



# Yarmouk Newsletter

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## A Turkish Academic Delegation at Yarmouk University for Joint Cooperation



During his meeting with a Turkish academic delegation headed by the Director of the Institute of Turkish Studies at Yunus Emre Cultural Institute, Dr. Yavuz Kartallioğlu, the President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, stressed that the university represented by its Faculty of Arts has always been a pioneer in opening specialized academic programs of various international languages needed by the Jordanian, Arab and

regional labor market. Thus, the University has several majors and academic departments concerned with teaching languages, such as English, French, German, Hebrew, Persian and Turkish. He then referred to a recent decision of the Council of Deans to offer language courses in Turkish and other languages in the study plan for undergraduate students beginning next academic year.

For his part, Kartallioğlu praised

the scientific and research-oriented status of Yarmouk University, confirming that the expansion in offering academic disciplines related to world languages is a piece of evidence of the University's keenness to communicate with the world, thus enhancing its position and academic reputation at regional and international levels. He then expressed the readiness of the Institute of Turkish Studies at Yunus Emre to support Yarmouk University in developing the academic program of the Turkish language, pointing out that the Institute will provide the Turkish Language Program at the Faculty of Arts with a comprehensive library, as part of this support.

During that visit, the Department of Semitic and Oriental Languages at the Faculty of Arts organized a lecture in the seminars and conferences building, where Dr. Yavuz Kartallioğlu talked before a crowd of professors and students about teaching the Turkish language online.

## Cooperation between Yarmouk and the Indonesian Embassy in Amman



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, met with the Head of the Socio-Cultural Department at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Amman, Mr. Muhammad Hartantyo, discussing ways to enhance academic and cultural cooperation between Yarmouk and

various Indonesian universities. At the beginning of the meeting, Massad stressed that Yarmouk pays much attention to its international students, pointing to the university's constant keenness to strengthen its academic relationship with Indonesian universities in various scientific, research, and cultural fields. He praised the outstanding level of the 112 Indonesian students studying in Yarmouk and their commitment to the university's applicable regulations and instructions, stressing the university's constant readiness to attract more Indonesian students to its various disciplines, including the Arabic language program for non-native speakers.

In turn, Hartantyo acknowledged the attention paid by Yarmouk to its Indonesian students, which reflects positively on students' academic level, praising the prestigious scientific reputation of the university and its excellence in offering several specializations, especially Sharia, Islamic studies and the Arabic language. He also discussed the possibility of holding an Indonesian cultural day at Yarmouk University in order to present the Indonesian culture, customs, and traditions to the community of Yarmouk.

## An Awareness Workshop Entitled "Mechanisms to Support Women and Promote Equality in Light of Refugee Crises"

On the occasion of the International Women's Day, the Refugees, Displaced Persons and Forced Migration Studies Center at Yarmouk University, in cooperation with the Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS), represented by Fatima Al-Abedi and Hanan Taloh, organized an awareness workshop entitled "Mechanisms to support women and promote equality in light of refugee crises".

In her opening speech, the Director of the Center, Dr. Reem Al-Kharouf, confirmed that organizing this workshop affirms the belief of the university and center in the significant roles played by women, refugees in particular, noting that the Refugee Center, in cooperation with its partners, seeks to strengthen and empower the roles of refugee women in society and protect their rights.

The workshop included a set of themes that tackle the economic, social and psychological challenges of displaced women, and the societal efforts of institutions, associations, and international organizations concerned with strengthening the roles of refugee women, emphasizing the campaign slogan for this year: "Gender-based equality today for a sustainable tomorrow".



However, at the end of the workshop, which was attended by a number of faculty members at the university and interested people from the local community, the participants recommended conducting updated and in-depth studies to identify the needs of refugee women, taking into account the capabilities and advantages they have to enhance the labor market in host countries.



## A Visit from the Libyan Cultural Attaché

The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, received the cultural advisor at the Libyan Cultural Attaché, Dr. Ahmed Al-Dweik, to discuss possible academic and cultural cooperation between Yarmouk and the various Libyan institutions of higher education.

At the beginning of the meeting, Massad stressed that Yarmouk opens its doors for academic and research cooperation with Libyan universities and in various fields with the possibility of framing this cooperation through memoranda of understanding dealing with student and faculty staff exchange. He affirmed Yarmouk's readiness to receive Libyan students wishing to complete their studies in the various disciplines offered by the university, in accordance with the agreement signed between the Jordanian and Libyan Ministries of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

For his part, the Vice President of Yarmouk University for Academic Affairs, Dr. Muwaffaq Alomoush, welcomed any potential cooperation with the Libyan Ministry of Technical Education at the level of several majors offered by Al-Hijawi Faculty of Technology Engineering and the Faculty of Information Technology and Computer Science.

In turn, Dweik praised the distinguished level of



the Jordanian human resources, acknowledging the reactivation of academic cooperation between the Libyan and Jordanian Ministries of Higher Education, which focuses on preparing an educational program in the field of higher education that includes dispatching approximately 400 Libyan students to the Jordanian universities in various fields, especially in the field of medical sciences.

## YU Celebrates the World Francophonie Day 2022



The Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Professor Musa Al-Rababah, patronized Yarmouk University's celebration of the World Francophonie Day 2022, which was organized by the Department of Modern Languages. In his opening speech, al-Rababah said that being opened to world's languages has become an essential and important step for academic institutions as languages function as bridges of understanding and communication with other cultures, noting that the French language is spoken today by more than three hundred million people, thus influencing the world's culture and civilization. He also pointed out that holding such events (cultural and literary activities) at Yarmouk University reflects

the university's awareness of the language of the other.

The Head of the Modern Languages' Department, Professor Hussein Al-Raheel, said that this celebration includes various cultural activities in Arabic and French, pointing out that the celebration represents an opportunity for enhancing cooperation with the cultural attachés of embassies of French-speaking countries, especially the French Embassy in Amman. He added that organizing such activity reflects the significance of French in designing extracurricular activities for students, as evident in the participation of students of the Model School in the event's ceremonial sessions.

The representative of the Francophonie at Yarmouk University, Dr. Mamoun Al-Shtiwi, gave a speech stressing that Yarmouk University is a pioneer university in teaching the French language since 1984, and it is keen to organize the celebration of the month of the French language and Francophonie annually. He then indicates that such a day represents an opportunity to gather lovers of the French language all over the world, a gathering that reflects the global status of the French language.

Interestingly, the celebration included an introductory video on Francophone, a song presented by students of the Department of Modern Languages, fun games, poems for the mother, and songs from the Model School of Yarmouk University. Also, it included a presentation of the experiences of French language professors from various Jordanian universities, besides the experiences of Jordanian students with regard to the French language.

## A Memorandum of Understanding between Yarmouk and the German Konrad Adenauer in the Field of Student Training



During his meeting with the director of the German Konrad Adenauer-Stiftung Office in Amman, Dr. Edmund Ratka, to sign a memorandum of understanding between the university and the office, the President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, affirmed the university's constant aspiration to strengthen its partnerships with various international institutions to achieve its vision and enhance its students' progress in the various fields of knowledge. He then stated that

Yarmouk views the memo as an opportunity to enhance the skills of its students, especially graduate students of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, as it contributes to developing their knowledge in terms of scientific productions related to economics.

For his part, Ratka praised the distinguished academic reputation and status of Yarmouk University, which has always been working to positively influence the Jordanian society. He explained that the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, which was founded 40 years ago, is concerned with social and economic policies, which contributes to stimulating European-Arab dialogue and strengthening integration and relations between organizations of Germany, Jordan, and countries of the Middle East.

However, under the memorandum of understanding, a group of master's students in the Department of Economics at the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences will be trained on writing skills related to submitting papers discussing economic challenges in the Jordanian society during the period from March to next December, considering that the memo stipulates that a series of meetings and training sessions will be held to help participants to develop their academic and professional skills.

## "Shakespeare in the Downtown" in the Yarmouk Drama



As part of the activities and events of the Department of Drama at Yarmouk University, a play entitled "Shakespeare in the Downtown" presented by Wahj Al-Shams Group for Performing and Folk Arts was performed on the Faculty of Fine Arts' stage. At the beginning of the show, the head of the Department of Drama, Dr. Bilal Al-Thiabat, welcomed the members of Wahj Al-Shams team, stressing the permanent readiness of the Faculty of Fine Arts to cooperate with institutions of the local community in various artistic fields to exchange experiences in various dramatic and artistic phases, praising the outstanding level of the team's theatrical performance.

Noteworthy is that the play revolves around the character of Shakespeare, who returns from the past to speak to many citizens in one of the popular ancient areas. He tackles gender-based violence and emphasizes the importance of offering solutions for such a problem.



## Solving the Problem of Construction on Mars, Yarmouk University Ranked in the Second Place in an International Competition

At the level of Arab and international universities, Yarmouk University represented by the branch team of the American Concrete Institute at Al-Hijjawi Faculty of Engineering Technology gained the second place in the Concrete Solutions Competition organized by the American Concrete Institute and held in Florida, the United States of America.

33 universities from 15 countries around the world participated in this competition, where Yarmouk University team presented a solution to the problem of building colonies on the surface of Mars by proposing the use of 3D printing technology for sulfur concrete

with strong mechanical properties suitable for the environmental conditions on the Red Planet.

The supervisor of the team, Dr. Faris Matakah, said that the idea introduced in the competition came from the global trend that aims at exploring the surface of Mars and the urgent need to develop a type of concrete that does not need water or cement. Thus, the proposal simulated the conditions of Mars through using available materials components that are rich in sulfur and combined 3D printing technology with the use of sulfur concrete. However, he added that winning such competitions represents an incentive for students and raises the reputation of the Faculty as well as university among international institutes, highlighting the role of students as a key partner in research and creativity. He then mentioned that the team includes a group of students, namely Sarah Obeidat, Ahmed Al-Amrah, Rama Marian, Ahmed Bani Younis, and Yasmine Safaqa, from the Civil Engineering Department, noting that the competition was attended by universities from several countries from the United States of America, Canada, India, Mexico, and the Arab World.

In their turn, Yarmouk participants expressed their happiness for winning the competition and articulated their pride for being the only Arab team that qualified for the final stage, emphasizing that the competition encouraged them to think creatively and develop their research and practical skills, and opened prospects to participate in international competitions organized by prestigious international institutes and universities.

Noteworthy here is that the student branch of the American Concrete Institute at Yarmouk University was established in 2019 in the Civil Engineering Department at Yarmouk University and that the team has previously participated in many local and international research competitions and achieved advanced positions, the last of which was the eighth place at the level of international universities in the environmentally friendly concrete competition that was held last year in USA. However, here is a video link of students' winning proposal:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jQ5mqw4M2UE&t=187s>



## Cooperation Agreement between Yarmouk and ELMS College, USA

Representing the President of Yarmouk University, the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Dr. Khaled Batayneh, attended an online ceremony for signing the agreement of cooperation between Yarmouk University and the American ELMS College represented by its president, Dr. Harry Dumay. The agreement stipulates that Yarmouk University hosts students of Master of Biotechnology registered at ELMS College for one semester to study two courses of six credit hours in the master's specialization of biotechnology. Also, it stipulates that the university provides research opportunities for students and some opportunities for faculty members of the Department of Biological Sciences to supervise master's students of the American ELMS University College.

During the ceremony, Batayneh stressed that the Faculty of Science has always sought further cooperation with international educational institutions to implement academic programs in various science disciplines, as this reflects positively on the development of the educational process in the faculty and the expertise of its employees.

In his turn, the President of ELMS College, Dr. Harry Dumay, praised the distinguished academic reputation of Yarmouk University, especially its Faculty of Science, and



its keenness to have scientific and academic cooperation with various international educational institutions.

The ceremony was attended by the Head of Biological Sciences Department, Dr. Al-Muthanna Al-Karaki, Dr. Walter Barrio, Vice President for Academic Affairs at ELMS University College, and Dr. Sadad Semaan, a faculty member in the Biology Department at ELMS College.

## The Regional Director of the German Company Analytic Jena Visits Yarmouk's Faculty of Science



The Dean of the Faculty of Science at Yarmouk University, Dr. Khaled Batayneh, welcomed the regional director of the German company Analytik Jena in Africa and the

Middle East, Dr. Fadi Younes, to an academic meeting in the Faculty to introduce the company's activities and ways to enhance cooperation between the University and the company by providing training opportunities for faculty members and students in the field of the company.

During the meeting, which was moderated by Dr. Taghreed Jazazi, and attended by a number of faculty members from the Faculties of science, pharmacy, and medicine, Dr. Fadi Younes reviewed a number of aspects about the chemical, physical and life science analysis, and diagnostic devices that Analytik Jena manufactures. He then emphasized that the company, in cooperation with its exclusive agent in Jordan, "Hejaz Company", will establish a training center in the Middle East for various types of devices, concluding that the company is looking forward to work with Yarmouk University as its academic partner in this project.



## The Faculty of Mass Communication Organizes the "First Artistic Production" Exhibition for Students of Public Relations



The Dean of the Faculty of Mass Communication, Professor Tahseen Mansour, sponsored the "First Artistic Production" exhibition for students of the Department of Public Relations and Advertising, which reflects students' theoretical knowledge and creativity in designing and producing advertisements based on leadership and innovation.

Mansour said that this exhibition highlights the country's achievements during its first centenary and emphasizes the advantages of the country's several governorates in an attractive manner that may increase opportunities of development. He then praised the distinguished level of the first exhibition, which confirms that the outputs of the teaching process can be applied in a creative way that qualifies graduates to compete for more job opportunities. Moreover, Mansour pointed out that the next exhibition will be in partnership with the private sector as well as official and civil institutions, due to the significance of such events in determining the exact need of certain sectors for certain media and advertisement products.

The head of the Public Relations and Advertising Department, Dr. Ali Al-Hadid, confirmed that the contents of the exhibition reflect students' capabilities and knowledge in terms of public relations and advertising, pointing out that the exhibition includes some graduation projects of many students. He then explained that the 13 topics included in the first exhibition are chosen from among several projects submitted by students for participation.

## Yarmouk Participates in the Summer School Project at the Technical University of Berlin



Twelve students from the Departments of Sociology and Social Work at the Faculty of Arts and the Department of Architecture at Al-Hijjawi Faculty of Engineering Technology participated in the activities of the second summer school, which was held at the Technical University

of Berlin in Germany 24- 31 of last month, as part of the international project activities "Building refugee integration through urban development and social work".

The head of the Department of Sociology and Social Work and Project Manager, Dr. Ayat Nashwan, said that Yarmouk University participated in this school along with the Technical University of Berlin funded by the German organization DAAD, which is one of the largest German organizations interested in the field of international academic cooperation.

She added, students participated in the activities of the summer school, which lasted for a week and included workshops specialized in social work and urban development, where the workshops emphasized how to deploy certain applications and activities to enhance the integration of refugees with local communities. Nashwan concluded that the project started last year, pointing out that next summer school will be held at Yarmouk University during May.

## The Italian Ambassador in Amman and the International Designer Giulio Lacchetti Visit Yarmouk



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, met the Italian Ambassador in Amman, H. E. Dr. Luciano Pezzotti, to discuss ways of enhancing cooperation between Yarmouk and various Italian educational and cultural institutions. At the beginning of the meeting, Massad welcomed the guest delegation and stated that Yarmouk is distinguished among other Jordanian universities in offering some majors such as archeology, anthropology, tourism and hotels, as well as engineering, pointing to the possibility of cooperation with the Italian Embassy in the field of museums, considering that Yarmouk includes the Jordanian Heritage Museum and the Jordanian Natural History Museum. In return, Ambassador Pezzotti praised the academic reputation of Yarmouk, stressing that the Italian Embassy works hard to enhance cultural and academic cooperation between Italian institutions and their Jordanian counterparts, especially Yarmouk University.

After that, the international designer Giulio Lacchetti gave a presentation about a group of Italian industrial products that were creatively and innovatively designed through modern technological techniques to support the concept of sustainability. Lacchetti stressed the importance of employing innovation and creativity in all fields of science and engineering, explaining that Ferrari, the leading manufacturer of Italian Formula cars, had developed a new brake system with advanced design value. He then talked about the developments in the field of construction science

and materials technology of resistant textile fireproof fibers as well as in the environment-friendly cement in addition to the developments in the fields of ecology, agriculture, electronics, and robotics. Lacchetti also reviewed a group of success stories of companies and pioneers in the field of innovation and industrial leadership in Italy, concluding his presentation by emphasizing the importance of partnership between the industrial sector and academia to get engineering and practical designs that meet the requirements of sustainable development.

The Head of the Civil Engineering Department, Dr. Ali Shehadeh, elaborated on the topics that were presented, stressing that Yarmouk University represented by Hijjawi Faculty of Engineering Technology is keen to support the concepts of sustainability by providing high-quality engineering education that contributes to achieving sustainable development goals. He also referred to one of the latest international projects of Hijjawi Faculty of Engineering Technology supported by the Royal Academy of Engineering in the United Kingdom entitled "The Role of Engineering Education in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in Jordan".

Noteworthy is that the meeting was attended by the Vice Presidents of the University, Professor Muwaffaq Alomoush, Professor Riad Almomani, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Professor Musa Al-Rababah, the Dean of Al-Hijjawi Faculty of Engineering Technology, Dr. Muwaffaq Otoom, the Director of Public Relations and Media, Dr. Nawzat Abu Al-Asal, and several officials from the Italian Embassy.

