## AL-AHLIYYA AMMAN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE















MONTHLY

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### Dr. Maher Al-Hourani appointed as Chairman of the Board of Directors of BRICS+ Jordan

The Supreme Council of the BRICS + International Group decided to appoint Dr. Maher Ahmed Al-Hourani as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the BRICS Plus Group Jordan, this came after the signing of the accession agreement on Thursday, March 31, 2022, on the last day of Expo Dubai 2020, where the accession agreement was signed in the offices of Abu Dhabi Financial Market, through which the necessary funding will be provided to invest in the world of metaverses.

Mr. Pavel Rodanovsky, Chairman of the Board of Directors of BRICS Plus International, stated that the selection of Dr. Maher Al-Hourani came as he is one of the most prominent businessmen and economists in Jordan and heads one of the largest investment groups in the education, tourism, agriculture and technology sectors. And that BRICS Plus is looking to attract the investments of members of the BRICS Plus Group to Jordan through Hourani Group, which has a long history of investing in various sectors.

Dr. Maher Al-Hourani stressed that investing in the world of Metaverse, which is still in its infancy stage, is a bold investment that

needs extensive study, but the sale and purchase of lands in this virtual world are witnessing a relative boom, especially after the technology giants announced their big investment plans to enter this field. Dr. Al-Hourani stated that he is confident with this type of investment as it uses "blockchain" technologies to sell land and other items in the form of non-fungible tokens (NFTs) as a type of encrypted asset, which is the "technological standard for unique digital assets, such as real estate and virtual homes." He said that investment has several determinants, including the desire to invest, investment expectations, the circumstances surrounding investment, and global economic policies, and all of these determinants have positive indicators when you delve deeper into the world of metaverses. Dr. Al-Hourani added that the first step will be through the establishment of a company working on financing and investment management in this field through a specialized team linked with the international BRICS Plus Group, which will, on its part, secure the necessary funding to set up various projects and register Hourani Group in the financial markets in Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

The agreement was signed by Prof. Dr. Anas AlSoud on behalf of Dr. Maher Al-Hourani and Mr. Pavel Rodanovsky, Chairman of the Board of Directors of BRICS Plus International, in the presence of Dr. Moataz Al-Debei, Dr. Hanai Atatreh, partner and CEO of BRICS Plus Group, and a group of senior employees in BRICS Plus Malaysia.

Chairman of Board of Directors

Maher Hourani

Dr. Maher Ahmad Hourani



### **From Our President**

As we end this holy month of Ramadan, I want to celebrate all the success and diligence that we have encountered throughout the previous months from our Students and Staff Members, and may the light of goodness glow upon us all, filling us with gratitude, persistence and happiness.



For nearly 32 years, Al-Ahliyya Amman University has been earning the respect and loyalty of tens of thousands of students, parents and alumni. It is where you fill find exceptional experiences that allow you to grow, develop, explore new interests and fully realize your potential. Producing career-ready graduates has always been central to our mission. Through a process that includes career exploration and professional preparation, we connect you with career paths and foster the skills and mindset needed for professional advancement. When you walk across the stage as a graduating senior at commencement, you will have more than just a degree from Al-Ahliyya Amman University, you will have career direction and the confidence needed for success in your chosen field.

I encourage you to visit our beautiful campus, meet our Students and Faculties, and see for yourself the outstanding opportunities, activities and facilities that Al-Ahliyya Amman University offers.

Prof. Sari A. Hamdan president@ammanu.edu.jo





### Al-Ahliyya Amman University ranked number 1 among Jordanian universities in the Times 2022 Impact Ranking

The Times Higher Education published on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, the results of the Times University Impact Rankings 2022, ranking Al-Ahliyya Amman University number 1 in Jordan and within the top 101-200 universities worldwide.

The University has made remarkable progress in most of the criteria of this international ranking, which is concerned with the impact of global universities on their communities and in achieving global sustainability according to United Nations SDGs.

The results of the rankings were announced during the Times Impact and Innovation Summit held in Stockholm, Sweden, where Al-Ahliyya Amman University had participated and was represented by the University President, Professor Sari Hamdan and his Assistant for Foreign Affairs, Professor Anas Alsoud.

Dr. Maher Al Hourani, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Al-Ahliyya Amman University, congratulated the university staff represented by the University President, Professor Sari Hamdan, for this unique achievement.

For his part, The President of the University, Professor Sari Hamdan, confirmed the university's interest in the Times Ranking, which includes all standards of sustainable development and seeks to achieve them as part of the university's mission, and stressed that the university's global progress in the standards of this ranking confirms this interest, despite the fact that twice the number of universities were qualified this year compared to last year, and this is the result of great and sincere efforts of all employees at the university. With regard to the ranking, Professor Dr. Anas Alsoud, Assistant President of the University for Foreign Affairs who is in charge of the ranking efforts, explained that the university entered this ranking for the fourth year in a row maintaining high ranks despite the increased competition as the number of universities ranked globally increased from 500 in 2018 to more than 1,500 this year.

He also added "Perhaps the most important achievement of this year is the university's progress to reach the 57th place globally in the standard of quality of education. The university's results last year play a key role in developing the plan which helped achieve this remarkable result."

Alsoud commented that "The University's Global Engagement Center, which works in direct coordination with all centers and faculties of the university, was responsible for implementing all ranking standards indicators within the specified time period."

He pointed out that Al Hourani Center for Applied Scientific Research has contributed significantly to the global partnership of the university's researchers with prestigious research centers and universities with the aim of increasing the research qualitative production of Al-Ahliyya Amman University, where the university's research output increased by 40% during the first half of the current academic year. He stressed that this qualitative achievement serves as one of the performance indicators developed for the five-year plan 2019-2023, which aims to enlist the university among the top 1,000 universities in the Times Ranking of International Universities.

Alsoud thanked the efforts of his university colleagues, the cooperation of the university's regional and international partners, the continued support of the





**KTH Royal Institute of Technology** 

**During the Summit** 



**Golden Hall** 



**Stockholm City Hall** 

university president, and the unlimited support and the vigorous follow-up of the chairman of the board of directors, Dr. Maher Al-Hourani.

It is worth mentioning that Al-Ahliyya Amman University ranked first in the Arab world in terms of the number of expat students and the first in the Arab world with regards to the professors and their competence and obtaining higher university degrees according to the world ranking of QS of Arab Region Rankings 2020-2021. Furthermore, the University successfully obtained the 5 Platinum Crowns from the Accreditation Service for International Schools (ASIC), in addition to receiving the ASIC International Award for the best university that supported its community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Today's achievement is added to the list of achievements of Al-Ahliyya Amman University, which always strives for excellence locally, regionally, and globally.



### AAU launches its annual Ramadan charity campaign in Al-Balqa governorate

Our Deanship of Student Affairs, in collaboration with the Higher Committee for Activities & Community Service launched its annual Ramadan charity campaign to support families in need located in Al-Balqa governorate with the participation of students from various faculties.



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During this campaign, food parcels & care packages are distributed to families in need and municipality workers, in addition to preparing Iftar feasts throughout the holy month of Ramadan.

These prospering campaigns organized by our University aim to emphasize community support, social responsibility and give back along with providing all support to the people of our country.

Dr. Mustafa Al-Attiyat, our Dean of Student Affairs & Chairman of the Higher Committee for Activities & Community Service appreciated the university's efforts and their continuous support into serving the local community. The closing ceremony of the 5th "Reciting the Holy Qur'an Award of Dr. Ahmad Al-Hourani" for Jordanian universities students





Under the patronage of our President, Prof. Sari Hamdan, and in the presence of the Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Mustafa Al-Attiyat, the 5th Reciting the Holy Qur'an Award of Dr. Ahmad Al-Hourani, May His Soul Rest in Peace, was organized by the Deanship of Student Affairs at the University with the participation of 22 Jordanian universities.

This competition aims to increase the interest in the Holy Qur'an among university students in terms of recitation, intonation and memorizing in addition to deepening and consolidating faith values in Muslim youth.

In conclusion, Prof. Sari Hamdan presented the University's shield of honor to the members of the award jury in recognition of their efforts towards the success of the award's activities and directing them in the best form with the utmost integrity and transparency, in addition to thanking all Jordanian universities for participating in the competition.

The Award achievers were honored and came as follow:

Owais Al-Daghameen from AAU & Alama Juliana from University of Applied Sciences earned the first place

Alamin Abdul Karim from Muta University & Alaa Al-Khawaja from Balqa Applied University came in the second place as well as

Salim Malik from Middle East University & Asmaa bin Nasser from Isra' University in the third place.

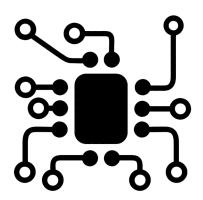


### A scientific trip for our Students of the Electrical Engineering Department



The Department of Electrical Engineering at our University organized a scientific trip to the Electric Training Center of the National Electricity Company (NEPCO) in Al-Zarqa city.

Students and faculty members were interested in the trip that aimed in providing training opportunities, identifying the possibilities & capabilities of the center as well as introducing the courses offered by the center to newly graduated technicians and engineers.



### A scientific trip for our students of the Agricultural Technology Faculty



As part of the activities organized by our Faculty of Agricultural Technology, a trip was organized for students of the Department in the presence of the Faculty's Dean, Prof. Rida Shibli along with Dr. Sobhia Sa'ifan, head of The Department.

The trip started with visiting Baladna dairy factory, where the production manager presented a documentary video on hands-free dairy manufacturing in all its forms, along with a factory tour to learn more about the automated manufacturing methods. The students also visited the plant tissue laboratory and were briefed on tissue plantation and its development stages as well as techniques of plants tissue-infestation.

The scientific trip program also included visiting a farm in Jerash that follows the drip irrigation method along with green houses for crops. The students were impressed by this informative trip, which increased their interest towards their specialty.







The Scientific Research Students Club of the Pharmacy Faculty held a lecture on the fundamentals of scientific research, presented by the club consultant, Dr. Ali Al-Sumaidai. The lecture covered the fundamentals of scientific research followed by honoring the students who published researches under their names, including Obada Al-Sibai (5th year pharmacy student) and Serena Hijazin (AAU alumni). This joint paper was published as their first in the **European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry** with an impact factor of 6.5 and a Q1 rating as listed in the Scopus database.

The published paper is a scientific review of recipient inhibitor P 2Y12: approved drugs, potential naturally extracted compounds, synthetic compounds, and related computer simulation studies. This research was under the supervision of Dr. Bilal Al-Najjar as the first author of the paper, and Dr. Manal Abbas with the participation of PhD. student Dr. Fadi Saqallah (AAU alumni).

Also, a first research paper by Majd Iskandar and Hadil Bahlul (AAU alumni) was also published in the Journal of Applied Pharmaceutical Science, a Q2-rated journal listed in the Scopus database. The research was carried out under the supervision of Dr. Ali Al-Sumaidai as the first author of the paper, and Dr. Maha Abu Hijleh.

The paper was under the titled "The dilemma of incorrect practice towards unused and expired pharmaceutical products".



# Lecture by poet Islam Samhan on our campus

Under the patronage of Prof. Nael Al-Shar'a, Dean of Faculty of Arts & Sciences, and in the presence of Humanities & Social Sciences head of department, Dr. Sawsan Badrakhan, a lecture was held under the title "Writing in Visual and Written Media" by poet Islam Samhan of Ro'ya TV Channel.

Mr. Samhan discussed the importance of writing in our daily lives as means of self-expression and communication with others, where in writing we disclose feelings and emotions, deliver information, ideas, opinions and news. He also pointed out the types of writing that vary depending on the purpose, such as functional writing used in research and summaries, creative writing used in stories, novels, and poetry and media writing which is used in news, investigations, talks. commentaries and press reports. Mr. Samhan added that each type of writing has its own language, style and format that distinguishes it from Mahmoud others. Dr. Hafeeza moderated the lecture and dialogue between the audience and the lecturer.





Published by: Global Engagement Center (GEC)

The Center for Women's Health at Al-Ahliyya Amman University launches an awareness campaign entitled "Towards safe fasting for diabetes patients"





The Women Health Center of AAU organized an awareness campaign under the title "Towards Safe Fasting for Diabetic Patients" aiming women benefiting from the Islamic Charitable Center in Al-Salt. Dr. Rana Abu-Hwaij, director of the center, highlighted the essential health & nutrition guidelines, advice and important drug doses

that diabetics must follow to maintain a healthy fasting.

Dr. Zainab Zakaria focused on daily food ratios of fruits & vegetables suitable for the health of diabetics, while Dr. Farah Al-Mosuli highlighted the types of fluids and juices that a diabetic can consume.

Female students from the Faculty of Nursing also measured sugar levels for all the beneficiaries present and distributed care packages, which included healthy foods for diabetics.

### Physical activity and work productivity

There is no doubt that physical activity lead to increased work productivity, and that is due to multiple factors one being that a physically fit person is more healthy therefore they are less likely to take "sick days off". Not to mention the benefits of physical activity and the increased levels of focus, where studies have shown to help the body release chemicals associated with increased awareness, focus and mental abilities, as well as its proven effect on reducing stress levels.

And lately, there has been a lot of controversy around weather businesses should introduce mandatory physical activity to fight against mental and physical lethargy in the workplace.

Physical activity should have the same level of importance that other work tasks have, and make it one of the top priorities no matter the work environment.



Dr. Wala Al-Kasasbeh





### Our Alumni.. Our Pride

#### **Dr. Ekhlas Yakhlef** Lecturer in Law, former TV Presenter

Dr. Ekhlas Yakhlef graduated from Al-Ahliyya Amman University with a BA degree in Law. Her passion for presenting Jordanian daily lifestyle led her to cast the Jordanian national TV in 1985 while she was perusing her studies.



Dr. Ekhlas's extensive career as a presenter

steered her to continue her studies, achieving her PhD degree in General Law, where she published an esteemed thesis under the title: "The Limits of Administrative Control Over The Media and its Impact on Limiting Freedom of Expression in the Jordanian Legislation".

Dr. Ekhlas is currently a lecturer in Al-Isra University, where she began her teaching career in 2019.

#### **Establishments:**

Received the Queen Noor Al Hussain Award in 1992 for her attribution in the

- Telethon Cancer Al Amal Center.

Received five prestigious golden awards from the Arabic International
Broadcasting Union in Tunisia, as the finest and well-established presenter in the MENA region.

Honored by Her Majesty Queen Rania Abdullah in 2001.

- The Arab League and the General Union for Arab Producers honored her in
- 2011 for her outstanding media career.



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