

Newsletter issued by
the Media and Communication Department
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The United Arab Emirates University Contributes to the "Show Compassion" Campaign..

Dr. Ali Al Noaimi: "Our Islamic values and humanity demand compassion and solidarity from us"

In line with the "Show Compassion" campaign – an initiative of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, ably backed by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, and Ruler of Dubai – to offer relief to Syrian refugees caught up in bad weather, the United Arab Emirates University organized a campaign of donations in support of this humanitarian initiative. The campaign was inaugurated in the presence of His Excellency Dr. Ali Al Noaimi, Vice Chancellor of UAEU. In attendance were representatives of the Red Crescent (Al Ain branch) and Al Ain Municipality. This event was held on the evening of Sunday 11th January 2015 at the UAEU Social Club (Al Multaqa). Dr. Ali Al Noaimi said that this initiative shows the humanitarian solidarity which the people of the UAE hold for their Syrian brothers and sisters who are suffering from the consequences of war, displacement and the bitter cold of winter. It is part of both Islamic and Emirati values of compassion to help those affected and in need.

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The United Arab Emirates University Hosts the 9th International Conference for Medical Students from GCC Countries..

Dr. Ali Al Noaimi: "hosting youth conferences in the Gulf helps to achieve the vision of unity put forward by GCC leaders"

The 9th International Conference for Medical Students from GCC Countries was opened on Friday 26th of December, 2014 in the great hall at the United Arab Emirates University. This conference was held under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and the Chancellor of UAEU. The opening ceremony was attended by more than 1,000 students from different GCC countries. In addition, there were attendees representing 17 different medical schools and colleges from Canada, the United States, Poland, Britain, Yemen and Sudan.

His Excellency Dr. Ali Rashid Al Noaimi, Vice Chancellor of UAEU, also launched a medical exhibition. He conveyed the greetings and best wishes of His Excellency Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan to the participants and wished them every success during the conference as they strive to improve medical and scientific research.

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The United Arab Emirates University Hosts the 6th Forum on the Functions of GIS..

Dr. Ali Al Noaimi: "Our students are the fundamental building blocks of leadership and the pursuit of excellence"

The United Arab Emirates University hosted the 6th Annual Forum on the Functions of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). This event was organized by the Department of Geography and Urban Planning in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at UAEU in cooperation with GISTEC: a professional GIS services company in the Gulf. The forum was held on Tuesday 13th of January 2015 in the great hall of the crescent building at UAEU.

The forum was inaugurated by His Excellency Dr. Ali Al Noaimi, Vice Chancellor of UAEU, in the presence of Professor Saif Al Qaydi, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and Dr. Khaula Al Kaabi, Chair of the Department of Geography and Urban Planning. The Vice Chancellor conveyed the greetings of His Excellency Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and Chancellor of UAEU. He was quoted as saying that, "What distinguishes this forum is the presence of strategic partners that the United Arab Emirates University is proud of, as they contribute to the enrichment of scientific research, the development of curricula, the training and participation of students."

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The United Arab Emirates University Promotes: Strategic Partnerships by Signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry

The United Arab Emirates University and the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on Sunday, January 11th, in the crescent building on UAEU's Al Ain campus. The memorandum aims to strengthen the cooperation between the two bodies in pursuance of the Abu Dhabi Vision 2030 directive to diversify the economy in order to contribute positively to economic, social and research based issues that can serve the wider community.

His Excellency Dr. Ali Al Noaimi, Vice Chancellor of UAEU, affirmed the importance of strategic partnerships that help to develop community institutions and also open up new horizons for UAEU students. He stressed the university's commitment towards the country in various fields of national importance. Additionally, this helps to strengthen UAEU's role as a leading academic and research institution working in partnership with other scientific and research institutions.

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Editorial

With the beginning of the "Year of Innovation", we witness the distinctive interaction of all sectors of government and private institutions in the State, in order to form an innovative tapestry to provide sustainable solutions that enhance competitiveness and emphasize the uniqueness and excellence, which is consistent with the strategic plan of the UAE University to develop the capabilities of scientific research and innovation in the significant national and regional areas, and in line with its values towards teamwork and creation of a fertile environment for creativity and innovation, as well as the emphasis on effective communication and effective partnership with the stakeholders to enhance the wealth of knowledge and innovative culture in society. The Media and Communication Department is committed towards entrenching the culture of innovation in the Year of Innovation, through highlighting the research contributions of the University, its innovative projects, its scientific achievements, its distinguished teaching staff, and its unique students; the leaders of the future, and it always emphasizes that the core of its mission is "The reader is the essence of the newsletter".

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The United Arab Emirates University and Tawam Hospital Consider: Launching a Fellowship in Diseases Affecting the Elderly..

The College of Medicine and Health Sciences at the United Arab Emirates University held a medical conference entitled (Spotlight on Digestive Diseases in the Elderly in the UAE in 2015) at the Ayla Hotel in Al Ain.

This is part of UAEU's commitment to enhancing public knowledge and reaching out to the community by forming strategic partnerships. The Conference was inaugurated by Dr. Ali Al Melaih Al Fazari, a gastroenterology consultant in the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, and President of the Conference. He opened with a speech in which he thanked the leadership of the UAE for its care, concern and the provisions made to take care of the elderly.



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The United Arab Emirates University Receives: a Student Delegation from the Oxford Centre for Summer Programs..



In line with enhancing the exchange of knowledge and scientific research the United Arab Emirates University received a student delegation from the Oxford Centre for Summer Programs recently. Dr. Mohammed Hassan Ali, Dean of the College of Law at UAEU received the delegation on Wednesday, 31/12/2014, in the business center in the crescent building at UAEU. This visit reflects UAEU's desire to cooperate with many international educational institutions in various

scientific and research fields. The delegation consisted of 35 students: most of them belonging to the European Law Students' Association (ELSA). There were also students from colleges of business and economics from universities around the world. Dr. Mohammed Hassan expressed UAEU's promotion of student and academic cooperation as well as enhancing the spread of knowledge throughout the community.

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The United Arab Emirates University Holds: a Workshop to Introduce its Oxford Summer School Scholarship Program..



The College of Business and Economics at the United Arab Emirates University organized an introductory workshop regarding summer school scholarships being offered by the University of Oxford to UAEU students. This workshop, for both male and female students, was held on Sunday, 11th January, 2015 in the crescent building at UAEU.

The workshop represents the close ties UAEU is keen to develop with international partners and emphasizes the university's aim to promote the skills and abilities of their students. Mr. Dominik Wanner, Chief Executive Officer at CBL International, talked about the summer scholarship programs in both Oxford and Cambridge and stressed the enthusiasm of these universities in encouraging UAEU students to attend summer school. These programs already attract both male and female students from more than 70 countries around the world.

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The College of Medicine and Health Sciences at the United Arab Emirates University honored the college's 2004 graduates on the tenth anniversary of their graduation. The ceremony was held in the Sheikh Khalifa Hall at the college. Dr. Dennis Templeton, Dean of the College; Dr. Rafia Ghubash, guest of honor and former President of the Arab Gulf University as well as many graduates and faculty were present. In his speech, Dean Templeton said that this initiative is part of UAEU's vision and values whereby the university seeks to maintain effective communication with former students in order to assist in the transfer of skills, ideas and suggestions to other students.

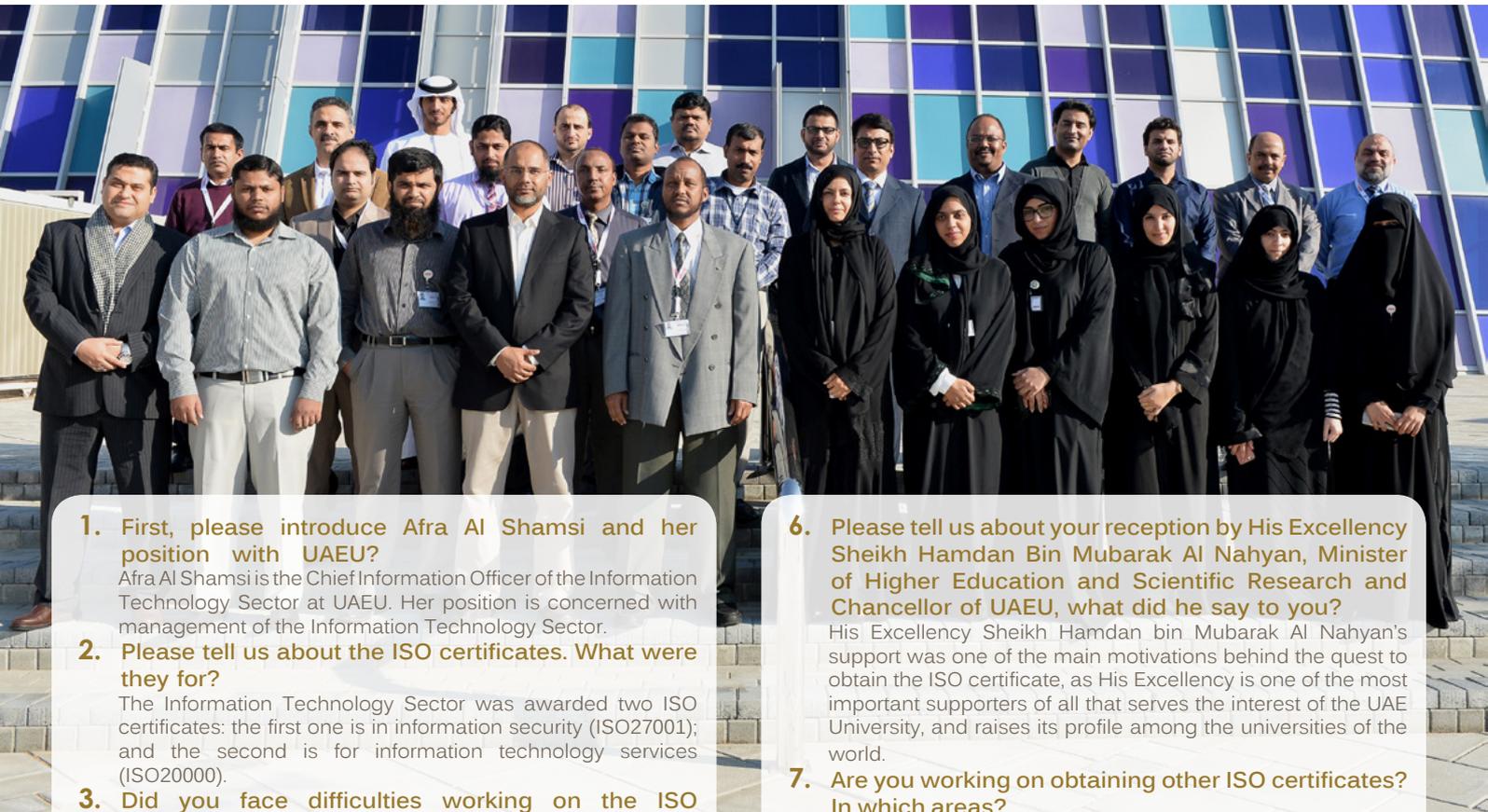
The College of Medicine and Health Sciences at the United Arab Emirates University Celebrates the Anniversary of the Graduation of the 2004 Student Cohort

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Information Technology Sector Shows the Value of Working as a Team

Quality work, ambition and teamwork are the main reasons why the Information Technology Sector at the United Arab Emirates University was awarded two ISO certificates recently: one for information security, and the other in information technology services.

The team in the Information Technology Sector still aspire to improve according to Ms. Afra Al Shamsi, Chief Information Officer in the Information Technology Sector:



1. First, please introduce Afra Al Shamsi and her position with UAEU?

Afra Al Shamsi is the Chief Information Officer of the Information Technology Sector at UAEU. Her position is concerned with management of the Information Technology Sector.

2. Please tell us about the ISO certificates. What were they for?

The Information Technology Sector was awarded two ISO certificates: the first one is in information security (ISO27001); and the second is for information technology services (ISO20000).

3. Did you face difficulties working on the ISO application?

Obtaining an ISO certificate means overcoming some difficulties, especially as it was the first time we had applied for a certificate. However, we overcame these difficulties through teamwork by showing a collective spirit of cooperation in order to meet the ISO standard.

4. How many people worked on this team?

All the employees in the Information Technology Sector contributed to obtaining the ISO certification. It would have been impossible to obtain these certificates without the concerted efforts of every employee.

5. What do these two certificates represent?

They represent progress in information technology services and security. These certificates are not granted unless the criteria and internationally recognized standards are met. Obtaining a certificate reflects the commitment of the Information Technology Sector to global standards. The main benefit is in being assured that we meet international standards which can be applied to develop the services we provide to the university community.

6. Please tell us about your reception by His Excellency Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and Chancellor of UAEU, what did he say to you?

His Excellency Sheikh Hamdan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan's support was one of the main motivations behind the quest to obtain the ISO certificate, as His Excellency is one of the most important supporters of all that serves the interest of the UAE University, and raises its profile among the universities of the world.

7. Are you working on obtaining other ISO certificates? In which areas?

At the moment, the Information Technology Sector is trying to maintain the certificates already obtained, as check-ups must be conducted at certain times by the organization granting the certification. This ensures the continuing application of standards required. In the future we may consider applying for other certificates in the field of Information Technology.

8. As you know, His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, has called 2015 the year of innovation? What are your plans in this regard?

The Information Technology Sector supports innovation and believes it is important in the developmental process and in achieving progress. Therefore, the Information Technology Sector always encourages innovative efforts and the application of the latest technology. The latest of which was UAEU's application competition designed to stimulate new inventions and services. Three winners were selected for their highly ranked proposals. The IT Section does not work in isolation, rather it seeks to engage the university community in its decision making and by providing quality services to students, staff and faculty.

9. What are your plans and ambition in general?

Work to improve the quality and quantity of services provided to the university and keep abreast of the latest techniques in the field of information technology in order to provide the university community with the technology necessary to do their jobs to the fullest and with the fewest problems.

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Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences: The College of Medicine and Health Sciences Promotes CMHS Students as Leaders and Pioneers

Professor Dennis Templeton: "We will continue in our efforts to research and innovate."

1. The College of Medicine and Health Sciences at the United Arab Emirates University is preparing to increase its number of students and increase the acceptance rate for male students. What is your plan in regard to this?

The goal for the CMHS is to increase the number of students, male and female, to fulfill the needs of the nation in producing qualified physicians. This can be achieved by recruiting talented students from high schools, which requires convincing more students that a career in medicine is desirable. Men, in particular, have often been attracted to careers in business and engineering, which are important careers, but I think that they can be persuaded of the advantages of a medical career too.

2. Scientific research and graduate studies are one of the United Arab Emirates University's top priorities. What are the expectations of your college in terms of to increasing its research base?

Research is definitely a priority for UAEU and the nation and it is enhanced by two major factors. One is the availability of research grants and this has improved in recent years. The other is an environment of inquiry and scholarship, including a good graduate training environment. Recently some stringent entry requirements have been placed on Ph.D students and that has reduced the number of applicants, but we are working to remove any barriers and I can imagine the promise of more Ph.D candidates in the coming years.

3. The College of Medicine has organized conferences at regional and international levels. How does this add to the scientific base in the college?

The International GCC Research Conference was a great success and I am proud that this was organized by our students and judged a success by the attendees. To me it highlighted both the quality of our students and their research, and also demonstrated that throughout the Arab world many of the same challenges exist. We learned much about how other universities and nations are approaching these problems.

4. Is the college going to offer new programs in the future?

We are considering academic offerings in health related subjects that are important to the nation and also offer rewarding and challenging career options. These will be developed over the coming months.

5. With regard to strategic partnerships and cooperation with other academic institutions, how does the college seek to strengthen its position in this respect?

The CMHS does not exist in a vacuum and needs relationships with other institutions. Primarily, I see the need to cultivate relationships with hospitals throughout Abu Dhabi and other emirates, in order to provide our students with rewarding clinical opportunities. We also need relationships with the health industry to provide training opportunities for some of the health related programs alluded to previously.

6. You have been appointed as the Dean of the college recently. How did you find the academic level of the medical students in comparison with international medical colleges?

I think the UAEU medical students are a lot like medical students everywhere. Most have been top of their high school classes and may think that medical school will be as easy for them as high school. Some are shocked to learn that is not true! Part of growing up and becoming a doctor is developing personal skills and habits that they didn't get in high school. These include the discipline needed for regular study, perseverance to complete projects and the ability to interact professionally with peers and mentors. I am very pleased to see the progression of these personal and leadership qualities in our students as they progress through their years in medical school.



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Dr. Mohamed Al Kaabi Organizes the GCC Medical Conference for Students

Dr. Mohamed Al Kaabi welcomed more than 1000 medical students from the Gulf and other countries of the world to the GCC Medical Conference at UAEU. He worked behind the scenes for months to make a success of one of the biggest conferences organized by UAEU - the Ninth International Conference for Medical Students from GCC Countries. Everyone applauded his efforts in organizing an excellent and successful conference. Dr. Mohammed Al Kaabi is a graduate of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences at UAEU.

1. First of all, who is Dr. Mohammed Al Kaabi?

First of all thank you for interviewing me. I am Mohammed Salem Al Kaabi Al Ain. I was born in 1989 and I am a poet and doctor who graduated from the College of Medicine and Health Sciences at UAEU.

2. How did you become the organizer of this huge international conference?

I became the President of the organizing committee through student elections. The candidate sends his name to the Deanship of Student Affairs, who hold elections, and by the grace of God Almighty, I gathered the largest number of votes.

3. How was the work before and during the conference?

The work was continuous and I put in many long hours, even on holidays, as we had a lot of challenges and objectives that had to be completed in nine months. First, we made a comprehensive plan for the conference and started working on it. Then there were twice-weekly meetings of the organizing committee to follow up on the progress. During the conference, the work and effort doubled, and some days we had to stay up until the early hours of the morning.

4. A huge conference, which lasted over five days with more than one thousand attendees must have faced a lot of difficulties?

There were a lot of difficulties before and during the conference, including a lack of sponsors for student conferences and a shortage regulators, but by the grace of God Almighty, and thanks to team spirit, we were able to overcome such difficulties.

5. What was the reaction following the conference?

The reactions were positive and the delegates commended the organization. That made the effort worthwhile and we are still receiving feedback and comments through social networking platforms.

6. What do you think is the most important thing the conference reflected?

The first thing the conference reflected was the leadership role played by UAE nationals by showing their ability to organize, achieve, and face challenges. It also reflected the cohesion of the people of the Gulf.

7. Please tell us about the support you received from the University Vice Chancellor, Dr. Ali Al Noaimi, who constantly praised your efforts.

Dr. Ali Al Noaimi always encouraged and motivated us through his presence, the provision of facilities, and most importantly, his confidence in our ability to deliver.

8. What is the one thing that made a difference between being a participant in the conference as you were previously, and being the President of it?

It is a very big difference as my previous participation in conferences was limited to attendance and participation in workshops and other activities. On the other hand, presidency of the organizing committee presented me with a lot of responsibilities and challenges, including constantly following-up on issues to make the conference a success.

9. What was the most impressive thing about the conference?

The Basma Al Dar Operetta, which reflected the spirit of the Gulf unity, was very well received.

10. If you had the opportunity to organize the conference again, what one new idea would you present?

I would expand the participation to include a greater number of medical students from the various countries of the world, in order to transform it from a Gulf conference into a global conference. This in turn would facilitate cultural and scientific exchange. I would also make sure that most of the keynote speakers were from the UAE.

11. What are your plans and ambitions?

I am currently completing admission procedures to continue my graduate studies abroad, as I aspire to specialize in Forensic Medicine. I hope to benefit from study abroad and to return to serve my country.

12. Is there any other information you would like to add?

I would like to thank you for this interview, and to thank all the members of the organizing committee and all those who contributed to the success of the conference.

Engineering Students at the United Arab Emirates University

make a Contribution to the Development of Innovative Approaches to Sustainable Energy by Submitting 73 Top Class Smart Projects..

Students in the College of Engineering at the United Arab Emirates University submitted their graduation projects over two consecutive days on the 14th and 15th of January. The 271 students on the Integrated Design Course presented 73 projects in total. This course is taught over two consecutive semesters making up a total of 6 credit hours in the final year of their academic program.

Dr. Nabil Bastaki, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, said that, "The course is a practical preparation for future engineers. It aims to give students a realistic design experience by making use of the basic scientific skills they have acquired during their years of study in designing modern products, producing new devices or developing existing operations."

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Female Students at the United Arab Emirates University:

Organized an Exhibition to Learn about Food and Health..

The College of Food and Agriculture at the United Arab Emirates University organized a student exhibition to learn and communicate information about food and public health on Monday, 12th of January. It was held in the food court on the female campus. The exhibition aimed to improve the health and nutritional knowledge of university and school students in Al Ain, especially those in the age group ranging from 17 to 25, as this is a very important stage in the development of the human body and the best time to correct erroneous concepts regarding food.

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