

MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER



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Dr. Nasereddin to Hayat FM: ‘Jordanians Proved their Loyalty to the Hashemite Leadership and their Trust in its Ability to Overcome Challenges’



AMMAN – The Chairman of Middle East University's Board of Trustees, Dr. Yacoub Nasereddin, was hosted on Hayat FM to speak on the occasion of the 74th Independence Day, which Jordan celebrated on the 25th of May. Dr. Nasereddin took this opportunity to highlight the harmony between Jordan's leadership and its people in overcoming crisis.

Dr. Nasereddin said, “Jordan stands strong united with its people and led by his Majesty King Abdullah II bin al-Hussein. Despite being small in size, Jordan has set a unique example in facing crisis and overcoming challenges. It still continues to accumulate national achievements, undeterred by the hardships it is currently tackling.”

Dr. Nasereddin added, “Jordanians proved their loyalty to the Hashemite leadership, and believed in its ability to overcome all obstacles. The Hashemite leadership never once failed its people, especially now during the crisis we are facing due to the spread of the Coronavirus.”

Dr. Nasereddin also stated, “His Majesty King Abdullah II bin al-Hussein, God bless him, instantly directed the government, from the National Center for Security and Crisis Management, to take all the necessary measurements to protect Jordanian's lives. He set Jordanian's wellbeing as the government's foremost priority, making Jordan a unique example in the region in combating the spread of the Coronavirus.”

Dr. Nasereddin ended his interview by confirming his and all Jordanian's belief in Jordan and its leadership's ability to overcome this pandemic. He expressed his trust in Jordanian's strong will to reestablish a state of stability, especially in terms of national economy.

Researcher and Doctor of Pharmacy Dr. Ahmad Nasereddin Obtains his PhD with Honours



AMMAN – Researcher and Doctor of Pharmacy Dr. Ahmad Yacoub Nasereddin obtained his PhD with excellent rating and honours from Mutah University. His dissertation was titled “The Effect of Strategic Entrepreneurship on the Sustainable Performance of Private Universities in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan: Lean Thinking as the Medium Variant”.

The study recommended promoting strategic entrepreneurship practices at private universities, as these practices will allow universities to attract further entrepreneurial opportunities and sufficiently manage their entrepreneurial resources. The study highlighted the importance of highly endorsing sustainable performance tendencies as they will lead universities to distinction and longevity, and satisfy stakeholders and all social groups. The study encouraged adopting the modern lean thinking methodology for its clear objectives and focus on minimising efforts, expenses, and resources while maintaining quality. It also advised expanding investments in the relationship between strategic entrepreneurship practices and lean thinking, as that will achieve the highest levels of integration between knowledge, behaviour, and application.

The dissertation defence committee consisted of Dr. Fatima al-Rabaaba, Dr. Nasereddin’s supervisor and head of the committee, internal examiners Prof. Ali Adayleh and Dr. Ghazi Abu Qaoud, and Prof. Hani al-Rateema as the external examiner.

MEU Congratulates Dr. Ahmad Nasereddin on Obtaining a PhD with Honours

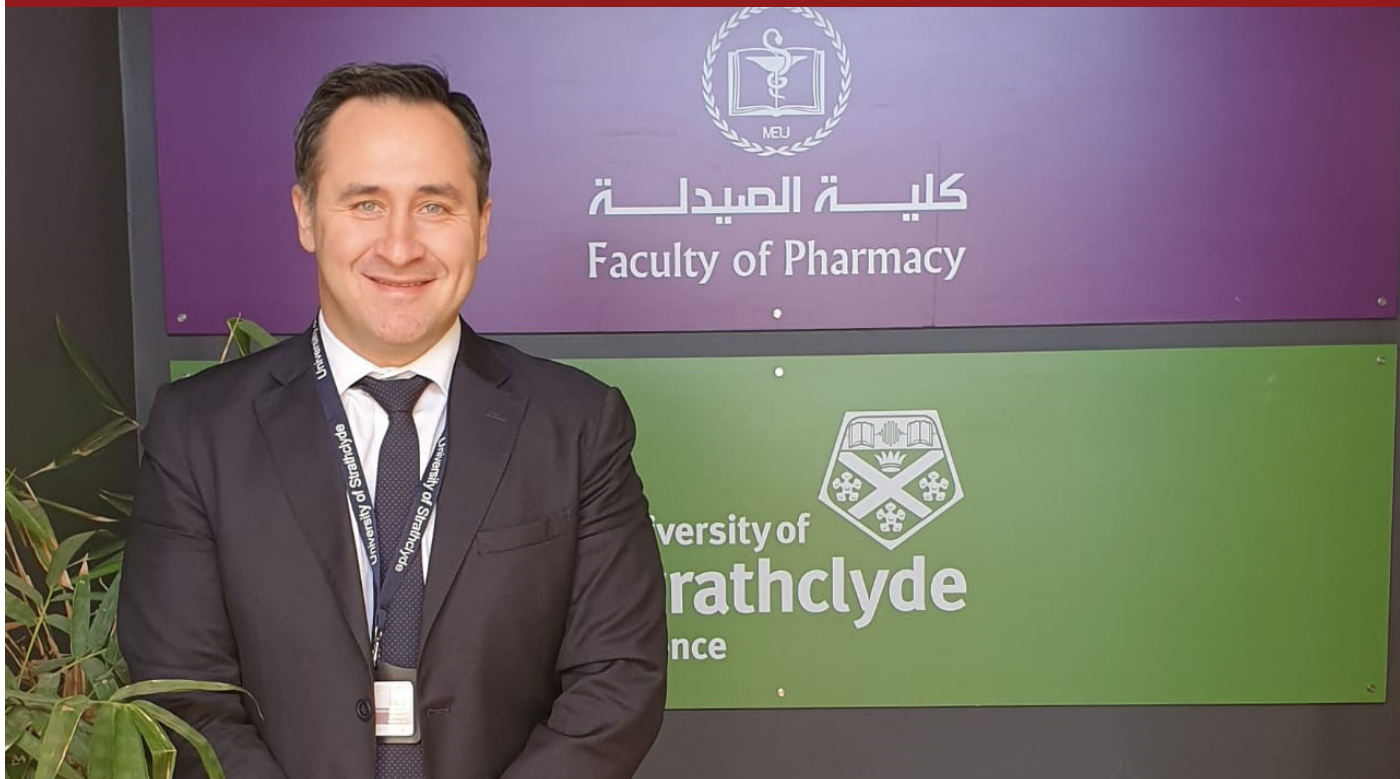


AMMAN – Middle East University; represented by the Chairman and members of the Board of Trustees, University President, Council of Deans, faculty members, administrative staff, and students; congratulates the member of the Board of Trustees and Doctor of Pharmacy, Dr. Ahmad Yacoub Nasereddin, on obtaining a PhD in Strategic Management with an excellent rating and honours from the distinguished Mutah University.

Dr. Nasereddin obtained his degree after defending his dissertation titled “The Effect of Strategic Entrepreneurship on the Sustainable Performance of Private Universities in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan: Lean Thinking as the Medium Variant”. The study recommended promoting strategic entrepreneurship practices at private universities, as these practices will allow universities to attract further entrepreneurial opportunities and sufficiently manage their entrepreneurial resources. The study highlighted the importance of highly endorsing sustainable performance tendencies as they will lead universities to distinction and longevity. The study encouraged adopting the modern lean thinking methodology for its clear objectives and focus on minimising efforts, expenses, and resources while maintaining quality.

MEU is proud of this distinct academic achievement, and hopes it will be of great benefit to the Jordanian higher education sector and national universities. We strive to serve the greater interest of Jordan’s academic reputation according to the highest standards of strategic thinking, planning, and management; in addition to quality and governance, under the wise leadership of his Majesty King Abdullah II bin al-Hussein.

MEU's Dean of Pharmacy Appointed as Associate Editor for Pharmacy Education Journal






AMMAN – The Pharmacy Education Journal, published by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), appointed the Dean of Pharmacy at Middle East University, Prof. Ammar al-Maaytah, as an Associate Editor. Prof. al-Maaytah was selected amongst candidates from all over the world who applied for a membership in the journal's editorial team.

The Pharmacy Education Journal was first published in 2000 by the FIP. It is considered as one of the foremost international peer-reviewed journals that provide research on and new ideas for the development of pharmaceutical education. It established an evaluation forum for communication between academics, researchers, and practitioners in professional and pharmacy education. It focuses on innovative and established teaching and learning methods, and finding new curriculum and syllabus directions that are linked to the educational outcomes necessary for the success of future pharmacists. It works to set guiding policies for structuring courses and assessing achievement, and advancing the capabilities of the field's workforce. The journal is ranked by Scopus and Clarivate – Web of Science.

MEU's Faculty of Pharmacy launched last year a first of its kind programme in the region, the British MPharm undergraduate programme, jointly with the University of Strathclyde. The programme allows Jordanian and Arab students to pursue their studies in a 2+3 format where they conclude their first three years of study at MEU, and continue the remaining two years of the programme in Britain, duly obtaining a degree jointly issued by the two universities.

Launching Three Undergraduate Programmes and a Higher Diploma Programme at MEU

		
<p>Financial Technology "Fintech"</p>	<p>Business Intelligence "BI"</p>	<p>Formulation of Cosmetics and Chemical Products</p>
<p>PREPARING LEADERS</p> <p>MEU www.meu.edu.jo</p>		

AMMAN – The Council of Higher Education granted Middle East University the approval, via telecommunication, to launch three undergraduate programmes and a Higher Diploma programme, starting from the 2020/2021 academic year.

The Council granted the approval for launching an undergraduate Financial Technology programme and a Business Intelligence programme at the Faculty of Business, as well as an undergraduate programme in the Formulation of Cosmetic and Chemical Products at the Faculty of Pharmacy. MEU was also granted the approval to launch a Higher Diploma programme in Education at the Faculty of Education Sciences.

By launching these programmes, MEU responds to the royal directions that call upon universities to offer programmes and majors that keep pace with the latest technological developments, and provide the industrial and educational sectors and local and international markets with their rapidly-changing needs. With this effort, MEU implements its policy and strategic plan to produce competent professionals who will excel in the economic, educational, pharmaceutical, banking, and business sectors.

MEU launched a Higher Diploma in Education in particular as it has always been keen on developing Jordanian teachers' skills and extending their potentials. The programme will enable teachers to adequately carry out their sacred mission, and reach for administrative achievements in their careers.

MEU looks to expand its programme offerings based on developed and modern research and in accordance with its quality standards and mission. It aims to promote its role in achieving entrepreneurship and be capable of competing with its local and international counterparts by keeping pace with latest scientific developments.

MEU Students Initiate a Project to Develop the University's Logo



AMMAN – A group of Graphic Design students at Middle East University's Faculty of Architecture and Design initiated a project to develop a design concept for the University's logo. The project was launched as a platform to endorse student creativity, and was supervised by Dr. Wael Abdulsabour.

The design concepts presented by students showed their creative and artistic tendencies, which align with MEU's rapid advancement, especially in terms of modernity and renewability. They embodied the University's unique identity, and reflected its mission to prepare distinct leaders.

The undergraduate Graphic Design programme at the Faculty of Architecture and Design has been witnessing an increased rate of enrolment. It combines theory with application as it teaches students how to find solutions for the challenges facing job markets nowadays, in a manner that develops their academic and professional capabilities and positively affects the job market.

MEU's IEC Meets with Jordan Customs via Zoom



AMMAN – The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre at Middle East University held a meeting with representatives of Jordan Customs via Zoom to discuss the latest of their previously established cooperation. The two parties discussed the innovative solutions needed now more than ever in light of the Coronavirus crisis, and the safety procedures followed at the Jordanian borders.

The Head of the Department of Information Technology at Jordan Customs, Brigadier General Ahmad al-Alem, said, “We are adopting the Back-to-Back exchange of goods in order to limit contact between truck drivers. We are also using digital applications to carry out customs services, hence minimising citizens’ waiting time, which is bound to limit the spread of the Coronavirus.”

The Director of IEC, Dr. Abdelrahman Zuraik, stated, “We highly value our partnership with Jordan Customs, and are excited to present them with the technological solutions followed around the world in light of the Coronavirus crisis. We will focus on consumers’ emerging needs and the role of innovation in finding solutions for the challenges faced by all concerned institutions.”

The attendees also briefed one another on the current and future plans for launching the IVC-5000 project, which is designed to confirm the validity and authenticity of the digital documents issued by the Jordan Customs, in order to prevent any attempts of falsification and fraud.

MEU Successfully Prepares for Online Final Examinations



AMMAN – Middle East University continues its successful distance learning experience in light of the Coronavirus pandemic. 99% of its students sat for their online final examinations without facing any technical issues, which is yet another achievement to be regarded for its ceaseless efforts to ensure the success and continuity of the educational process.

The University President, Prof. Mohammad al-Hileh, commended the efforts exerted by the Department of Information Technology in providing the necessary infrastructure and support to guarantee the success of the online final examinations. The University abides by the Higher Education Council's decisions and the State of Emergency Laws issued by the government regarding this matter. The remaining online final examinations will resume after the Eid al-Fitr holidays.

Prof. al-Hileh recently addressed students with a letter, reaffirming MEU's keenness on facilitating the conclusion of their studies for the current semester in a manner that serves their best interest. He also assured them that the University and its staff will work tirelessly to allow them to achieve their dreams and hopes for their futures, praising faculty members and administrative staff's efforts to meet that end.

King Commends MEU's Partners JOHHB's Efforts



AMMAN – His Majesty King Abdullah II bin al-Hussein, accompanied by his Royal Highness Crown Prince al-Hussein bin Abdullah II, wished volunteers from all over Jordan a blessed Ramadan, and commended their efforts in aiding citizens. Amongst those volunteers, who established exceptional initiatives during the Coronavirus crisis, was one of Middle East University's partners, the Jordanian Healing and Health Bank.

His Majesty expressed his pride in the volunteers' achievements during this crisis, saying, "When I hear about the work you do, I rest assured that our Jordan is in safe hands." He also added, "Meeting with you brings me hope and you have my complete support." His Majesty's meeting with the volunteers was attended by Mr. Ashraf al-Kailani, the Chairman of JOHHB's Board of Directors.






















His Majesty listened to the volunteers' brief on the charitable and humanitarian work they carried out during the Coronavirus crisis. In his turn, Mr. al-Kailani stated, "JOHHB aims to achieve health security in Jordan. Our team outlined a work plan to deal with the Coronavirus crisis, and is determined to set a glowing image for Jordan." He added, "JOHHB launched a number of successful campaigns, initiatives, and programmes during the Coronavirus crisis to reach out to Jordanians and meet their medical needs."

MEU and JOHHB recently formed the "MEU Healing Partners" volunteer team, which consists of MEU students and faculty members. The initiative falls under the cooperative relations between the two sides to implement programmes and charitable services to aid the Jordanian society.

MEU and the Friends of the National Security, also directed by Mr. al-Kailani, share a memorandum of cooperation that stipulates the exchange of academic expertise, and the implementation of awareness programmes and projects. The two sides aim to promote community safety and security in Jordan. Therefore, a student club was formed at MEU, supervised by the FoNS and the University, in the hope to spread the concept of community safety and security amongst students.

Since its foundation, MEU was always keen on serving its community and producing socially-responsible graduates. Hence, it implements programmes and extracurricular activities, which are based on a modern educational system, to raise its students and local community members' awareness of social responsibility by all possible means.

MEU Meets with Erasmus+ Jordan Representatives via Telecommunication

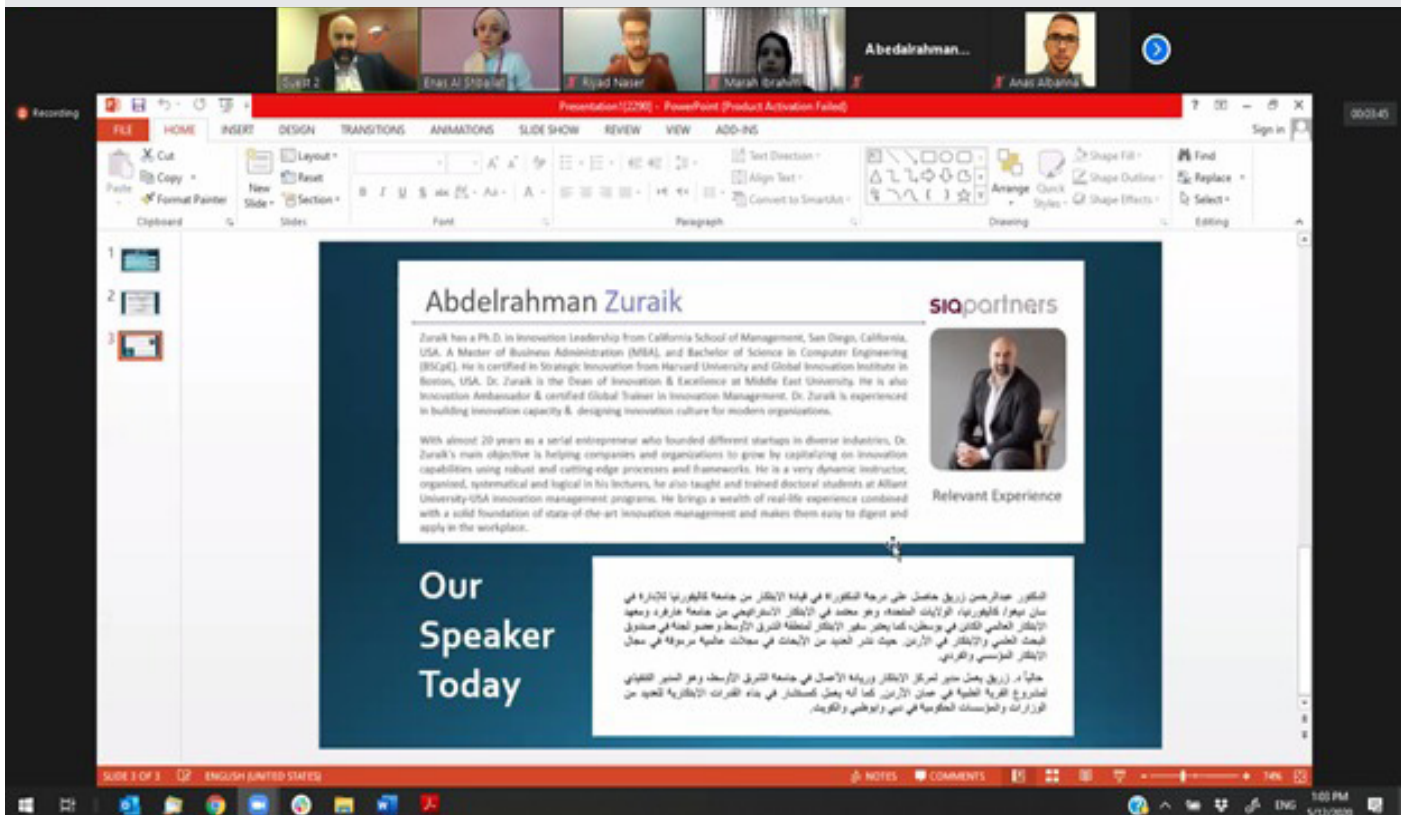
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	Dr.Hesham Abusaimh (Host)	 
AA	Ahmad Abu-el-Haija	 
LZ	Lama Zeinab	 
	Reem Alkhader	 
RK	rula khader	 
AK	Amanda Krauja	 
AR	Andrejs Rackovs	 
	Dr. Sameer Aljabaly	 

AMMAN – The Deanship of International Programmes at Middle East University, represented by the Department of Student and Academic Exchange, met with representatives of Erasmus+ Jordan via Zoom. The meeting was held to discuss current and future student and academic exchange projects, and was attended by a group of students who benefited from student exchange programmes.

The attendees reviewed the main activities and events organised by the Department of Student and Academic Exchange, and addressed the latest developments regarding academic exchange programmes. They outlined the mechanism and basis for selecting exchange students and faculty members from MEU, and highlighted the impact of Erasmus+ projects on MEU's community, students, and faculty members. The Department also touched on the challenges that it might face in light of the Coronavirus pandemic and how they could be tackled.

MEU's Department of Student and Academic Exchange aims to promote international strategic partnerships with institutions that provide corporeal and moral support. It looks to benefit from international expertise in knowledge transfer in order to achieve MEU's strategy, which focuses on establishing presence in the international scene.

MEU's IEC Attends a Student Interactive Session on Innovation



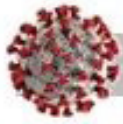
AMMAN – Dr. Abdelrahman Zuraik, the Director of the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre, attended an interactive session via telecommunication, joining a group of students from Luminus Technical University College (LTUC) to discuss innovation and entrepreneurship.

Dr. Zuraik, who is also a Global Trainer and Ambassador at the Global Innovation Management Institute (GIMI), said, “A successful entrepreneur should be absolutely positive of what it is they aim to achieve prior to entering the world of entrepreneurship. They should be willing to exert all necessary efforts when pursuing their endeavour, no matter what it entails of sacrifice and challenges. Being an entrepreneur is no easy job. Yes, it will provide you with an income, but it won’t instantly make you rich.” Dr. Zuraik discussed the notions of the abundance mindset, which is to believe in the limitless opportunities the world has to offer, and the scarcity mindset, which is the fear that all effort will be in vain.

Dr. Abdelrahman Zuraik is the proud recipient of a PhD in Innovation Leadership from Alliant International University in California. He also received a certification in Strategic Innovation from Harvard University and GIMI. He is the ambassador of innovation for the Middle East, and is a committee member at the Scientific Research and Innovation Support Fund in Jordan.

MEU's IEC Discusses Innovative Solutions for Economic Recovery Post-COVID19

the COVID19 pandemic



GIM Institute Think Tank



GIM Institute
GLOBE INNOVATION MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE



AMMAN – Dr. Abdelrahman Zuraik, the Director of the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre, attended the fifth discussion session organised by the Global Innovation Management Institute (GIMI) after finding its “Six-Foot-Apart” Think Tank. The attendees discussed innovative solutions for economic and business recovery, and how to help governments and corporates in resuming regular operations in a post-COVID19 world.

The attendees agreed that immediate action should be taken in order to support the global economy, and more webinars should be organised to discuss the best practices to be globally adopted for resuming operations. The organisers will also hold yet another webinar to discuss the role of innovation.

GIMI's Think Tank aims to achieve tangible results with the support of the U.S. federal government and local governments. It is also endorsed by major corporates such as Google, Intel, and PepsiCo that are being affected by the Coronavirus pandemic.

GIMI, a major innovation organisation, is a non-profit organisation that was founded in 2009 by innovation and entrepreneurship experts. It aims to establish innovation as a professional commercial system that can be adopted by governments, organisations, and corporates alike.

MEU Outlines a Plan to Recover from Coronavirus Implications



AMMAN – In response to the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research's decisions, Middle East University completed its plan to recover from the implications of the spread of the Coronavirus during the summer semester. The plan includes the measures that should be followed within the University's policy for risk management.

The plan revolved around preserving the regular working and teaching environment, and protecting MEU staff from the present and future implications that might occur due to a Coronavirus infection. It also specifies providing an internal control system that issues early warnings for possible risks, and looks to establish the necessary awareness for all MEU affiliates.

The plan was founded to ensure the safety of MEU's staff and students and all other concerned parties in light of resuming academic and administrative operations on campus in a gradual manner. The University developed the necessary procedures to deal with the expected risks during this stage, and employed online teaching and working platforms to maintain operations during any emergency. The University also established the capacity for its human resources to deal with crisis and risks.

The plan included preparing an integrated programme to prevent any major changes to university operations, and outlining a strategy for expanding the University's efforts in combating the spread of the Coronavirus. MEU's administration set a thorough and comprehensive framework for all systems and procedures that enable the University of resuming operations in case a large number of its employees were forced to work from home. It designed a programme to test the University's pandemic planning abilities in a manner that allows it to resume full operations. To that end, MEU's administration formed a committee to follow-up the sufficient execution of the recovery plan within a pre-set timeline.

The plan also included a detailed model for implementation, which covers the plan's primary and secondary objectives, KPIs, performance requirements, implementation procedures, timeline, and the parties responsible for execution.

MEU Stands with its Students and Announces Set of Decisions in Fulfillment of Social Responsibility



AMMAN – Middle East University granted its students discounts up to 30% on the 2019/2020 summer semester's credit hours, whether carried out through distance learning or on camps. The University responded to the royal directions to stand in solidarity with one other, and stood with its students in the light of the current circumstances Jordan and the world are witnessing.

MEU deducted 100JODs from the due transportation fees for the second semester, and added them to students' accounts. It also decided to set a three-month plan for students registered in the second semester to pay off their due tuition fees.

MEU commits to its social responsibility and its mission to support the local community. It remains keen on promoting the development and growth of our Jordan, especially in the exceptional circumstances it's going through due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

MEU Student Nancy al-Majthob Responds to Royal Directions and Trains Education Staff Locally and Regionally



AMMAN – Middle East University adopts a vision for itself as a serious, committed, and seeking to learn university. It set itself on a mission to prepare leaders by fostering an environment that encourages learning, research, and community service. It cements the values of the Jordanian society in its students, whose capabilities contribute to the establishment of a better reality, especially during the exceptional circumstances Jordan and the world are witnessing.

MEU students continue to launch initiatives in response to his Majesty King Abdullah II bin al-Hussein's call for Jordanians to stand in solidarity, each in their own ability, to overcome the Coronavirus crisis.

Graduate student Nancy Mohammad Khair al-Majthob, studying Information and Communication Technology in Education, represents a fine example of fulfilling our duties towards our country and exerting all possible efforts to respond to his Majesty's call and assume our responsibilities based on our own abilities, hers being the field of her studies.

Nancy's dedicated work, since the beginning of this crisis and until this very moment, can be summarised in organising training courses and workshops on designing and preparing online content and examinations via Zoom. She conducted 11 training workshops targeting 300 teachers from public and private schools. She trained administrative staff consisting of principals and technical supervisors, and offered a training workshop for trainee teachers at the Queen Rania Teacher Academy.

Nancy did not limit her support to local boundaries, but extended her efforts to regional spheres by cooperating with a number of human development and training academies in Kuwait and Turkey. She trained more than 150 individuals on the skills of online teaching via Zoom and live streams on Facebook.

Nancy expressed her gratitude to the Chairman of MEU's Board of Trustees, Dr. Yacoub Nasereddin, for his wise vision to adopt a sound methodology in preparing leaders. She also thanked the University for ensuring their students' professional success.

Nancy Mohammad Khair al-Majthob obtained her Bachelor's degree in Education Technology from MEU, with honours, in 2018. She is currently a graduate student at MEU, studying Information and Communication Technology in Education.

MEU Organises Webinars on Coronavirus Implications in Partnership with the University of Strathclyde

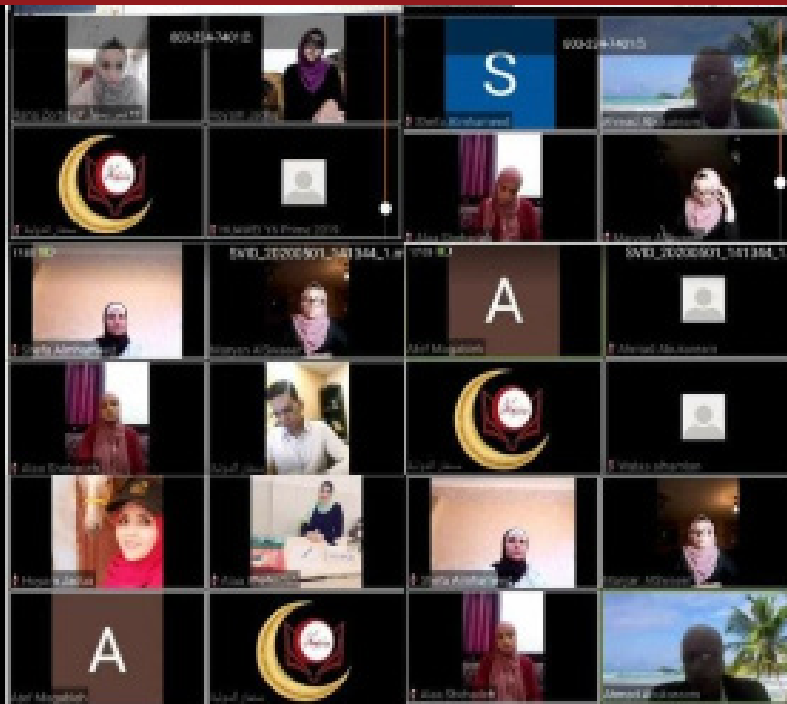


AMMAN – The Deanship of Graduate Studies and Scientific Research at Middle East University, organised a series of webinars in various subject areas titled “Recovery after Global Turbulence due to the Coronavirus Pandemic”, in cooperation with the University of Strathclyde.

Prof. Aladdin al-Halhouli, the Vice President for Scientific Faculties at MEU, said, “We are delighted with the wide attendance these webinars witnessed by researchers and experts from American, Canadian, and European universities.” He added, “We organised these webinars in the aim to better understand the implications of the Coronavirus pandemic by sharing international experiences in dealing with the crisis. We also tried to visualise a world after the current situation abates, one that is more socially and economically inclusive.”

The attendees discussed the economic and political challenges the world faces due to the spread of the Coronavirus. They also reviewed international perspectives on stabilising global turbulence, and opportunities and solutions for reviving economies using alternative energy.

MEU's Faculty of Educational Sciences Organises a Webinar on Work Pressure in Light of the Coronavirus Pandemic



AMMAN – The Faculty of Educational Sciences at Middle East University organised a webinar on online learning and work pressure titled “Work Pressure in Light of the Coronavirus Pandemic”. The webinar was organised in cooperation with Senmar Academy in an attempt to maintain communication with the local community and its members.

The webinar was presented by the Dean of Educational Sciences, Prof. Atef Maqableh, and Prof. Ahmad Abu Kareem. They discussed the work pressure teachers and administrators face at schools, and how students and teachers could meet the requirements of online learning. They also advised schools to follow-up with students and alleviate the psychological, social, and economic pressures faced by students and their parents by providing them with a supportive environment.

Dr. Maqableh and Dr. Abu Kareem addressed the work pressure teachers are currently facing, and how it negatively affects their behaviour. They also discussed the role of responsible and wise administrations in acknowledging the effects of the current situation on their teachers, and finding the adequate solutions. The attendees interacted with the professors and showed interest in the information they presented.

The webinar was attended by the principal and teachers of Senmar Academy, school students' parents, MEU students, and faculty members at the Faculty of Educational Sciences.