

APRIL **2020**  
NEWSLETTER



PREPARING LEADERS



Tel.: +962 6 4790 222  
Mob.: +962 79 7122000  
+962 79 9969933

[www.meu.edu.jo](http://www.meu.edu.jo)

E-mail: [enquiry@meu.edu.jo](mailto:enquiry@meu.edu.jo)



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## MEU's IEC Elected as a Member of the "Think-Tank Leaders" Council



مركز الابتكار وريادة الأعمال  
Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center



AMMAN - The Global Innovation Management Institute (GIMI) elected Dr. Abdelrahman Zuraik, the Director of the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre, to be a member of the "Think-Tank Leaders" Council that was formed to find innovative solutions for supporting economies, businesses, government, and companies alike in their efforts to return to their usual state after the COVID-19 crisis passes.

Dr. Zuraik was elected as a representative of the Middle East region, joining 25 experts from all around the world who will be meeting on a weekly basis to review the vision of world-renowned intellectuals. This initiative was established to achieve tangible results with the support of the U.S. Federal Government and a number of major companies such as Google, Intel, PepsiCo, and other major global corporations.

Dr. Zuraik said, "This council will offer information and share international experiences in dealing with the COVID-19 crisis, and provide stakeholders solutions for being better prepared for the next economic crisis." He added, "The Council will also review strategies and innovative practices for managing this pandemic, and here I stress the importance of social distancing and abiding by governments, corporations, and organisations' decisions to work from home and protect everyone's health and safety."

GIMI is considered the largest innovation organisation in the world. It is a non-profit organisation that was founded in 2009 by a group of innovators and entrepreneurs. GIMI aims to establish innovation as a professional commercial system that can be adopted by government institutions, organisations, and commercial companies.

## MEU Announces the Procedures for Holding the Final Examinations for the Second Semester of the 2019/2020/ Academic Year



AMMAN - The Council of Deans at Middle East University, led by the University President Prof. Mohammad al-Hileh, decided to hold the final examinations of the 2019/2020 academic year second semester on campus. The final examination will make up 50% of all final grades for all of MEU's undergraduate and postgraduate courses. In an address to MEU students, Prof. al-Hileh stated that these procedures align with the University's governance principles and were made after giving the appropriate amount of consideration to the current circumstances. He also said that the University is abiding by the Council of Higher Education's decisions and the 7th State of Emergency Law's stipulations regarding online and non-traditional teaching methods, including distance learning. In this message, Prof. al-Hileh clarified that the remaining 50% of grades will be awarded to students through quizzes, assignments, reports, presentations, class participation, and any examinations that took place before the quarantine period. He also mentioned that the dates and times for the final examinations will be announced at a later time and will happen within a week of the resuming of regular operations.

In regards to postgraduate students, the due date for submitting study proposals was pushed to June 16, 2020, and the due date for submitting Master's theses was pushed to June 1, 2020. The thesis defence sessions will take place according to regular guidelines, provided that these sessions take place through the available telecommunications software. The Council of Deans also decided to postpone the Comprehensive Exam for postgraduate students to be held during the final examinations period on campus.

As for expatriate students and Jordanian students abroad who will not be able to sit for their final examinations, the Council decided to assign them a non-complete status and allow them to undergo the evaluation procedures upon their return to Jordan. They will be informed of the date and time of their examination a week prior to their occurrence.

Prof. al-Hileh also noted that the Council of Deans has suspended academic and expulsion notices for the reason of low GPAs for students registered in the second semester of the 2019/2020 academic year.

## Dr. Nasereddin Donates 100k JODs to “Hemmet Watan” Fund

AMMAN - The Chairman of Middle East University’s Board of Trustees, Dr. Yacoub Nasereddin, donated one hundred thousand JODs to the “Hemmet Watan” Fund on behalf of YAN Investment Group to demonstrate his belief in social responsibility.

This donation reflects our unfaltering devotion to our Jordan and its Hashemite leader, King Abdullah II bin al-Hussein, may God bless him.





## “The Jordanian Health System is Reassuring and Our Teams Are Trained to Handle Pandemics” Minister of Health

### معالي وزير الصحة الأكرم الدكتور سعد جابر

يرعى

### الجلسة الافتراضية الثانية حول تداعيات فيروس كورونا



معالي الدكتور سعد جابر  
وزير الصحة



العين الدكتور يوسف القسوس  
طبيب قلب تداخلي  
مُحدث



الدكتور عماد الحداد  
طبيب قلب تداخلي  
مُحدث



الدكتور رمزي طيلت  
طبيب قلب تداخلي  
مُحدث



الدكتور محمود زريق  
طبيب قلب تداخلي  
مُنسق

AMMAN - Under the patronage of H.E. the Minister of Health, Dr. Saad Jaber, Middle East University, represented by the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre (IEC), organised a second online medical conference on the developments of COVID-19 via Zoom. The conference was organised in partnership with the Interventional Cardiovascular Club (ICC), Pharma International Co, and the Specialty Hospital, and included more than 400 MD participants from Jordan, Palestine, Iraq, and other countries.

H.E. Dr. Jaber expressed his appreciation of the organising parties' efforts, spearheaded by MEU, to raise awareness about the dangers of this novel virus as it spreads worldwide. He also reviewed the procedures followed by the Ministry of Health and all official Jordanian entities to combat the spread of COVID-19. He stated, “Our operations were first launched at al-Bashir Hospital and the Prince Hamzah Hospital in Amman. Other Jordanian hospitals that were equipped with all necessary medical supplies soon followed suit.”

His Excellency also added, “The Ministry of Health began training medical and nursing staff on how to deal with infectious diseases since the novel virus first appeared in China.” He went on to review the total number of cases currently being treated at Jordanian hospitals, and discussed these hospitals' capacities in terms of the number of available ventilators and their stock of necessary medications needed to treat medium to extreme cases. H.E. ended his brief by reassuring the attendees that the health situation in Jordan is under control.

M.D. Ibrahim Zreq, the Programme Director of Internal Medicine at Specialty Hospital, stressed the importance of organising such conferences as we are currently in dire need of information on how to combat humanity's common enemy, the novel Coronavirus. He also praised the ceaseless efforts being made by the Jordanian health sector to maintain Jordan's stable condition thus far.

Senator M.D. Ibrahim Qsous, Interventional Cardiologist and former Director of the Jordanian Royal Medical Services, spoke about the Jordanian experience in combating this virus, and struck a comparison between Jordan and other countries around the world as they race against time to control this pandemic. He said, “Jordan has always been proud of its strong health system. Our nation would not have been able to succeed in controlling the spread of COVID-19 without it.”

Dr. Abdelrahman Zuraik, the Director of IEC, commented, “This series of conferences is the first of its kind to be held in Jordan and the region. It was organised to discuss the latest information and studies on the novel Coronavirus.”

The medical doctors in attendance took questions regarding COVID-19 developments and specifically discussed both the possibility of finding a cure or vaccine for COVID-19 in the near future and the latest studies related to this matter.

## MEU Earns Advanced Positions in THE Impact Rankings



**601+**  
**RANKING 2020**

AMMAN – Middle East University earned an advanced position in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings. This is the second time that the THE Impact Rankings have been awarded to institutions that meet the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nation.

The ranking allows universities to submit themselves for consideration based on the goals that they meet and excel in. The final result is calculated based on their best performances within the realm of four goals.

MEU submitted data for the five goals they meet, which are “No Poverty”, “Quality Education”, “Good Health and Well-Being”, “Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions”, and “Partnerships for the Goals”. It earned the 601+ position on an international scale.

MEU’s newest achievement aligns with its strategy of earning advanced positions in international ranking systems. This is one of a series of successes that has allowed MEU to promote its academic reputation, which in turn improves the opportunities its students will have upon entering the job market and allows MEU to attract excellent faculty members. MEU aims to be internationally acknowledged for its teaching, research, partnerships, and its management of the educational process. It maintains a green university environment that has been commended on regional and international scales.

## MEU Organises a “Future Leaders of Change” Workshop via Zoom

# الجلسة الافتراضية الأولى حول تداعيات فيروس كورونا COVID-19



**Speaker**

Hadi Abuhantash, MD  
Interventional Cardiologist



**Speaker**

Montaser Bilbisi, MD  
Infectious disease



**Speaker**

Feras Hawari, MD  
Pulmonologist



**Moderator & Organizer**

Mahmoud Izraiq, MD  
Interventional Cardiologist

AMMAN - The Faculty of Law at Middle East University, represented by the Human Rights Centre, organised a workshop titled “Social Media Platforms” for the participants of the “Future Leaders of Change” programme. The workshop was organised in partnership with the Arab Women’s Legal Network and Arab Women Media Center, and was held through the telecommunication app Zoom.

During the two-day workshop, attendees discussed a wide range of topics including how university students should be using social media and how to best develop their social media skills. The workshop targeted students of the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Media, and was attended by the Dean of Law, Dr. Ahmad Allouzi, the Director of HRC, Dr. Bilal al-Rawashdeh, and the CEO of AWLN, Ms. Samah Marmash.

Dr. Allouzi said, “MEU is maintaining its line of communication with civil community institutions in order to provide MEU students with access to all kinds of expertise and connect them to experts in the fields they aim to work in. The University also works to provide its students with specialised training and offer professional development programmes that will promote students’ professional skills.”

Ms. Marmash stated, “I am delighted to implement the MoU we recently signed with MEU and observe its on-ground results. We will continue to organise more courses, discussion sessions, seminars, and workshops on mutual topics of interest.”

MEU, represented by HRC, previously signed an MoU with AWLN with the aim of exchanging expertise and discussing mutual matters of interest shared by the two sides.



## MEU's IEC Discusses the Impact of the COVID-19 on Future Technological Directions in Partnership with Qualcomm



The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre at Middle East University organised an interactive session on the impact that the COVID-19 crisis may have future technological and innovative directions. The session was held in cooperation with Qualcomm, and presented by Dr. Khaled al-Maleh, Director of Technology. The session was also attended by MEU's Vice President for Scientific Faculties, Prof. Aladdin al-Halhoul, and representatives from the Jordanian Ministry of Youth, the German-Jordanian University, the Jordan University of Science and Technology, Umniah's business incubator "The Tank", al-Hussein Technical University, and the Scientific Research and Innovation Support Fund.

Dr. al-Maleh reviewed multiple examples of smart devices and clothing that will be presented to the world after the COVID-19 crisis. He discussed Apple and Google's smart methods of encouraging users to download applications that allow them to keep up-to-date with the spread of the COVID-19 and teach them how to keep themselves safe. He also touched on the question of whether some wearable smart devices are capable of detecting the novel coronavirus before individuals present symptoms.

Prof. al-Halhoul said, "Distance learning has become a necessity, especially in times of crisis and pandemics that require social distancing. The distance learning method was launched a long time ago and was employed in many ways, but it is now more important than ever." He went on to add, "It is time for the digital transformation of education so that we can continue the education process. The novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, has left billions of people around the world with the need to rely on distance learning systems."

The session was moderated by the Director of the IEC, Dr. Abdelrahman Zuraik, who reviewed the new behaviours that have been appearing in our societies since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis to help spread these ideas all around the globe.

This session is part of a series of weekly lectures that are being offered by the IEC since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis. The IEC believes that the world is now aiming towards promoting innovation, information technology, and entrepreneurship more than ever as these concepts will allow us to support the capabilities of youthful Jordanian innovators who are now offered the opportunity to establish future partnerships with Qualcomm.

## Master's Thesis at the Faculty of Law Defended via Teleconference

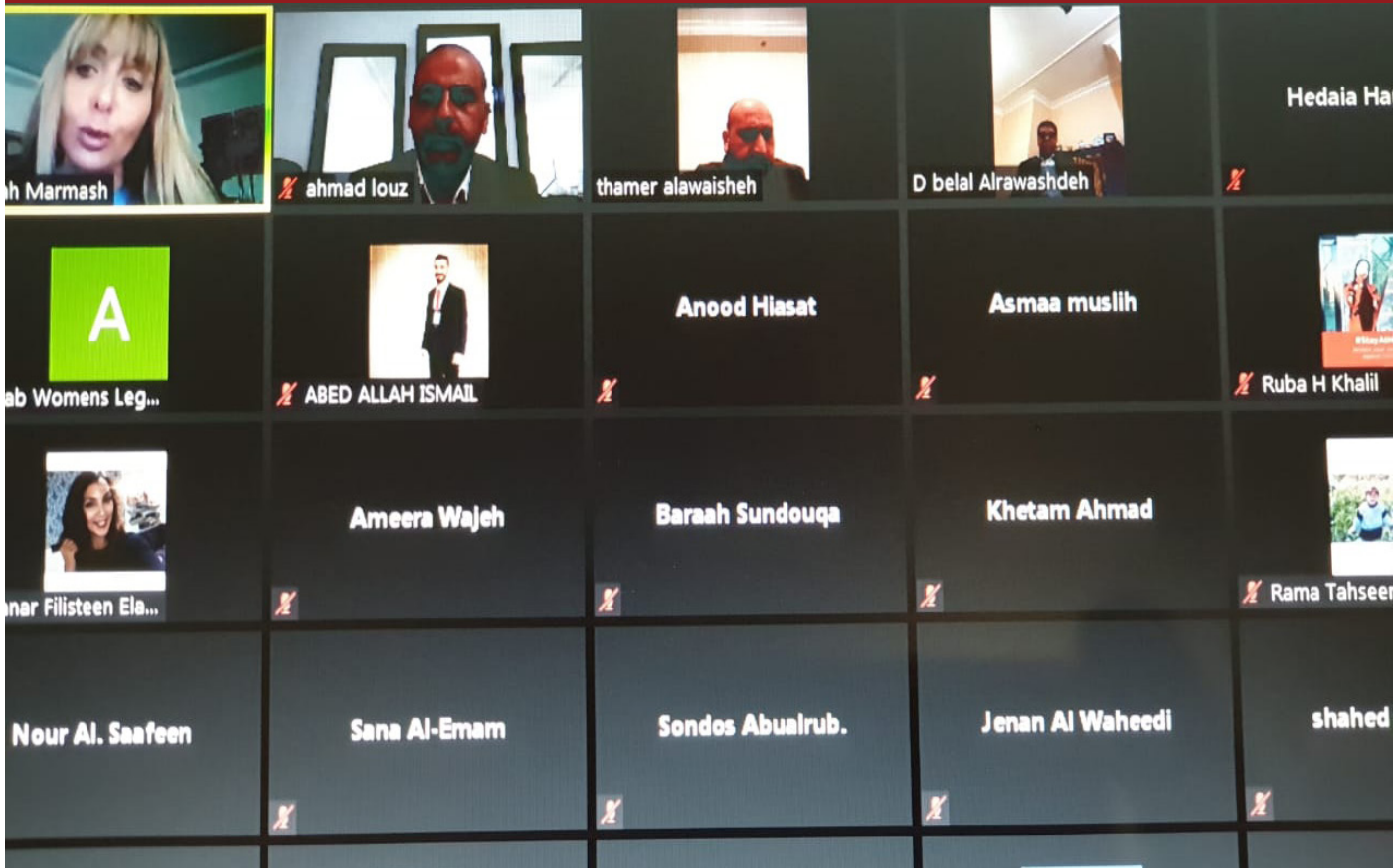


AMMAN - Researcher and Faculty of Law student Basheer Mohammad Balani defended his Master's thesis titled "Patient Satisfaction with Plastic Surgery and its Effect on Civil Liability" via teleconference.

Dr. Hesham Abusaimh, the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, said, "This is the first thesis defence to be carried out via teleconference in Jordan and is proof of MEU's commitment to maintaining all educational processes regardless of the circumstances that Jordan and the entire world are facing due to the spread of COVID-19." The thesis defence was supervised by the Assistant to the President and Dean of Law, Dr. Ahmad Allouzi.

The thesis defence committee was made up of Dr. Ma'moun al-Huneiti, Mr. Balani's supervisor and head of the committee, Dr. Mohammad al-Thneibat, the internal MEU evaluator, and Dr. Alaa' Mohammad al-Fawaer from Jerash University.

## MEU Organises a “Future Leaders of Change” Workshop via Zoom



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## MEU's Faculty of Education Sciences Meets with Sakeb Forum Members



AMMAN – The Faculty of Education Sciences’ Department of Special Education and Education Technology at Middle East University met with members of the Sakeb Forum and held an online seminar titled “Distance Learning: Reality and Expectations in Light of the Coronavirus Crisis”. The seminar was organised in an effort to maintain communication with members of the local community.

The seminar was moderated by the Head of the Department of Special Education and Education Technology, Dr. Fadi Odeh, and was attended by the Dean of Education Sciences, Prof. Atef Maqableh. The attendees discussed the possibility of launching training programmes to help teachers learn how to use online teaching tools for specialised academic programmes in distance learning and education technology.

The attendees reviewed MEU’s achievement of being the only university to grant a Bachelor’s degree in Education Technology and a Master’s degree in Information and Communication Technology in Education. They also shared advice and guidance on home education as the current circumstances have turned many homes into schools.

The online seminar was attended by university students and their parents, teachers, university professors from within Jordan and internationally, and a number of MEU’s faculty members.

## MEU Launches the Impact Leaders Programme in Partnership with GJU



**سباق الأفكار**  
لإيجاد حلول للتحديات  
التي تواجهنا في

**التعليم  
والمجتمع**

والتي ظهرت بسبب  
**COVID-19 Coronavirus**

AMMAN - Middle East University, represented by the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre (IEC), launched the "Impact Leaders" programme in partnership with the German-Jordanian University. The two universities aim to find solutions to the challenges that the education sector and society are currently facing due to the spread of COVID-19. The participating teams will train remotely and the competition will be supervised online.

The programme is open to all university and school students, teachers, faculty members, and any innovators who possess the ability to turn their ideas into effective projects that will serve our community. The programme consists of two stages; in the first stage participants will identify the challenges that society is currently facing, and the second stage will initiate the formation of teams who will work collaboratively to find solutions to resuming regular operations beginning on April 13, 2020.

The selected teams will present their ideas and projects to the judges, and the chosen projects will be funded and executed. Young innovators will also be connected to companies and sectors interested in entrepreneurship and innovation with the aim of endorsing creativity, supporting the national economy, and limiting the daily challenges we are collectively facing due to the current circumstances.

Dr. Abdelrahman Zuraik, the Director of IEC, is one of the judges of this programme. He was recently elected by the Global Innovation Management Institute (GIMI) to be a member of the Think-Tank Leaders Council that was formed to find innovative solutions that enable economies, businesses, governments, and corporations all around the world to resume operations after recovering from the COVID-19 crisis.

## Forming the First Healing Partners Team at MEU



AMMAN – Middle East University and the Jordanian Healing and Health Bank formed a volunteer team named “MEU Healing Partners”. The initiative was launched under the cooperative relations between the JOHHB and MEU to execute programmes and offer charity services to the Jordanian society.

The team constitutes of MEU students and faculty members. It was formed in response to the charity volunteer programme “Healing Partners” that was recently launched by the JOHHB in the hope to unite institutions and individuals’ efforts in serving the community.

The Assistant to the President for Community Service, Dr. Saleem Sharif, said, “MEU hosted the launching event for the “Healing Partners” team in execution of its strategy in supporting and implementing charity programmes that serve all groups of the community.”

Dr. Sharif also stated, “Students’ participation in such programmes promotes their national and social duties. They will learn how to work in a team, and will earn leadership skills that will enable them of bearing bigger responsibilities.”

Dr. Niveen Abu Zaid, the Director of JOHHB, commented, “JOHHB is delighted with its partnership with MEU, a distinguished academic institution that is known for its contributions to the community and the quality of its faculty members.”

Dr. Abu Zaid added, “Such partnerships and charity programmes accelerate the growth of the scope of services offered by the JOHHB. Students can also benefit from participating in such programmes, as they develop their problem-solving skills and enhance their manual and thinking skills.”

Dr. Mahmoud al-Rajabi, a faculty member at the Faculty of Media, addressed the importance of students’ participation in such volunteer programmes that extend their expertise and allow them to value work ethics.

Faculty of Media student al-Anoud Mehyar, who is a participant in the programme, said, “The reason I participated in the “Healing Partners” programme is my belief that all types and forms of volunteer work teaches us new skills and makes us feel that we are capable of making a change.”

Faculty of Media student Mohammad al-Kharaz, who is also a participant in the programme, added, “Volunteer work does not only serve the people we are aiding, but also allows us to do good and that is why I took part in this programme.”

Faculty of Media student, Hala Qazzaz, who is also one of the programme’s participants, believes that volunteer work enables positive change and allows volunteers to live new experiences and face new challenges. She also believes that volunteer work is an opportunity for volunteers to practice personal skills and discover hidden talents.

Another Faculty of Media students, Hamzeh al-Awadat, who is a member of the “MEU Healing Partners” team, said, “Our youth lacks the patience and determination to make a positive change and be future leaders. Volunteer work teaches us how to be patient and determined enough to have an impact on the months and years to come.”

The JOHHB is a Jordanian non-profit charity organisation that operates within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Health. It was officially launched in 2016 to begin offering health services to the citizens and residents of Jordan, equally and free of charge. The Bank does not differentiate between any of its beneficiaries who do not possess public or private health insurance and cannot afford the expenses of their treatment.

The JOHHB, similarly to other healing banks around the world, helps non-privileged individuals with their basic medical needs, in a manner that respects their human dignity.



## MEU Pays Its Employees' April Salaries in Full



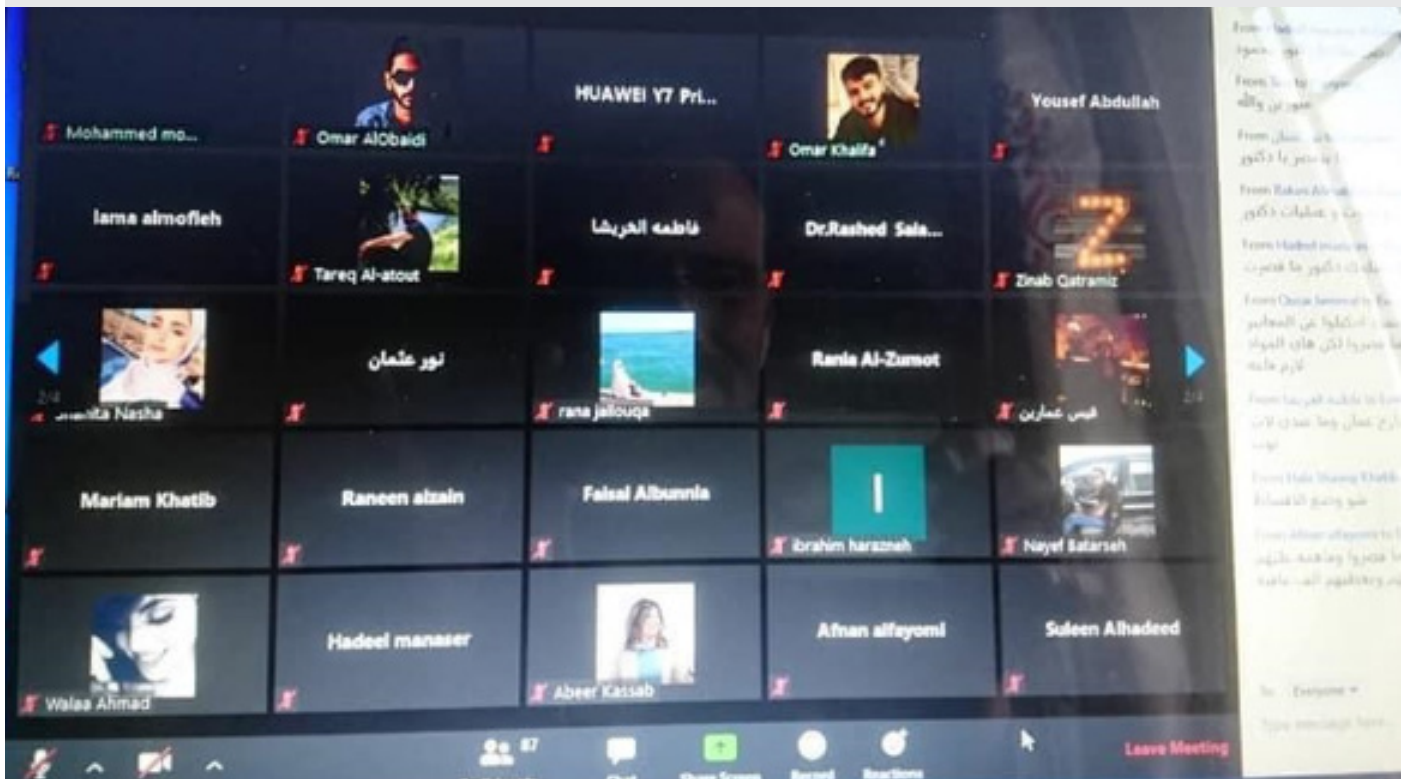
AMMAN – The Chairman of Middle East University's Board of Trustees, Dr. Yacoub Nasereddin, issued an urgent message directing the University's presidency to pay off its faculty members and administrative staff's salaries without committing any violations to their employment and contractual rights. MEU is committed to honouring its social responsibility and ensures the unity of its community members in the light of the current living circumstances as Jordan combats the spread of the novel Coronavirus.

Dr. Nasereddin wished his MEU faculty members and administrative staff a blessed Ramadan. He also urged the University's administration to stand by its staff who are maintaining operations from their homes in a highly professional manner and are dedicated to promoting MEU's reputation for community service, teaching, research, and student employment.

Dr. Nasereddin expressed his pride in MEU's staff for their role in combating the adverse effects that the Coronavirus has had on the local community, he believes that their cooperation is the perfect embodiment of the partnership between the private and public sectors.

Dr. Nasereddin, a representative of YAN Commercial Group, donated 100 thousand JODs to the Jordanian Ministry of Health in an effort to fulfil his national duty and represent his commitment to social responsibility.

## MEU's Faculty of Business Meets with Students via Telecommunication

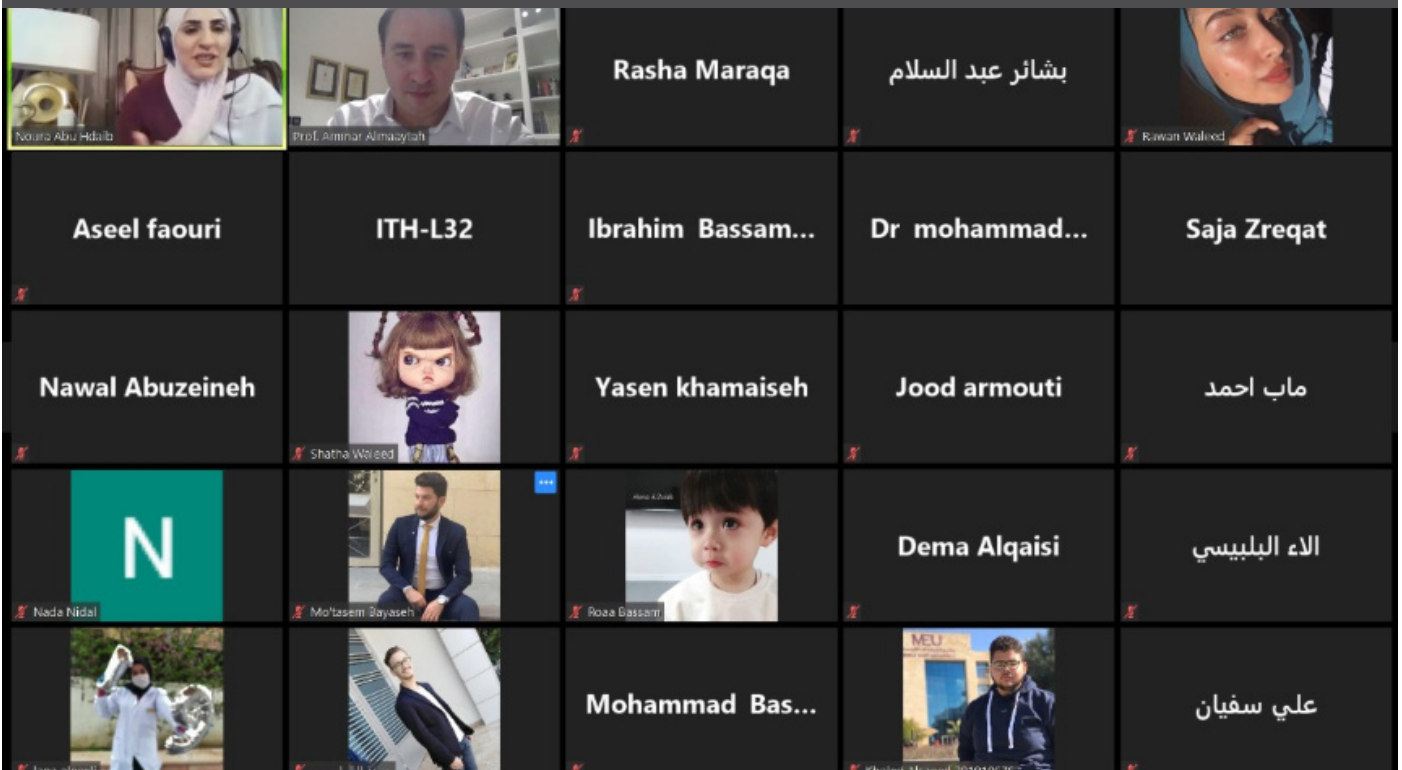


AMMAN – The Faculty of Business at Middle East University organised an open session with its students via Zoom to listen to their opinions on the distance learning process and take their suggestions for improvement.

The Vice President and Dean of Business, Prof. Mahmoud al-Wadi, said, “Traditional teaching methods are unsuitable for the current circumstances. MEU’s proactive measures have allowed it to develop its distance learning tools and monitor the distance learning process. MEU sees this as an opportunity to increase its experience in using modern education tools.”

The students in attendance discussed the difficulties they have been facing while using distance learning tools and gave their opinions on the solutions they think may address these issues. The faculty members in attendance then went on to explain the mechanism that will be followed to divide students into groups during the current stage and in their final examinations, which will be held on campus.

## MEU's Pharmacy Students Find the Distance Learning Process to be Highly Professional



AMMAN - The Extracurricular Activities Committee at Middle East University's Faculty of Pharmacy organised an interactive online meeting between the Dean of Pharmacy and the faculty's students to discuss the distance learning process and its psychological effects. The attendees also discussed the curfew in Jordan, which is a response to the spread of COVID-19.

The students spoke about the methods they've applied to increase their productivity and help them better focus on their studies. They also stressed the importance of keeping busy and fighting off boredom during these times. The meeting was led by the Dean of Pharmacy, Prof. Ammar al-Maaytah, and other faculty members also participated in this meeting.

The attendees agreed that the best way to ensure productivity during the current circumstances is to set a daily routine and create a list of goals that each individual aims to achieve in the near future. They also found that practicing indoor hobbies such as working out, cooking, painting, and reading books has also helped them deter feelings of boredom.

The attendees identified many positive findings, including that the distance learning process being carried out by MEU is highly professional, and that students are adapting well to this experience. Nevertheless, students expressed their desire to go back to traditional teaching methods, and spoke about their appreciation for their professors and the efforts they have been exerting to ensure the success of the distance learning process.



## MEU's Board of Trustees Guarantees the Continued Success of the Distance Learning Experience in Response to Royal Directions



AMMAN - Middle East University's Board of Trustees, led by its Chairman Dr. Yacoub Nasereddin, met via teleconference in accordance with the Jordanian government's decision to carry out business affairs from remotely.

In this first meeting held via teleconference, the Board discussed a number of procedures and decisions designed to limit the damage inflicted due to the spread of COVID-19. The Board members stressed the importance of ensuring the continued success of the distance learning process for all courses offered this semester, and that this is being done in response to the royal directions in an effort to continue the educational process regardless of the unprecedented circumstances happening in Jordan and all around the world.

The Board members also discussed the progress being made in the implementation of MEU's emergency plan to combat the spread of COVID-19, and in MEU's adherence to both the Jordanian government's decisions and the Ministry of Health's instructions.

The Board members listened to the University President's, Prof. Mohamad al Hileh give a brief on the developments being made in the distance learning process and the current plans being implemented to overcome these difficult circumstances. Prof. al-Hileh assured the Board that the distance learning system will remain active throughout the quarantine period following procedures that will ensure its highly successful continuity.

Prof. al-Hileh said, "MEU will dedicate all of its financial, technical, and administrative capabilities to ensure the success and continuity of the distance learning process." He added, "MEU was one of the first universities to deal with the dangers of the spread of COVID-19 by taking all the necessary measures to ensure the continuity of all operations."

The Chairman and members of the Board reviewed the latest results of the distance learning process, including faculty's responsiveness, their efforts to upload 100% of course material online, and students' responsibility towards completing their courses.

The Board members commended MEU's early response and the solutions it has presented to divert the effects of this crisis, whether by holding workshops for faculty members on how to use distance learning tools, educating students and the local community on the dangers of the novel Coronavirus through awareness campaigns, or by keeping the public up to date with all decisions being taken.