



Yarmouk Newsletter

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Research Cooperation between Yarmouk and the German Research Foundation DFG



to work on finding effective scientific solutions to water challenges, which can preserve current water resources for future generations and establish new resources using scientific and technological solutions. Massad then pointed to the strong relationship between Jordanian and German educational and research institutions, stressing that Yarmouk's cooperation with German universities began since the university's inception in 1976 and should keep going on.

In return, the delegation members praised the distinguished scientific level of Yarmouk researchers and the efficiency of the scientific research that was conducted in cooperation with German researchers in the field of water, stressing the importance of continuing such effective cooperation. After that, the researchers participating in the Water nexus research presented the research conducted in this field and its effectiveness in finding sustainable solutions to water problems.

A delegation from the German Research Foundation (DFG) visited Yarmouk University to have a look at the latest developments carried out by Yarmouk's faculty members and a group of researchers specialized in applied sciences from various German universities participating in the scientific research project related to water -challenges and strategies- for a sustainable future.

During his meeting with the DFG delegation, which included the Head of the International Affairs Department at the DFG, Dr. Harald von Kalm, and the Director of International Affairs for Africa and the Middle East at the DFG, Dr. Markus Willems, Yarmouk President stressed the importance of water issues in Jordan and the extent to which the scientific research is necessary in such a field. He called on the participants in the Water nexus research



Yarmouk and UNHCR are Strengthening Cooperation in Higher Education Programs



During his meeting with the Education Department Officer at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees/Jordan Office, Zina Jadaan, the President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, stressed

the need for the international community to assume its responsibilities towards the global humanitarian issue of refugees. Stressing the need to support Jordan, its economy and efforts towards serving refugees, he added that Jordan has taken several proactive steps concerning refugee education at the school and university.

Jadaan praised the permanent cooperation between Yarmouk University represented by the “Refugee Center” and the Office of the UNHCR in Amman, emphasizing the several studies, programs, and workshops established and developed to tackle issues of refugees in general, refugee university students in particular. She then drew attention to the specialized sessions held by the UNHCR in partnership with the Refugee Center at Yarmouk University, explaining that such sessions increase the rate of the refugee enrollment in higher education programs.

Research Cooperation between Yarmouk University and the Japanese APU



The Vice President of Yarmouk University for Academic Affairs, Professor Muwaffaq Alomoush, met Dr. Takuru Kikawa, the Japanese Professor of Asian Studies in the Rutsumeikan Asia Pacific University (APU), discussing possible ways of cooperation between the two universities in a number of academic and research fields. Omoush reviewed the possible ways of exchanging faculty members,

conducting joint scientific research, and the possibility of receiving Japanese students wishing to learn Arabic language at Yarmouk. He then pointed out the possibility of holding online meetings in the presence of a number of officials in the two universities to reach a preliminary memorandum of understanding that frames the areas of cooperation between the two parties.

In return, Kikawa expressed his happiness for visiting Yarmouk University and stressing the keenness of APU of Japan to cooperate with Jordanian universities in various academic, research and administrative fields and to conduct joint international projects. He also pointed to the possibility of establishing joint academic programs at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

The meeting was attended by the head of the Political Science Department, Dr. Ayman Hayajneh, and Professor Muhammad Bani Salama, who recently received a grant from Japan Association for the Promotion of Science in partnership with researcher Kikawa. Noteworthy is that Professor Bani Salama is the first Jordanian researcher to receive the Japanese grant in the field of humanities for his project entitled “Jordan: Politics and Tribal Society”.

Yarmouk Organizes a Scientific Symposium on the Jordanian-Malaysian Relations



In the presence of the Chargé d’Affairs of the Malaysian Embassy in Amman Wan Faizatul Afzan Ismayatim, and the Director of the Malaysian Cultural Attaché, Dr. Radwan bin Abdul Rashid, the President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, sponsored the scientific symposium entitled “Jordanian-Malaysian Relations”, which was organized by Pahang Chair for Islamic Studies and Scientific Research at Yarmouk’s Faculty of Sharia and Islamic Studies. In his opening speech, Massad said that such scientific meeting is for exchanging views on issues that always strengthen the strategic partnerships between Jordan and Malaysia at various levels. He then pointed to the role played by Yarmouk since its establishment in building regional and international relations, stressing that the university is aware of the importance of scientific research for achieving sustainable development and people prosperity.

Ismayatim said that holding this scientific symposium comes at a time when work is underway to activate the Malaysian-Jordanian cooperation in general, with a special focus on education and research, indicating that the symposium serves as a major platform for

academics, researchers, and students in Jordan and Malaysia to exchange views and ideas on Islamic affairs in terms of education, linguistics, religion, and economics. She added that enhancing such cooperation can be conducted in the field of Islamic financing and halal certification, which became one of the measures of food security and religious tourism. She also stressed that Jordan and Malaysia should be acknowledged for their rich cultural values and heritage sites, indicating that there is a greater need for Jordan and Malaysia to work together in the field of Islamic tourism.

The occupant of the chair, Dr. Ahlam Matalqa, gave a visual presentation about the emergence of Pahang Chair, its vision and aspirations, noting that the chair was established in the Faculty of Sharia and Islamic Studies by a decision of the university Deans Council No. (2011/ 34) on August 22, 2011 as part of a joint scientific and research cooperation agreement signed between Yarmouk University and the Malaysian State of Pahang. She added that the vision of the chair is to activate creative research in the field of Islamic studies, which contributes to developing the society and empowering creative leadership.



The Italian Ambassador in Amman Attends a Scientific Workshop



AL-Hijawi Faculty of Engineering Technology at Yarmouk University, in cooperation with the Italian Embassy in Amman, organized a workshop entitled “Industrial Innovation and Nation Building from the Perspective of the Italian Society”, in the presence of the President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, and the Italian Ambassador to Amman, H.E. Luciano Pezzotti. Massad delivered a speech in which he welcomed the Italian Ambassador and the participants in the workshop organized on the occasion of the centenary of the birth of Giovanni Agnelli, the President of Fiat Automotive Company. He pointed out the importance of holding such events at the university, as they contribute to the exchange of experiences between faculty members, experts, and academics in various fields. Simultaneously, they contribute to providing students with opportunities to learn about the reality of the labor market and its developments and changes.

For his part, Ambassador Pezzotti talked about the development and industrial revolution Italy witnessed and the factors that contributed to the prosperity of the Italian economy and its being one of the strongest economies in the world. Pezzotti then stressed the importance of maximizing efforts to develop the cultural life and educational and research institutions, especially with the global transformations that contribute to changing humans; attitudes and ideas. He also expressed his happiness and pride for being at Yarmouk University and for having such cooperation between the embassy and the university, pointing to the importance of the workshop, which discusses an important topic in the era of innovation, leadership, industrial revolution, and informatics.

As part of the workshop, Eng. Lorenzo Morello, the former director of FIAT, spoke via remote visual communication about the company’s emergence

and the developments it has witnessed over the past 100 years in the field of economic cars. Besides, Dr. Marco Chicarelli, Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Rome Tor Vergata, spoke about the history of manufacturing in Italy and its challenges and achievements of the robot design.



Yarmouk Advances in the 2022 Times Classification

Yarmouk University ranked fourth at the level of Jordanian universities according to the Times Classification of World Universities 2022. The university recorded a significant progress in its ranking and grades in the five approved classification axes, and it got advanced to the category 1001- 1200 at the level of international universities. Yarmouk also ranked 545 at the level of international universities in the axis of teaching and 674 in the axis of international outlook among other international universities. This achievement is emphasized by the University president, Professor Islam Massad, who explains that this classification obtains its global academic importance from being the largest ranking system of universities in the world and that it is issued by the "Times" magazine for higher education. He then expressed his pride in achieving such a progress, as it reflects the great efforts made by the university’s academic and administrative staff, promising to get a better position in such ranking systems in the near future.

Opening the Technical Support Center for Students



The President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, sponsored the opening of the Technical Support Center for Students, which is established through the cooperation between the Computer and Information Center, the E-Learning Center and Open Education Resources, the Faculty of Information Technology and Computer Science, and Al-Hijawi Faculty for Engineering Technology. Massad praised the efforts of those in charge of the center, which embodies the idea of purposeful volunteer work, pointing out that establishing the center is a bright idea, especially as it relies on the involvement of university students in serving their colleagues, guiding them and finding solutions to the technical problems they face during their university studies.

The Director of the Computer and Information Center, Dr. Muhammad Al-Zamil, indicated that the establishment of the Technical Support Center for Students aims at giving space to university students to solve their technical problems, such as those of e-learning and e-mail. The Technical Student Support Center, he explained, includes 25 student volunteers from the Faculties of Technology and Computer Science and Al-Hijawi Faculty for Engineering Technology.



Free Compulsory Course Entitled "Ethics and Voluntary Work"

Yarmouk University Deans' Council has approved offering a new compulsory pass / fail course called "Ethics and Voluntary Work" for all university undergraduate students beginning the first semester 2022 - 2023. The President of the University, Professor Islam Massad, explained that the university will not charge any tuition fees for this zero-credit-hour course, which is taught by university volunteer employees, including some influential national figures and specialists, noting that it does not have any midterms or final exams, but includes voluntary work and practical activities.

The Modern Languages Department Participates in the Prix Goncourt d'Orient



Under the patronage of the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Prof. Musa Rababah, and in the presence of several professors from the Department of Modern Languages, a number of students participated in the activities of the Goncourt competition (n°12) supported by the Agence Universitaire Francophone, which focuses on reading and critiquing eight novels written in French in 2022. Mr Loris Vivarly from the French Embassy and Ms Celina from the French Institute confirmed their willingness to support and encourage participating students, as the Goncourt competition is a unique experience for cultural and civilizational communication between students from different universities. Rababah stated that this activity represents the fruitful and constructive cooperation between the French Embassy and Yarmouk Faculty of Arts, calling on students to participate in such competitions for their impact on the refinement of language skills and the acquisition of human knowledge. Mamoun Alshtaiwi (the representative of the Francophone University Agency), said that the students got the selected novels from the French Embassy in Amman and that they will read them trying to rank such pieces according to the standards and criteria of modern literature, pointing out that more than 33 universities participate in this event every year. However, the meeting was attended by Professor Hussein Al-Ruhail, Head of the Modern Languages Department, and a number of faculty members and some students from the same department.

Al-Hijjawi Faculty Obtains the American Accreditation (ABET) for Three of its Programs



Al-Hijjawi Faculty of Engineering Technology at Yarmouk University has obtained the American Academic Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) for three of its undergraduate programs: Computer Engineering, Electronics Engineering, and Industrial Engineering. Interestingly, ABET accreditation is one of the most reliable international accreditations in the fields of applied sciences, computer, engineering and technology, and it is very popular among the universities of the United States of America and other countries around the world. In fact, more than 4,000 programs in 850 colleges and universities at 41 countries around the world have received this accreditation, and more than 175,000 students graduate annually from programs accredited by the Accreditation Authority (ABET).

The University President, Professor Islam Massad, praised the efforts of the Faculty represented by its administration, departments, and specialized committees for this achievement, stressing that other faculties should keep working to obtain such prestigious international accreditations. The Chairman of the Central Accreditation Committee at Al-Hijjawi Faculty, Professor Muwaffaq Ootom, commended the efforts of the individuals involved in this achievement, pointing out that the Faculty has updated its study plans for all of its programs to meet the requirements of (ABET) so that all Faculty's programs may get accredited in the coming years. Finally, he called on students and graduates of the accredited programs, namely computer engineering, electronics engineering, and industrial engineering, to visit the Admission and Registration Department

at the University to have the Accreditation logo (ABET) imprinted on their certificates and transcripts.



ENGINEERING ACCREDITATION COMMISSION

Summary of Accreditation Actions
2021-2022 Accreditation Cycle

Yarmouk University
Irbid, Jordan

Computer Engineering (Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology)
Electronics Engineering (Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology)
Industrial Engineering (Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology)

Accredit to September 30, 2028. A request to ABET by January 31, 2027 will be required to initiate a reaccreditation evaluation visit. In preparation for the visit, a Self-Study Report must be submitted to ABET by July 1, 2027. The reaccreditation evaluation will be a comprehensive general review.

These are newly accredited programs. Please note that this accreditation action extends retroactively from October 1, 2020.

Yarmouk Wins the Handball Championship



Yarmouk University team won the Handball Championship of Jordanian Universities at the cost of the University of Jordan team with a score of 28 / 27. The tournament, which organized by the Sports Federation of Jordanian Universities during the period 25 /7 /2022 to 30 /8/ 2022, hosted 13 public and private universities. Yarmouk team included 16 players from different faculties and was trained by the handball coach in the Sports Activity Department in the Deanship of Student Affairs, Captain Mohamed Bataineh.

Graduating Students of "Digital Transformation Project" at Yarmouk



On behalf of the President of Yarmouk University, the Dean of the Faculty of Information Technology and Computer Science, Professor Qasem Al-Radaydah, sponsored the closing ceremony of "Digital Transformation" project and the graduation of students enrolled in the project, which was supported by the US Embassy and implemented by Yarmouk University in partnership with the American International Institute of Technology (MIT). Interestingly, the project emphasizes experiences, skills, and latest findings of digital transformation, in an attempt to train and refine the digital skills of leaders, decision-makers, university students, and school teachers, thus keeping pace with the fourth and fifth industrial revolution. The project team from the Faculty of Information Technology and Computer Science at the university includes Dr. Mustafa Bani Khalaf, the project manager and principal investigator, and Dr. Khaled Nawasra, the assistant project manager. The dean of the Faculty of Information Technology, Professor Qasem Radaydah, valued the support provided by the US Embassy, praising the efforts of the project team and everyone who contributed to the preparation and implementation of the project. However, during the graduation ceremony, a video about the project's activities and implementation stages was presented, and graduates were handed over their certificates in the presence of the Director of the Accreditation and Quality Assurance Center, Professor Abdullah Al-Khataiba, and a number of university officials.

Five Yarmouk University Professors are among the Most Influential Researchers across the World



Yarmouk University recorded a new scientific achievement by having five of its professors acknowledged in 2022 classification of the top 2% of the most influential researchers across the world, according to a study issued by Stanford University in the United States. The list includes the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Prof. Muwaffaq Alomoush from the Department of Electrical Power Engineering at Al-Hijjawi Faculty of Technology, Dr. Muhammad Al-Refai from the Mathematics Department at the Faculty of Science, and the Vice Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy, Dr. Alaa Al-Jabali from the Department of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Technology. The list also includes Dr. Bilal Abdel-Ghani from the Computer Science Department of the Faculty of Information Technology and Computer Science, and Dr. Hazem Al-Shakhatra, from the Communications Engineering Department at Al-Hijjawi Faculty of Engineering Technology. This classification relies on scientific citations, the "h index", which takes into account the scientific production of the researcher, the number of authors in published scientific research, and the citation of scientific papers based on the author's website. It also considers the researchers' data in the Scopus database. Thus, the President of the University, Professor Islam Massad, affirmed the university's pride in such a distinguished academic achievement, stressing the university's keenness to support and encourage its faculty members and students to raise the level of scientific research in the various fields of knowledge.

Yarmouk Expresses its Readiness to Receive Sudanese Students in its Faculties and Academic Programs



During his meeting with the Consul at the Embassy of the Republic of Sudan in Amman, Fatima Salah Mohieldin, in the presence of Yarmouk Vice President for Academic Affairs, Professor Muwaffaq Alomoush, and the Vice President for Administrative Affairs, Professor Riad Almomani, the President of Yarmouk University, Professor Islam Massad, expressed Yarmouk's readiness to receive a number of Sudanese students in the various scientific and humanities faculties of the university at the undergraduate and graduate levels. He added that Yarmouk is always working to develop and expand its scientific and humanitarian specializations and faculties, which reflects the university's strategic plan and vision to serve the demands of labor markets. He then referred to the importance of enhancing cooperation with various universities and academic institutions in Sudan, pointing out that there have been 51 Sudanese graduates from Yarmouk University during the past years.

For her part, Mohieldin affirmed that the Sudanese embassy in Amman is looking forward to strengthening its relations with various Jordanian universities and institutions of higher education, especially Yarmouk University given its prestigious academic and cultural status at the Arab and regional levels. She then expressed the interest of the Sudanese embassy in Amman to increase the number of Sudanese students studying in the Jordanian universities, especially Yarmouk University, and to transfer the Jordanian culture and interest in science and technology to the Sudanese society.

Yarmouk Faculty's Name Changed into the Faculty of Business



The Dean of the Faculty of Business, Professor Michael Sweidan, said that changing the faculty's name from the "Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences" to the "Faculty of Business" comes as an urgent necessity to enhance the faculty's leading position locally and globally. He explained that the new title reflects the various disciplines offered by the Faculty, indicating that the new name serves the university's graduates in their communications with regional and international universities in case of pursuing higher studies. Sweidan also stressed that the Faculty has started the process of registration in the International Business Schools Development Authority.