



# Yarmouk Newsletter

Published by The Dept. of Public Relations and Media

Issue No. 24

## Inaugurating the "Future of Medical Education in Jordan" Workshop in Yarmouk



The Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Dr. Wajih Owais, patronized the opening of the "Future of Medical Education in Jordan" workshop, which was organized by the Faculty of Medicine at Yarmouk University, in the presence of the Minister of Health, Dr. Firas al-Hawari, and the University President, Professor Islam Massad. During his opening speech, Owais stated that higher education in Jordan emphasizes several factors, i.e. education outputs, preparing graduates for the market requirements, finding resources of funding, and developing the process of distance and technical education. He also declared that the increase in the number of admissions in medical specialties is attributed to students' high grades and the societal rush to study medicine, pointing out that it is necessary to carefully watch the outputs of medicine education as such a profession is related to people's life. Stating

that the number of students in the medical faculties inside Jordan is about 19,000, he underlined the need to work on organizing students' admission policies in the near future to maintain a high level of graduates.

In his turn, Massad welcomed the attendees and participants of the workshop at Yarmouk University, pointing out that this workshop brings together decision-makers from the executive authority represented by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the Ministry of Health, and the legislative authority represented by the Health and Education Committees of the parliament and the house of Senates, the Higher Education Accreditation Commission, as well as the presidents of Jordanian universities that include medical faculties. He added that this workshop is an opportunity to move forward towards national goals and visions. Massad pointed out that the future of medical education in Jordan requires much work, research, and effective dialogue to reach certain recommendations that may lead to effective decisions.

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## Inaugurating the "Future of Medical Education in Jordan" Workshop in Yarmouk Cont.

For his part, the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. Khaldoun al-Bashaira, confirmed that the rapid changes in the field of medical education have led to a major change in the curricula of medical faculties in the world. He then said that due to the Corona pandemic, it became clear that it is necessary to have a strong health care system, pointing out that Jordan has been one of the most successful countries in securing its citizens against the virus. He finally stressed the permanent need for a periodic, participatory review among Jordanian medical faculties, universities, and other national institutions to develop the health sector as well as medicine education.

On the sidelines of the opening, a lecture entitled "The Reality and Challenges of Medical Education in Jordan" was presented by Dr. Nidal Younes and another lecture entitled "The Future of Medical Education" was presented by Dr. Ismail Matalka. However, the inauguration was attended by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Hashemite University, Dr. Yassin Al-Hasban, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Yarmouk University, Dr. Khaled Al-Omari, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Mutah University, Dr. Yousef Al-Qusous, the President of the University of Jordan, Dr. Nathir



Obeidat, the President of Jordan University of Science and Technology, Dr. Khaled Al-Salem, the President of the Hashemite University, Dr. Fawaz Abd Al-Haq, the President of Mutah University Dr. Arafat Awajan, the President of the Commission for Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions and Quality Assurance, Dr. Dhafer Al-Sarayrah, Yarmouk Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Muwaffaq Omoush, a number of deans of the faculties at the university, and deans of the medical faculties in Jordanian universities.

## Yarmouk Sponsors 63 Students to Complete their Graduate Education in the Most Prestigious International Universities



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, confirmed that in the context of the university's keenness to enhance its scientific and academic career, 63 students are granted scholarships to complete their higher studies in a number of international universities. He explained that the university is responsible for paying those students' university fees and health insurance, underling that 21 students are studying in British universities, 20 students in American universities, and the rest is in Australian, German, Italian, Canadian and Malaysian universities. He also mentions that the Faculty of Medicine ranks first with 25 scholarship holders followed by Al Hijjawi faculty of Engineering Technology with 12 students, the faculty of Pharmacy with 10 students, the faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences with 9 students, the faculty of Science with 3 students, the faculty of mass communication with 2 students, and finally one student for each of the faculties of Law and IT.



## Research Cooperation between Yarmouk and the Irish Trinity Faculty of Dublin

Discussing possible ways of academic cooperation, the President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, met with a delegation from the Irish Trinity College of Dublin represented by the Vice President for Global Engagement, Professor Emma Stokes, Dr. Zuleika Rodgers from the School of Languages, and Leo McNamee, the International Partnerships Manager. At the beginning of the meeting, Massad affirmed Yarmouk's keenness to have scientific and academic cooperation with prestigious international universities, which provides the opportunity for students to complete their studies in various disciplines and for faculty members at the university to benefit from the experiences, knowledge, and cultures of other countries. He then stressed the readiness of Yarmouk to receive Trinity College students who are willing to learn the Arabic language through the program of Arabic for Speakers of Other Languages at the University's Languages Center.

For her part, Stokes said that Yarmouk is the best educational destination for students willing to learn the Arabic language, emphasizing that Trinity College offers



a program in Middle Eastern studies that includes the Arabic Language. She also affirmed Trinity's readiness for further cooperation in various academic and research fields, calling for the exchange of scientific visits and participation in seminars and conferences between the two sides.

## Massad and the Omani Ambassador in Jordan Discuss Developing the Academic and Scientific Cooperation

The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, discussed with the Sultanate of Oman's ambassador to Amman, Sheikh Hilal bin Marhoon bin Salem al-Maamari, aspects of enhancing the academic and scientific cooperation between Yarmouk and Omani universities and institutions. During his visit to the embassy and meeting with Ambassador al-Maamari, Massad stated that Yarmouk University is proud of the relations built and consolidated with various academic institutions in the Sultanate of Oman, stressing the university's aspiration to strengthen such relations and expand partnerships for the benefit and common interests of the two parties. He then noted that about 2,184 Omani students have graduated from Yarmouk University from various faculties and academic programs during past years.

For his part, Sheikh al-Maamari expressed his happiness with the visit, praising the great and distinguished reputation of the various Jordanian higher education institutions in general, Yarmouk University in particular. He then stressed that the Omani embassy is looking forward to deepening



cooperation with Yarmouk University as it offers several graduate specializations and programs needed by Omani students and the labor market. He also noted that the embassy seeks to send its students to various Jordanian universities throughout the governorates of the Kingdom.

## The Graduation of the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Batches of Oman College of Management and Technology



The President of the University, Professor Islam Massad, participated in the graduation ceremony of the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> batches of Oman College of Management and Technology, which is linked with Yarmouk University

through an academic affiliation agreement. During his speech at the graduation ceremony, which was sponsored by the Undersecretary of the Omani Ministry of Economy, Dr. Nasser bin Rashid al-Maawali, Massad stressed that the constructive cooperation between Yarmouk University and the Oman College of Management and Technology is a great beginning for multiple, diverse and extended academic relations. He added that Yarmouk University views Oman College of Management and Technology with much appreciation and pride, considering its academic and administrative development as well as financial stability. Massad then pointed out that Yarmouk is constantly seeking to find a creative educational system that can face challenges and preserve the identity of society, declaring that the graduates represent a great piece of evidence concerning the productivity of the academic cooperation between the two parties.

## 10 CMA License Grants from the Institute of Management Accountants

Ten outstanding students of the Accounting Department at the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences at Yarmouk University received grants for “Certified Management Accountant License” from the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) in cooperation with Sarh International for Consulting and Training.

During the ceremony, which was held at the Landmark Hotel in Amman, the Business Development Officer in the Middle East, Africa and India at IMA, Mr. Rabie Ibrahim, handed over the grants to the outstanding students in the department, in the presence of the Head of the Accounting Department, Dr. Hussein Al Rabaa, Dr. Muhammad Al-Azzam, Dr. Khaldoun Al-Daoud, Dr. Muhammad Shakhatra, a number of representatives from the Jordanian Management Accountants Association (JAMA), and a group of professors from Jordanian universities.

Al-Rabaa explained that the value of each grant amounts to 2000 \$, as it includes exemption from CMA exams fees for the two parts and an active membership in the American Institute of Management Accountants IMA. For his part, the Dean of the Faculty, Dr. Michael



Sweidan, praised the distinguished scientific level of the Accounting Department and the efforts of its faculty members, stressing the need to develop the skills and capabilities of graduates and to reflect the experience they gain on their practical and professional performance after joining the local and Arab labor market.



## Massad Discusses Cooperation with a Delegation of the French Embassy



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, discussed with the second counsellor at the French Embassy in Amman, Marion Eynard, and the cultural and university cooperation attaché, Annabelle Ostyn, ways to enhance cooperation in various academic and research fields. He stressed the importance of strengthening the existing cooperation with French educational and academic

institutions, focusing on the importance of developing academic courses of French at Yarmouk by switching to the applied French language, which copes with the requirements of the labor market. He then pointed to the importance of developing the agreements signed between Yarmouk and French universities in terms of the exchange of faculty members, especially in the faculties of medicine, engineering,

and law as well as the studies of refugees, displaced persons, and women.

The meeting was attended by Ms. Rawan Alhomaimat, head of cooperation affairs at the French Embassy, the Director of the Refugees, Displaced Persons and Forced Migration Studies Center, Dr. Reem Al-Kharouf, the Director of the Princess Basma Center for Jordanian Women's Studies, Dr. Amna Al-Khasawneh, the Director of Public Relations and Media, Dr. Nawzat Abu Al-Asal, Dr. Batoul al-Muhaisen from the Department of Modern Languages, the representative of the university at the Francophone Agency, Dr. Mamoun Al-Shtiwi, and Dr. Tareq Al-Naser from the Refugees Center.

After the meeting, the delegation visited the centers of refugees and women, where Al-Kharouf presented the refugees center's strategic vision and the most prominent projects and themes that are developed while Al-Khasawneh gave a presentation on the women center's strategy and achievements in terms of research studies and training programs that aim at promoting the concepts of women's rights among the student and local community. She also presented a brief about the companies and memberships associated with the center.

## Two Training Diploma Programs in Applied Translation and Teaching Arabic for Non-Native speakers

The board of Directors of Queen Rania Center for Jordanian Studies and Community Service at Yarmouk University decided to offer two training diploma programs: the first in the field of teaching Arabic for non-native speakers in cooperation with the Languages Center at the university, and the second in the field of applied translation in cooperation with the faculty of Arts.

The Director of the Center, Dr. Yazan Shboul, said that launching such programs copes with the university's policy and the center's vision, which aim at investing the university's scientific and practical capabilities to serve the local community and university students, developing human resources, raising the level of individual efficiency and productivity at work, and providing the public and private sectors with qualified and trained cadres.

The Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Professor Musa Rababaa, confirmed that the Applied Translation Diploma is designed by specialists in the translation department at the faculty and that it focuses on the several practices of translation, which provides students with the practical skills that qualify them to succeed in the labor market.

In her turn, the Director of the Languages Center, Professor Lamia Hammad, confirmed that the training diploma in teaching Arabic for non-native speakers is designed by the specialized staff of the Languages Center, noting that the diploma requires studying for nine months and that it covers the practical aspects of several topics, including Arabic linguistics, applied linguistics, teaching Arabic for non-native speakers, and the Arabic language for special purposes.

## Yarmouk Faculty of Tourism is a Member of World Federation of Tourist Guide Associations

The Faculty of Tourism and Hotels at Yarmouk University has obtained the membership of World Federation of Tourist Guide Associations located in Vienna. The Dean of the Faculty, Dr. Atef Al-Shayyab, said that the faculty always seeks to network with various international institutions and associations concerned with the field of tourism and hotels, which positively reflects on the faculty's outputs, as evident in its qualified graduates as well as distinguished programs and activities. Al-Shayyab pointed out that the associations offer the membership for more than (70) countries around the world represented by two hundred thousand employees in the field of tourism guidance. Therefore, gaining such a membership strengthens the international accreditation file for the faculty's programs and popularize its various activities at the regional and international levels. In the same context, the coordinator of the associations' membership, Dr. Muhammad Badarneh, stressed the importance of the membership in



enriching the faculty's programs by providing students with the opportunity to engage with the associations' several lectures, activities, and training workshops.

## Completing the Second Training of Enhancing Female Academics' Participation in Leading Internationally Funded Projects



In collaboration with the Canadian fund to support local initiatives funded by the Canadian Embassy in Amman, Yarmouk University has completed the training of the second group of participants in the program "Enhancing the Participation of Female Academics in Leading Internationally Funded Projects", which is the first international activity for the network "She Leads".

The training was organized in two phases over a period of six days. The first phase was carried out by Reem Bseisu in the seminar and conference building at the university during January 18 - 19, 2022, and it emphasized the skills of writing proposals for internationally funded projects, how funding can be obtained, and other related issues. The second phase was carried out by Majdy Mustafa at the Dead Sea during January 26 - 29, 2022, emphasizing the leadership of international projects: planning, following-up, and evaluation.

The project team consists of Dr. Ayat Nashwan, head of the Department of Sociology and Social Service at the Faculty of Arts, as the project manager and Hiyam al-Khatib, a researcher at the Accreditation and Quality Assurance Center, as the project coordinator.



## Yarmouk Offers a Training Diploma in TV Digital Media

The Board of Directors of Queen Rania Center for Jordanian Studies and Community Service at Yarmouk University announced launching a training diploma program in television digital media in cooperation with the Faculty of Mass Communication. The Director of the Center, Dr. Yazan al-Shboul, said that the program aims at providing the trainees with the skills of producing and photographing digital television content, refining the trainees with the skills and techniques of television and digital photography, and qualifying the trainees to master the skills of electronic montage, recording and voice commentary, in addition to graphic and infographic design, producing television and digital media content for influential content makers, and qualifying the trainees to prepare campaigns and digital television media programs.

Al-Shaboul pointed out that the graduate, after passing prescribed exams, will be awarded a certificate issued by Yarmouk University and approved by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, noting that students who either succeed or fail high school and who wish to work in this field will get accepted.

## The First International Scientific Conference on Migration and Asylum in Yemen



Yarmouk University represented by the Refugees, Displaced Persons, and Forced Migration Studies Center, participated as a partner in the First International Scientific Conference on Migration and Asylum entitled “Migration and Asylum in the Arab Region Reality - Challenges - Solutions”, which was organized by Sana’a University in Yemen. The conference, which was held over the past two days in-person and online discussed policies, legislation, and official procedures related to migration and asylum in the Arab region, trying to diagnose the effects and repercussions of migration and asylum

on the host Arab countries and the region in general.

The Director of the Center, Dr. Reem Al-Kharouf, confirmed through her online participation that Jordan has welcomed every single individual migrating from his/her homeland in search of safety and stability, thus providing refugees with safety and supporting the vulnerable. She then explained that the center, which was established in 1997 at Yarmouk University, functions as a national and regional platform for researching refugee issues, trying to serve and support them based on national interests and concerns. She also pointed out the importance of building new partnerships between researchers and institutions concerning this issue, confirming the center’s readiness to share experiences, partnerships, logistical, and research capabilities.

Noteworthy is that this conference was attended by 61 researchers from 11 countries who discussed in their research papers 11 axes related to various asylum issues, such as policies, legislation, rights and duties, causes and effects of migration, asylum and displacement on countries, effects of global epidemics, wars and crises, ways of integrating refugees into host societies, and challenges facing governments as well as local and international organizations, towards such categories of people.

## Badran Patronizes "Administrative Reform in Jordan"



In the presence of the president of Yarmouk University Board of Trustees, Dr. Khaled Al-Omari, and the president of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, the Jordanian Academics Association in cooperation with Yarmouk University organized the conference of Administrative Reform in Jordan. In his opening speech of the conference of "Administrative Reform in Jordan", Former Prime Minister Adnan Badran said that the government can achieve economic reform by expanding the middle class through providing job opportunities for citizens, considering that the first centenary of Jordan is characterized by establishing the various institutions of the country, and building infrastructure in the political, economic and social sectors. He also said, "It is necessary to develop a plan of action for an integrated and comprehensive administrative reform as a renaissance project without delay." He then called for eliminating bureaucracy and simplifying government procedures in its ministries and institutions so that the decision is taken within a specified period of time. Badran described *wasta* and nepotism as "the chronic Jordanian national disease and the pinnacle of administrative corruption," confirming that it is necessary to eliminate such phenomena through automating government transactions.

For his part, Al-Omari said that the Jordanian Academics Association, in cooperation with Yarmouk University, is keen to have a role in presenting a vision for the hoped-for administrative reform in Jordan through such a conference, which identifies some of the main components of developing

the country. He added that this vision is represented in the institutional structure and future skills of human resources, good governance, anti-corruption and digital transformation, artificial intelligence, administrative environment, leadership, empowerment and delegation of authority.

Massad said, when we talk about the administrative reform in Jordan, we should always recall the royal visions of His Majesty the King, which focus on issues of reform in the various fields, especially the "political, economic and administrative". He further stressed that the development of institutions depends on their management: directing their competencies and activating their resources. He also indicated that the administrative reform process is not an administrative decision that is applied in a hurry but a long and protracted process. Massad stressed that the administrative reform is a national priority that aims at neutralizing administrative and institutional selfishness, strengthening organizational and administrative loyalty, and qualifying employees to be more responsible and objective.

Some other speakers talked about several topics in the conference's sessions, which were attended by academics and experts from various national authorities and institutions. For instance, Dr. Khalif Al-Khawaldeh presented institutional structure, Dr. Refaat Al-Faouri presented future skills for human resources, Dr. Mohieldin Touq presented the administrative environment, Dr. Ahmed Al-Zoubi presented governance and anti-corruption, Dr. Khaled Al-Omari presented leadership, empowerment and Power delegation, and Dr. Ahmed Battah presented administrative reform.

