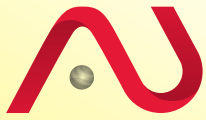


Bahrain is an Ideal Platform for Innovative Solutions in IT

- The Arabian Calligraphy Forum...A Tremendous Success
- Ahlia's Career Day Takes a Peek at Labour Market Demands



- *Ahlia University Dominates the Futsal League*



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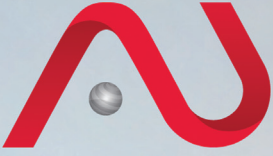
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Editorial Team

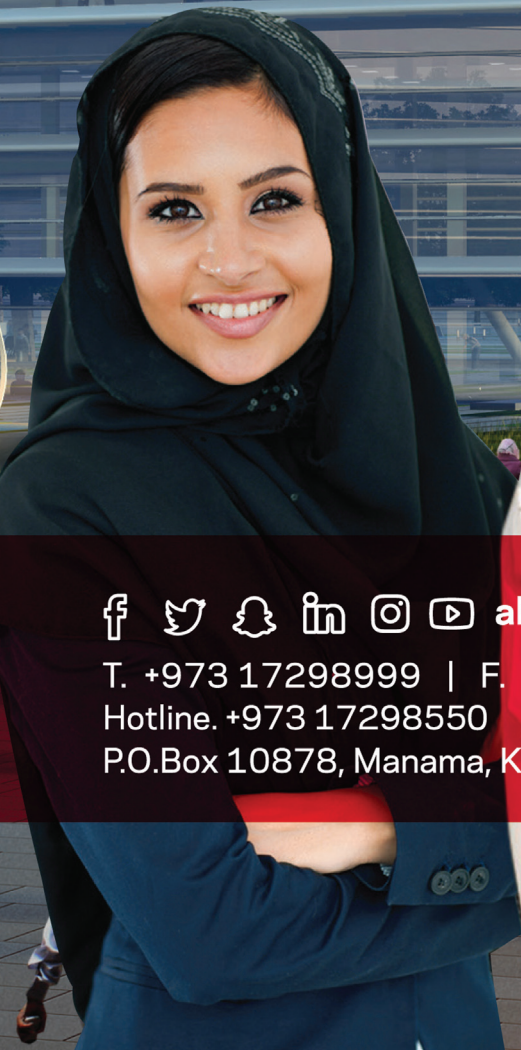
Editorial- Hussain Al Sabbagh - Head of Press & Publishing - Tel: 17313547 - Email: halsabbagh@ahlia.edu.bh

Art - Laila sayed - Graphic Designer - Tel: 17313509 - E-mail: lailass3@hotmail.com



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T. +973 17298999 | F. +973 17290083

Hotline. +973 17298550

P.O.Box 10878, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

For more information please visit

www.ahlia.edu.bh

Al Hawaj: The Conference Aims to Positively Contribute to the IT Field

Alaali: A Large Number of Job Opportunities Will Cease to Exist Due to Modern Technology



that one-third of jobs will be taken over by robots.”

Determining Identity through Biological Characteristics

Several papers were presented during the conference, notably, the one delivered by Dr. Sayed Mohammed Al Alfi, an Associate Professor in the Saudi-based King Fahad University. His paper was titled: “The Current and Modern Trends in Vital Measurements”, and presented a brief summary of biometrics to identify people through different biological characteristics such as fingerprints, palm prints, voice prints, electrical signals of the heart, and motion during walking.



Increasing the Value of Information

Moreover, Dr. Ahmed Jedidi, the Chairperson of the Department of Computer Engineering at Ahlia University, presented a paper titled: “The Challenges of Securing the Internet”, where he stressed the importance of protecting information on the Internet. He stated that statistics reveal that the number of Internet users would increase to 5 billion users by 2030, underlining that technology must be simplified, and its capacity should be extended to accommodate this number in the future. “We need to enhance internet security to maintain the protection of this significant volume of information,” he added.





Al Amer: Bahrain is Highly Ranked in International Telecommunications

Innovative Ideas Presented in the IT Innovations Conference Chairman of the Board of Directors of the TRA

Under the Patronage of HE Mr. Kamal Ahmed, the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, the IT Innovations Conference was launched on April 6 at Downtown Rotana, Manama. The two-day conference was organized by the College of IT, Ahlia University, and featured a number of world-renowned experts, researchers, professionals and specialists in the field of IT. HE, the Minister, deputised Mohammed Al Amer, the Chairman of the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA), to inaugurate the conference. Mr. Al Amer addressed the gathering in his opening keynote speech and declared, "Bahrain has become an ideal place for providing innovative IT solutions. The Kingdom is now occupying a leading position in the field of IT at regional as well as international levels. According to the Infrastructure Indicator, Bahrain is highly ranked in international telecommunications."



Chairman of TRA Board of Directors

The Founding President of Ahlia University, Prof. Abdullah Al Hawaj expressed great pleasure upon witnessing the gathering of experts, government officials and representatives of several telecommunication companies under one roof. He added that he was confident that the conference would deliver and achieve its

goals.

Rise of the Robots

The President of Ahlia University, Prof. Mansoor Alaali, stated that technology has become a key ingredient in every aspect of human life, including education, health, communication, and transportation. "Despite facilitating our lives, technology has presented us with many challenges, especially in the workplace. Robots haven't just replaced humans in the workplace, but they are also expanding skills, productivity and retention rates, and increasingly pushing aside their human competitors. We are in an era of cars without drivers, and operation rooms without surgeons. Recent statistics reveal



British Expert, Dr. Sood, Lectures on Developing International Research Cooperation

In an event organized by Ahlia University, Dr. Anush Sood stated, “International cooperation programmes are essential tools to exchange knowledge, and support scientific research initiatives.” Dr. Sood presented a workshop on ‘Mechanisms of Developing International Cooperation in the Scientific Research Field’, where he elaborated on the best vision for international ties in the scientific research field, and the ideal path to deliver successful researches based on high standards. He also revealed that successful scientific and academic initiatives saw the light thanks to international cooperation. Dr. Lameea



Al Tahoo, the Director of the Human Resources Department at Ahlia University, affirmed that Ahlia University is making significant efforts to enable experts and non-experts to access information and tools.

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PROMOTIONS & APPOINTMENTS



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CHAIRPERSON OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT IN COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE



SHIBU KALLINGAL CHARLY

ACTING DIRECTOR - INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY CENTRE



NOOR MUSTAFA ALSAYED

ACTING DIRECTOR - CENTRE FOR MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION



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SAID TAAN ALHAJJAR

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SARA ABDULREDHA ZAMAN

OFFICER - CENTRE FOR ACCREDITATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE (CAQA)



FATEMA SHAWQI ALMARZOOQ
HEAD OF QUALITY REVIEW





The Active Participation of Ahlia University in the Used Book Fair **Al Hawaj: Bahrainis are Educated, Cultured and Value Books**

Al Wasat's 5th Used Book Fair successfully concluded on April 22nd, 2017, after witnessing the attendance of hundreds of reading enthusiasts and book lovers. Among those who visited the fair was Ahlia University's Founding President, Prof. Abdullah Al Hawaj. "I would like to congratulate Al Wasat Newspaper for the success of the fair and for organising it for the fifth consecutive time. The fair clears the misconceptions about Bahrainis not enjoying reading, which is a false notion." Prof. Al Hawaj pointed out that the influx of book enthusiasts to the fair proves that Bahrainis are highly intellectual and love to read and thrive to learn. "We were keen to extend a gold sponsorship to the fair because of our firm belief in the importance of reading," Prof. Al Hawaj concluded.

H.E Dr. Majid bin Ali Al-Nuaimi Rewards Ahlia University



Ahlia University Receives an Award for Extending a Gold Sponsorship to the Used Books 2017 Edition



Player Ali Nasser Received the 'Top Scorer Award'



Ahlia Football Team

Ahlia University Dominates the Local Universities' Futsal League



Arab Open University team finished second, behind the Ahlia University's Team. Their shot stopper won 'the Best Goalkeeper Award.' On the other hand, Ahlia University's Fawzi Jashwa and his teammate Ali Nasser won 'the Best Player

The Founding President of Ahlia University, Prof. Abdullah Al Hawaj, crowned the Ahlia University Football Team as the champions of the 'Local Universities' Futsal League'. The final match took place on 11 March 2017 at Umm Al Hassam Sports Hall. Nine teams played in the

tournament, namely, Ahlia University, the Applied Science University, Gulf University, Kingdom University, the Arab Open University, the University College of Bahrain and the Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF). The



Award', and 'the Top Scorer Award' respectively. Prof. Al Hawaj commended the performance of the team, underlining the high sporting spirit showcased during the matches.

Use of Technology in Scientific Research

Dr. Saeed Al Hajjar discussed the types of statistical techniques that could be applied in scientific research, including traditional methods and the use of technology. He highlighted some of the tools of educational technology such as powerpoint, statistical software packages and the Internet in order to enable researchers to distinguish between the impact of using traditional methods and the use of technology in solving statistical case studies. His study concluded with the recommendations of using modern technology in teaching and researches.

On the other hand, Prof. Ismail Nuri presented a research paper on the popular understanding of history, in which he pointed out that the question of history relates directly to life. He added, "History has always been associated with influential people, ministers, dignitaries and high-ranking officials, until the idea of "history is written by the victors" became an indisputable axiom. The scientific reading of history (self-criticism and analysis, and objectivity) is limited to texts, documents, sources and references, which flow in parallel".

Liberate History from Ideology

Nuri raised great questions regarding this issue, using the words of the French historian Paul Finn: "Liberate history from ideology, then everything will be interpretable," referring to the problem of documentation of history and the subsequent



Side of the attendees



Scientific Artworks Exhibition held on the sideline of the Forum

incitement and intolerance of the idea, as highlighted by British historian Anthony Smith when he said: "Mobilize people around an idea, and it will convert into a fact for them".

The Growing Interest of the Public in the Electronic Press

Furthermore, Dr. Reda Amin presented a study on the Bahraini public's reliance on news published by the local newspapers and their online editions. He pointed out that the increase in the number of social media network users

and the surge of costs of newspaper production has spurred newspapers to create websites and accounts on social media networks such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, to publish news headlines, photos and links. This initiative has encouraged the public to follow the accounts of newspapers online to search for news. Two hundred individuals participated in the study which revealed that 45% of the Bahraini public surf the newspapers online, while 86.3% follow social media accounts of a least one Bahraini newspaper.

As part of the Scientific Search Forum Professors and Researchers Discuss Their Studies on Current topics issues



Top officials representing Ahlia University with several participants in the Forum

Professor Abdullah Al Hawaj stressed the importance of scientific research in the plans and strategies of universities and colleges. He declared that the role of universities is not limited to academic teaching and practical training, but also conducting research and studies that contribute to the development of the society. This issue was brought forward in Ahlia University's 5th Scientific Research Forum which was held from 12 - 22 March 2017 where Prof. Al Hawaj rewarded the participants in the Forum, including professors and researchers. The Forum was held to present studies and research of faculty members and postgraduate students at the university. Thirty scientific papers were discussed during the event, which also featured an exhibition for new published

by faculty books .

Smartphone Addiction: A Rising Trend in Children

Prof. Al Hashimi delivered a study on teenagers' addiction to smart phones. He explained that addiction is the term used to refer to the loss of control over a person's behaviour, and usually has negative consequences.

Prof. Mukhtar Al Hashimi called for the re-evaluation of the relationship of children and teenagers with smartphones, stressing the importance of parents playing an active role in controlling their children's usage of such devices. "Addiction to smartphones has become an omnipresent phenomenon in our society and has physiological, psychological and social effects. But the thing is that smartphones act as modern pacifiers. They can calm kids down and keep

them quiet, but they can also be addictive. You can only imagine the implications it will have on our children in the future." he emphasised.

He explained that addiction to information technology is the forced use of smart devices, such as smartphones, tablets and the Internet. Together, these technologies have changed communication and interaction to the extent that a person can become addicted to it.

"The excessive use of these platforms may lead to health problems, social isolation and a general decline in productivity," he added. This study aimed to explore the impact of addiction to smart phones and to determine the driving force behind adolescent addiction to technology from the parents' point of view.

Jamal Fakhro: Ahlia University Alumni are High Performers

Jassim Fakhro's Fund Provided Scholarships to 120 Employees

Ahlia University hosted a convention entitled 'People Development in Professional Firms: KPMG as example' which featured a very special speaker, Mr. Jamal Fakhro, the Managing Partner for KPMG Bahrain. In the convention, Mr. Fakhro revealed that more than 120 of KPMG's employees have benefited from Jassim Fakhro's Fund Project for Human Development, which was launched in 2001. He added that those employees received professional certificates, and managed to occupy high ranking positions as a result. "The Bahrainization rate in our company is at 60%. We have a group of Ahlia University alumni as employees, and they are high performing, productive and extremely self-driven individuals," he said. "We are proud that Ahlia University is a front-runner as KPMG has always relied on the University's alumni," Mr Fakhro concluded. During the event which was held under the patronage of the Founding



Fakhro alongside some of KPMG employees who graduated from Ahlia University

President of Ahlia University, Prof. Abdullah Al Hawaj, Mr. Fakhro briefed the attendees about KPMG Bahrain, stating that the company was established in 1968 by university friends Jassim Fakhro and Husain Kasim, with a capital not exceeding BD 30. He revealed that the company is occupying one third of the Bahraini market after 50 years of its establishment.

Employee Equals Client

Mr. Fakhro stressed that the

professionalism of KPMG Bahrain is due to its concern for maintaining the family spirit among staff, its commitment to achieving the highest level of Bahrainization in employment, and the company's interest in the principle of "our employee is equal to the client". He explained that integrity is the essence of the company's success as it is the primary value on which the company builds its reputation and achieves market confidence.



Prof. Maitland Hyslop Praises the Economic Visions of the GCC Countries



Professor Maitland Hyslop of Durham University urged researchers and professors of Arab universities to search for solutions that would help all individuals, regardless of their backgrounds, to actively participate in developing the society.

He highlighted this point in his opening speech in the 5th Scientific Research Forum, which was held under the patronage of Ahlia University's Founding President, Professor Abdullah Al Hawaj. The forum posed several discussions and research papers presented by 30 experts including professors and researchers.

He presented a paper entitled: "The Importance of Knowledge in Social Development and the Challenges Facing Knowledge Development". Dr. Hyslop further praised the economic visions of several capital cities of the GCC countries, especially

Manama and Riyadh. He recalled the experience of the great polymath, Hassan ibn Al Haytham, who lived in the tenth and eleventh centuries. "Ibn Al Haytham believed that a real researcher had to scrutinize the writings of ancient scholars, and not just study and put blind faith into them," he said, adding, "History reveals to us that Arabs lived in a golden era between the eighth and the thirtieth centuries, where they were at the peak of their scientific contributions in Baghdad and other Arab civilizations. Europe at that time was suffering from illiteracy and scientific backwardness," he explained.

Increasing the Pace of Social Debate

Dr. Hyslop declared that the economic visions of the GCC are advanced and can accommodate many of the aspects required in community development, especially education. He stressed

No real development without knowledge spread by universities

the need to raise public awareness and faith in these visions so that they can be implemented perfectly.

He underlined the need to increase the pace of social debate, which would help these economic visions in having a positive impact on the community. "Through frank and calm discussions you can bridge the gap between different segments of the society," he noted.



Reem Al Orayadh showcases one of her artworks to the sponsor of the event

the Organizing Committee of the event, Prof. Fouad Shehab stressed the University's interest in the Arabian Calligraphy stems from its close connections to the Arab civilization.

Among those who participated in the event were locally renowned calligraphers, Abdulelah Al Arab, Salman Akbar, Abbas Yousif, and Hassan Ghareeb. Others included Ali Al Jad, Ali Shehab, Reem Abdulaziz Al Orayadh, Jassim Mohammed, Qassim Haider, Zuhair Mizal, Abdulhussain Al Abo, Mohammed Al Neshaimi, Mohammed Al Oraiby, Mohammed Darweesh, Ahmed



Al Saeed, Isa Al Saeed, Majid Ashoor, Ali Mulaih, Mohammed Maki Al Jabal, Hussain Al Saffar, Mustafa, Khalil Al Madhoun, Sayed Mohammed Kadhem, Fatima Al Sayed, Yosra Hussain Mousa Al Khazar, Kumail Soroor.





Prof. Abdullah Al Hawaj Opens the Forum

Calligraphers Dedicate Two Paintings to the University's Administration

The Ahlia University Forum for Arabian Calligraphy... A Tremendous Success

Ahlia University's 1st Arabian Calligraphy Forum concluded on Thursday, April 13, 2017. The theme of the forum centered on "Renewed Heritage", and featured 92 creations designed by 36 emerging Bahraini Arabian calligraphers. The forum was organized to shed light on such prestigious art that is considered an important part of our Arab culture. The forum included artworks which were displayed for the first time.

They event also consisted of workshops, where both professional and amateur calligraphers were involved. Prof. Abdullah Al Hawaj, the Founding President of Ahlia University, praised the quality of the artworks showcased during the event, stating that they were an excellent representation of the beauty of our Arabic language, in

shape and content.

"Organizing this event stems from our University's solid commitment towards holding quality functions that embody our constant statement of continued creativity. Ahlia University will remain as a producer of talents and an incubator of creativity," he said.

President Prof. Mansoor Alaali,

meanwhile, stated that embracing the 1st Ahlia University Forum for Arabian Calligraphy comes as part of a line-up of cultural and artistic activities, to be held this year. "Our endeavor to organize prestigious events is constant, as its part of our commitment to nurture creativity and promote our invaluable traditions," he explained.

For his part, the Head of



Arabian Calligraphy Forum

Reviewing her participation in a Women's Leadership Program in Britain Saberi intends to push for the development of women and their leadership skills

Dr. Mareyia Saberi, Assistant Professor at the College of Business and Finance, confirmed her intention to involve her female administrative and academic faculty members in the development of women and their leadership skills, nurturing the spirit of leadership among university students through the usage of modern international training techniques. This stems from within the university's strategy to empower women to occupy leading positions within the university and other workplaces.

The Women's Leadership Programme is organized by the British Council in cooperation with the Windsor Training Programme in the UK. Eighteen GCC women of leading positions



in their fields of specialization, including Dr. Mareyia Saberi, were recently sent to Windsor in the UK to benefit from this program.

In a meeting attended by faculty members, representatives of the British Embassy, and the British Cultural Council, Dr. Saberi revealed her experience with the programme. She said that Windsor had a fitting

environment for the exchange of ideas and conceptions between a large number of academics and researchers across the world, affirming that the programme can contribute to enhancing the leadership skills of GCC women effectively, and empowering them to assume leading positions in the future.

Dr. Saberi noted that the programme's final session focused on developing the leadership skills of women working in scientific and academic fields under the slogan "Women in the Field of Sciences". She further added that women are an essential element of sustainable development, as several promising female figures have received scholarships at Windsor, UK.

Ahlia University Establishes a Center for Statistical Analysis

Ahlia University has recently established a Center for Statistical Analysis (CSA) to achieve its goal of becoming Bahrain's leading research-based university. The center is managed by statistical expert, Dr. Said Al-Hajar. The CSA aims to advance the research skills of students who undertake courses in research methods and modelling. In addition, the center aims to give research students and faculty members training courses that would be used in their research across all colleges and departments

Al-Hajar stated that the center plans to organize training sessions to introduce

beginners to innovative and advanced statistical methods. Additionally, the center aims to provide statistical consultancies, thus encouraging several high quality researches in all departments and colleges.

"Researchers usually resort to preparing a model based on scientific concepts and variables, which require testing to ensure their validity", he said. "Many researchers face difficulties in choosing a suitable test, given that they vary according to the variables and patterns of each model. Therein lies the importance of a specialized party to provide guidance to students



Dr. Said Al-Hajar

and researchers, helping them identify the statistical concepts suitable for the type of their research."



65 Ministries, Establishments & Companies Participate in the Career Exhibition

Al Hawaj: Ahlia's Career Day is a Window to Labor Market Demands

Professor Mansoor Alaali, the President of Ahlia University, commended the participation of 65 ministries, organizations and companies in the University's Career Day activities. He declared that the active participation of these organizations showcases the strong and deep relations between the University and the labor market on one hand, and the extent of their confidence in Ahlia University graduates on the other.

Al Hawaj honored the participating companies and organizations for their efforts, which had turned the 5th Careers Day into a tremendous success. He asserted, "This is a window to the demands of the labor market and a reflection of the proficiency and training level of Ahlia's students."

After completing his tour through the exhibits, Prof. Al Hawaj said, "The Careers day



is a successful step towards achieving convergence between the ambitions of Ahlia University's students and the demands of employers." He called out to students to benefit from such activities that enable them to familiarize themselves with the requirements of

the market. Professor Alaali expressed his gratitude to all the university departments, especially the Professional Relations Management Department, directed by Mr. Hussain Mohamed Habib Ali Hassan, for their outstanding organization of the exhibition.



University Students & Professors Camp at Sakhir



The Deanship of Students Affairs at Ahlia University organised a decent camp day for Ahlia's students and faculty members at Sakhir, on March 10th, 2017.



Led by the Founding President of Ahlia University, Professor Abdullah Al Hawaj and the President of Ahlia University, Professor Mansoor Alaali, the campers headed to the distinct Bahraini landmark, the Tree of Life, where they took memorial photos before returning to camp.



The camp featured several recreational competitions, artistic, social and athletic segments and the giving out of prizes to winners.

On this occasion, the Dean of Students Affairs, Dr Aqeel Radhi said that the camp attracted a large number of university students and faculty, confirming the camping project's success.





The University organises the 4th Accounting & Economics Day

President of Ahlia University, Professor Mansoor Ahmed Alaali, inaugurated the 4th Accounting & Economics Day on Tuesday, April 11. The event featured several discussions and motivational workshops by a selection of experts in the fields of accounting and economics, amid the participation of a variety of accounting and economics students from Ahlia and other local universities. Participation was open to accounting students from all universities.

The Accounting & Economics Day aims to open future horizons for students in the profession of accounting, bridging the gap between theoretical education and practical application for one of the world's most developed and expansive jobs.

The event included a number of motivational lectures by Mr. Bader Murad, co-founder and executive manager of "Bader Models", Mr. Yunis Attiya, co-founding manager of "Limefish Design", Mr. Mohamed Abdullah Isa, co-founder and executive manager of "3D speaking" and accounting and economics student Hassan Ali

Alsibai, who has developed and is managing his own electronic business.

Moreover, the industry speakers included, Mr. Mohammed Ali, Tamkeen's delegate who focused on Tamkeen's professional and vocational courses that could help students in becoming more employable. Another industry speaker, Mr. Isa Al Doseri, an Ahlia University alumni and BDB's delegate, discussed the importance of knowledge and

university courses in shaping students' future. Moreover, Mr. Isa highlighted the programs offered by BDB in support of innovative business ideas. Finally, representative of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, Ms. Toyin Oseni, drew the audience's attention to the array of professional accounting certificates demanded by the labor market especially the Big Four Auditing companies.



Participation was open to all accounting & economics students from different universities

AHLIA GALLERY



Training workshops to qualify students for the labour market



Faculty & students attend statistics for scientific research



An educational lecture by the Bahrain Women's Association



A group of students visit Huawei