation in Jordan and the Dean of the Faculty of Archeology, also explained the opportunities for the post – PhD scientific research for Jordanian academics through the foundation. They further explained the conditions and techniques of applying to such scholarships. At the end of the lecture, Hayajneh along with Dr. Ferix answered the questions of the audience.

Public Breakfast for the Students of Arabic as a Foreign Language



The president of Yarmouk University, Prof. Zeidan Kafafi participated with the students of Arabic as a foreign language of non-Arabic speakers in the breakfast hosted by the Language Center.

Kafafi confirmed the keenness of the University to fulfil all the needs of international students in this program since they represent the best ambassadors for Yarmouk University in their countries after graduation. He also praised the efforts of the Language Center to prepare students for the program and equip them with various Arabic language skills and educate them about the habits and traditions of the Jordanian society that enable them to practice and learn Arabic language quickly.

The Director of the Center Prof. Lamia Hammad pointed out that the Language Center seeks to teach students of the program the methods of using the Arabic language in daily life through lectures as well as through extracurricular activities that play an active role in helping students in acquiring new vocabulary and strengthening relations among them.

Regional Director of QS Global Ranking Visits Yarmouk



The Vice President of Yarmouk University for the Humanity Faculties Prof. Anis Khassawneh met with the Regional Director for the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia for the QS World University Rankings, Dr. Ashwin Fernandes, to discuss the criteria adopted by the QS for ranking universities.

In the meeting, Khassawneh asserted the willingness of Yarmouk

University to do what is required to increase the ranking of Yarmouk University at all levels, showing that the University pays a great attention to the scientific research by encouraging its researchers to conduct and publish researches in international journals and to participate in international conferences which contribute to preserve the academic reputation of the University despite the challenges

represented in the financial crisis and the increased number of students.

Khassawneh called for holding workshops by the QS officials to educate faculty members and university officials on the importance of international criteria regarding the ranking of universities and how to achieve them.

Fernandes highlighted the importance of achieving the international criteria adopted by the QS ranking for Yarmouk University through promoting the university and its academic programs in various social media and publishing research in famous databases such as «Scopus», and through the participation of faculty staff members in international conferences. He also affirmed the willingness of the QS officials to hold future workshops for the faculty members at the university.

The meeting was attended by the Director of International Relations and Projects Department Dr. Mwaffaq Otoom, the Head of Training and Development Department at the Accreditation and Quality Assurance Center Dr. Nader Al-Refai, as well as the Director of Public Relations and Media, Mr. Mukhles Ibbeni.

IT Team Wins in the 8th National Programming Competition

Yarmouk University participated in the Eighth National Programming Competition for students of Jordanian universities on 2018 entitled “Jordanian Collegiate Programming Contest” (JCPC) which was organized by the University of Applied Sciences and the Association of Jordanian Programmers under the patronage of the Minister of Communication and Information Technology Eng. Muthanna Gharaibeh. Three IT teams from the Faculty of Information Technology and Computer Science and two teams from Hijawi Faculty for Engineering Technology from YU competed with (134) teams from (21) Jordanian universities.

This annual competition aims at developing talents, building software capacity of IT students in Jordan, promoting creativity and enhancing their team work. Yarmouk IT teams under the supervision of Dr. Abdel-Raouf Bsoul won the competition and became among the teams eligible to participate in the Arab Programming



Competition (ACPC), which will be held in Sharm El-Sheikh (Egypt) on the 9th of November, a competition which will lead to the nomination of teams for the World Cup Programming Championship; it is worth noting that this competition will be held under the supervision of an international arbitration that is independent from the ACM Global Foundation.

"Yarmouk Sharia" Receives Students of Mevlana Turkish Cultural Exchange Program

The Faculty of Sharia and Islamic Studies at Yarmouk University received a group of 23 students through Mevlana Cultural Exchange program from different Turkish universities: Sakarya, Atatürk, İnönü, and Dicle on Oct. 7, 2018.

The Dean of the faculty, Prof. Osama AlRababah welcomed the students and pointed to the importance of the program which is implemented by the Republic of Turkey with different universities in the Islamic world and adding that it creates an opportunity for students from different universities to learn about the culture of other countries. AlRababah explained that the faculty provided the students with everything they need to achieve the desired benefits, while pointing



out that three students of the faculty left already to Turkey to study this semester in the faculties of Islamic Studies in different Turkish universities through the same program.

The meeting was attended by a number of faculty members.

Yarmouk Launches Second Phase of HOPES-MADAD Projects Supported by the EU

Yarmouk University launched the second phase of the EU-supported PFISR and TEFSR projects under the HOPES-MADAD program which is carried out in collaboration with the DAAD.

Dr. Anas AlSobeh, the project liaison officer and a faculty member of the CIS Department, stated that 700 trainees from the Syrian community in Jordan along with the members of the local community have applied for the two programs: "Providing Fundamental ICT Skills for Syrian Refugees" and "Transferring E-business Fundamental to Syrian Refugees", and that 153 trainees were selected to join the programs for the period between 2018 / 2019. AlSobeh highlighted the importance of the projects in transferring the basic skills in Web Technology and E-commerce to the Syrian refugees and in enabling the locals to pursue their studies and get special job opportunities.

Dr. Mohammad AlJarrah, Dr. Amin Jarrah from the Department of Computer Engineering and Dr. Amani Shatnawi from the MIS Department also confirmed the importance of the program in qualifying the trainees, developing the skills and abilities of Jordanian students in the field of computer maintenance and Internet, and engaging students in the labor market.

Yarmouk University Discusses Cooperation with the CBRL



The President of Yarmouk University Prof. Zeidan Kafafi met the director of the Council for British Research in the Levant (CBRL) Dr. Carol Palmer along with her assistant Dr. Andrea Zerbini on Sept. 30, 2018. The two sides discussed the possibility of the University's participation in the «Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development in Jordan» project which is supported by Newton – Khalidi Fund.

At the beginning of the meeting, Kafafi stressed the keenness of Yarmouk professors and researchers to participate in scientific projects in various fields, especially those supported

by international agencies because they provide a broad basis for scientific research and knowledge on the experiences of different countries in various sciences. He also stated that the University, represented by the Faculty of Archeology and Anthropology, is ready to participate in the project «Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Development in Jordan». He further stressed on the importance of the project since it brings researchers and specialists from various Jordanian and British universities to investigate the cultural heritage in Jordan and its role in the sustainable development and motivating economic and

social development of Jordanians.

Palmer stressed the keenness of the Council to attract distinguished researchers to participate in the project; she stated that Yarmouk University has distinguished scientific competencies in the field of research in the Jordanian cultural heritage, while explaining that the project seeks to bring researchers interested in this field together to form a team that is capable of implementing a distinctive project. She added that the project entails rewriting the history of Jordan through analyzing manuscripts, historical documents, archaeological discoveries, and through using technology in the interpretation, presentation and restoration of cultural heritage.

The Vice President for Student Affairs and External Relations, Prof. Dr. Fawwaz Al-Abed Al-Haq, the Dean of the Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology Dr. Hani Hayajneh, the Director of the International Relations and Projects, Dr. Mwaffaq Otoom and the Director of Public Relations and Media, Mr. Mukhles Ibbeni attended the meeting.