



الجامعة الوطنية
National University
Science & Technology للمعلوم والتكنولوجيا

National University

NEWSLETTER

Biannual

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Message from the Editorial Team:***Continuing a Proud Tradition!!!***

It is indeed a great honour to publish the 4th Issue of the VC newsletter, which is a testimony to all the quality teaching, research achievements happenings at the National University. This issue proudly presents to you the accolades and accomplishments of the National University as well as the events happening around us at the various colleges.

A big thank you to all the colleagues who contributed to writing the wonderful and inspiring articles, without which there wouldn't have been this newsletter issue.

Hope everyone has a fabulous reading.

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The VC's Message

Greetings to all !

As we are coming towards the end of the AY 2022-2023, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to all the students, faculty & staff for their continuous efforts, professionalism and hard work for a successful academic year. At NU we are committed to excellence and we believe that the development of our nation depends on the quality of education delivered.

In this issue we will continue to capture the myriad of activities that took place at the National University during the previous 6 months.

I am sure that the VC newsletter has become a must-read chronicle on what is happening at the University. I congratulate the whole team for this project which beautifully captures the soul of NU and look forward to reading many more excellent issues in the times to come.



Best Regards,

Dr. Ali Al Bimani

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National University Achievements and Events

CONGRATULATIONS!
NU HAS DONE IT 3RD
CONSECUTIVE TIME

**WE ARE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE
NU HAS WON**

1ST PLACE

**IN THE BELOW AWARD CATEGORIES
IN GHEDEX ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS FOR
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION 2023**

- ▶ GLOBAL RANKING FOR UNIVERSITIES
- ▶ STUDENT INNOVATION
- ▶ OVERALL 'BEST OF BEST'

**National University is ranked in
SCImago Institutional Ranking
2023 for the first time"**

Out of 30k
entities/universities
worldwide, only **8433**
got ranked and NU
secured a world rank of
7498, in its maiden
attempt

SCIMAGO
INSTITUTIONS
RANKINGS

CONGRATULATIONS

**5th Among Universities in
the Sultanate of Oman**

"Many thanks and appreciations to the Executives, Deans, Directors, HoDs, Faculty, Staff and Students for your untiring efforts in taking NU to greater heights" – **Dr Ali Al Bimani, VC**

Together Towards Excellence

The SCImago Institutions Ranking (SIR), developed by a Research Group from Spain, is based on three indicators: research performance, innovation outputs and societal impact.

NU CREATES HISTORY

National University has been ranked as **818th** World's Most Sustainable University in **2022** **UI GreenMetric World University Rankings**

1st in OMAN

NU is the **First and Only** university from Oman listed in UI GreenMetric World Rankings 2022

Congratulations to the Deans, HoDs, Faculty, Staff, Students and HSE for the excellent contribution towards this achievement.

- Dr Ali Saud Al Bimani, Vice-Chancellor

Certificate
This certificate is awarded to
National University of Science and Technology, Oman
as The 818th World's Most Sustainable University
in 2022 UI GreenMetric World University Rankings
Jakarta, 12 December 2022

1st in Oman

National University
Science & Technology العلوم والتكنولوجيا

National University, Oman has secured
1st Place in
**GHEDEX Future Skills and
HRD Awards 2023**

**Award Category
HEALTH & WELLBEING**

FUTURE SKILLS & HRD
مهارات المستقبل وتنمية الموارد البشرية

GHEDEX SERIES
24-25 January 2023
Crowne Plaza Qurum

The University believes in its commitment to innovative ideas, sustainability, collaboration and partnership, and community engagement in research to address the major societal and industrial challenges. This award becomes a testimony of NU contributing to the positive impact on the community through sustained research endeavors.



Only University from Oman

الجامعة الوطنية
National University
Science & Technology العلوم والتكنولوجيا

Zairi International Award
FOR EXCELLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION
Award of Excellence for Research Impact

CONGRATULATIONS!

National University of Science and Technology (NU), Oman is the recipient of the prestigious international award.

2023 ZAIRI INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION (RESEARCH IMPACT CATEGORY)

الجامعة الوطنية
National University
Science & Technology العلوم والتكنولوجيا

تحت إشراف
معالي الدكتور هلال بن علي بن هلال السبتي
وزير الصحة
رئيس اللجنة

Under the patronage of
H.E. Dr. Hilal bin Ali bin Hilal Al-Sabti
Minister of Health

خلف السبتي
الدكتور هلال بن علي بن هلال السبتي
NU Graduation
F.F.F - F.F.F



الجامعة الوطنية
National University
Science & Technology العلوم والتكنولوجيا

CONGRATULATIONS

I am very much delighted to inform you that our University has won **first place** in 2 award categories as follows

1st Place in BEST USE OF DATA FOR IOT
1st Place in BEST USE OF AI IN DATA TECH

in COMEX AWARDS
2nd Big Data & Analytics 2022

My sincere appreciation and thanks to each one of you for making this happen and I am very much confident that NU will continue this winning streak in the days ahead

Dr Ali Saud Al Bimani
Vice-Chancellor

OMAN'S 2ND
BIG DATA & ANALYTICS MEET
COMEX SERIES



The award ceremony was held on 5th December 2022 at Crown Plaza, Qurum under the patronage of

His Excellency Dr Ali Al Shidhani

Undersecretary for Communications and Information Technology
Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology (MTCIT)

The award was received by **Prof Dr Ahmed Al Bulushi**, Dean, College of Engineering, National University



H. E. Prof. Rahma Al Mahrouqi, MOHERI) visit to IMCO & COMHS

On Wednesday, March 15th, 2023, the branches of the National University for Science and

Technology in North Al Batinah Governorate were honoured by the visit of H. E. Prof. Rahma Bint Ibrahim Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation. H. E.'s visit was dedicated to the International Maritime College Oman (IMCO) and the College of Medicine and Health Sciences in Suhar (COMHS).

Her Excellency was accompanied by HE Dr. Bakhit bin Ahmed Al-Mahri, Undersecretary for Higher Education, and some of the Ministry's concerned officials.



Besides NU's executive members, Dr. P. Mohamed Ali, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and Dr. Ali bin Saud Al Bimani, Vice-Chancellor of the National University received and welcomed Her Excellency and the accompanying team.



College of Engineering

New Engineering Students Attend 5-Day Induction Programs

Students who progressed from the School of Foundation Studies attended a 5-day induction program at the Assembly Hall from 12th to 16th February 2023. The induction programme this time was of a different taste. Each day was packed with activities and tasks which students had to participate and do. An activity passport was given to them to track and monitor their performance and participation. Different speakers came to induct the students on the key services and programs available to them during their stay in the college. Prof. Ahmed Hassan Al Balushi, Dean CoE, welcomed the new entrants. He emphasized on the importance of proper study habits while optimizing the involvement in various clubs that help them be competent and well-rounded engineers. Successful completers received a certificate of completion.

Moreover, department-specific inductions for CEE, ECE, and MIE Departments took place on day 2 of the induction week. This was intended to orient students to the specificities of their respective departments in terms of department organization, program and course requirements, policies and procedures, and student professional memberships. This MOHERI-required induction intends to brief and induct new students to various college-related services and activities which enables them to have a comfortable and conducive learning environment while journeying to obtain a BEng degree from NU soon.

PDH Develops New Students' Companies

The Department of Professional Development and Humanities developed two students' companies in the current academic year, 2022/2023. Tala Students' Company targetted the agricultural sector by creating an Omani product of environmental bags that protect the dates from its palm trees from humidity, rains, and insects before harvesting. This bag was tested in laboratories to confirm its efficiency in protecting the dates. The product is ideal for farmers, agricultural companies and government organizations that support the agriculture sector.

Skydrop Students' Company has manufactured an innovative device that converts humid air into fresh water for drinking. This device aims to solve problems faced by adventurers, backpackers, boat fishermen and tourism agencies. This device can effectively provide clean water in all circumstances.



PDH Conducts Tagseer

In collaboration with Ministry of Labor, the College of Engineering conducted the Tagseer Program for the college graduates in two sessions between 20th to 24th November 2022 and 18th to 22nd December 2022.



The program develops employability skills of participants and supports them during the job application process. The Tagseer Program helps participants construct a professional CV, prepare for job interviews by responding to commonly asked questions. In addition, graduates are trained on effective communication skills and assisted with creating a LinkedIn profile. The participants provided very positive feedback on the program benefits and will be conducted soon for the third batch.

CEE Conducts Workshop on Renewable Energy Resource for Oman

The Civil and Environmental Engineering Department conducted a one-day workshop on 4th January 2023 at the College of Engineering. The workshop aimed to share the research project findings on the use of Wadi Dayqah Dam as a mega battery and a renewable energy resource for Oman. The workshop was attended by various groups of experts and professionals from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fishery and Water Resources, Public Authority of Water, and Oman Power and Water Procurement, Oman Water Society, Sultan Qaboos University, consulting engineers, and staff members of NU. Dr Akbar Karimi (NU) and Dr M. R. Nikoo (SQU) facilitated three sessions that covered topics on water resources management, simulation modelling and optimization modelling.

MIE, PDH Conduct Workshop on Entrepreneurship Theory and Application

The MIE and PDH Department conducted a student workshop on "Entrepreneurship Theory and Application" on 21st March 2023 at the College of Engineering Conference Hall from 9.30am to 12nn.

The student workshop provided undergraduate engineering students the opportunity to be familiarized with the application of entrepreneurship knowledge to Level 4 students' final projects with the integration of UN Sustainable Development Goals and Oman Vision 2040. A total of 51 students across different engineering programs of the National University

have participated in this workshop including members of the Entrepreneurs and Innovators' Club. The workshop focused on translating basic entrepreneurship and innovation skills into entrepreneurship and SME development visualization which builds on business ideas. The workshop was facilitated by Dr Kabaly Pitchakannu Subramanian of the Arab Open University in Muscat, Oman.

NU College of Engineering and Shiraz University of Technology Organize International Symposium

The National University College of Engineering, Department of ECE jointly organised an online international symposium with the Shiraz University of Technology, Iran on 2nd November 2022. The symposium was on the Applications of Artificial Intelligence. It was attended by more than 100 delegates from Malaysia, South Korea, India and Iran. Professor Ali Bimani, Vice Chancellor NU and Prof Alavian Mehr, the Chancellor of Tehran's Shiraz University of Technology delivered the welcome speech and opening remarks, respectively.

Prominent international speakers delivered speeches on different aspects of AI. Also, a total of 18 research papers were presented by students and researchers in the said symposium.

PDH Conducts Workshop among NU College of Pharmacy Faculty

Dr Punam Datt and Ms Trinette Fernandes, both from the Professional Development and Humanities Department of the NU College of Engineering conducted a workshop on "Supporting Slow Learners" among faculty of the College of Pharmacy of the same university on 9th March 2023 at the NU College of Pharmacy.



This workshop intends to provide the faculty with additional knowledge and expertise in encouraging and equipping slow learners in class and bringing out the best in them.

This workshop was organized by the Curriculum, Learning Resource Committee and Professional Development Committee chaired by Dr Shah Alam.

News Bits:

- Adil Al Mamari, a Level 4 BEng POM student won the Best Project Competition held on 13th December 2022 at College of Engineering of National University of Science and Technology. He was supervised by Dr. Shah Jahan.
- Dr Priy Dwivedi received a letter of appreciation from the Oman Tourism College for delivering a lecture on "How to

write effective literature review" among OTC students on 15th November 2022.

- Dr Nageswara Rao Lakkimsetty of the MIE Department delivered a key note lecture on "Nano Technology Applications for Water Purification and Wastewater Treatment" during the One Week Online Faculty Development Programme on Advances and Futuristic Trends in Mechanical Engineering (AFTME) from 19th to 24th December 2022. This event was organized by Godavari Institute of Engineering and Technology, Andhra Pradesh, India.
- The "Waste to Energy" lab of the NU College of Engineering represented in the Conference on Chemistry and Chemicals 2022 (C3-2022) in Dubai, UAE from 15th to 18th December 2022. Also, Ms. Noura Al Balushi and Mr. Shabib Al Rashdi won the best paper and presentation by presenting two papers entitled, "Advanced Parameter Studies on the Extraction of Furfural from Agricultural Waste" "Life Cycle Assessment Systems of Biochar Produced from Empty Fruit Bunch Date Palm Waste-Economically".
- Ms. Amna Wahab Yahya Abdullah, a BEng in Chemical Engineering student and Ms. Hajer Ahmed Ali Saleh, a BEng in Process Operation and Maintenance student won 2nd Place and 4th Place, respectively, in the 2nd Research and Innovation Competition "BIG Ideas Wanted" which was organized by the Gulf Petrochemicals and Chemicals Association (GPCA) on 26th September 2022 at the Sky View Hotel, Dubai, UAE.
- Ms Razan Al Kalbani won the National Award on "Energy Globe Award" for her project on "Hybrid Model of Solar and Wind Energy for Powering Street Lights" in 2nd October 2022.
- Ms Iftikhar Al Saadi, a BEng in Process Operation and Maintenance student presented her Technical Project during the 2nd Inspection and Integrity Conference held on 20th and 21st September 2022 at Hormuz Grand Hotel, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. She was supervised by Dr. Shah Jahan.
- Dr Lakkimsetty Nageswara Rao delivered a lecture on "Power Electronics for Electric Vehicle and Renewable Energy Sources" during the International Faculty Development Programme from 12th to 16th September 2022 at Hyderabad, India.
- Ms. Alaa Janan Al Najjar, a student of MIE department was awarded as Best Research Presentation in the Student Research Presentation during the NU Research Day on 3rd October 2022.
- Mr. Ragavesh D delivered a talk on "Implementation of Facial Mask Detection and Verification of Vaccination Certificate using Jetson Xavier Kit" among the Scientific Research and Research Teaching Nexus Committee of the Al-Zahra College for Women, Oman on 14th March 2023.
- Ms. Mohsina Kamarudeen, a Level 4 ITMB student received the Best Project Presentation Award for her project entitled: "Machine Learning Based Mobile Application for Financial Management for College Students in Oman" during the International Conference held in Muscat on 2nd November 2022.
- Mr. Athar Azeez delivered an online guest lecturer on "Stability Analysis of Continuous-time and Discrete-time Systems" on 22nd December 2022 among Electrical and Electronics Engineering students at the University of Technology and Applied Sciences, Muscat.

International Maritime College

Prize of Startup Ideas Program “Manafa”

National University congratulates its students from IMCO, Manar Al Attar, Abdul Rahman Al Marzouqi, Jawaher Al Balushi and Shamail Al Saadi for winning the prize of Startup Ideas Program “Manafa” under supervision of Dr. Tahereh Jafari and Dr. Muna Al Hinai.

2nd SEA the Future Conference

The Maritime Department represented by Dr. Nourhan Ghoneim and Dr. Firat participated in the 2nd SEA the Future Conference, titled: “Towards sustainable maritime community” in Thailand.

Workshop on 3D models of Process Equipment

The Engineering department organized a workshop on 3D models of Process Equipment for 12th grade students where they visualized the major equipment used in process industries and in real time with the animated effects.



Schools visit.

IMCO conducted an introductory campaign about NU and its programs for schools in Buraimi Governorate, where a specialized team from NU visited several schools.

NU Vice-Chancellor’s visit

Dr. Ali Al Bimani, Vice-Chancellor of the NU meets with IMCO management and Heads of Departments.



Dean’s list

The Dean awarded the outstanding students “Dean’s List - Fall 2022”.



Dhofar University

Congratulations to IMCO students for obtaining 2nd place in the Fifth University Undergraduate Student Research Competition held by Dhofar University.

Competition results:

https://twitter.com/dh_university/status/1635897906522669056/photo/2



Doha Conference

Student Jahad Al Jabri presented a research article in the “International Conference on Innovation and Technological Advances for Sustainability” held at Doha, Qatar under the supervision of Prof Sadhik Basha.



Al Buraimi University

Congratulations to the PE student Maryam Al Saadi for winning

the first prize in 1st Engineering Exhibition for Innovative Graduation Projects (EEIGP-1) under the supervision of Prof. Sadhik Basha held at Buraimi University.



ITOSF

Dr. Firat Bolat from the Maritime Department presented the topic of "An analysis of the mandatory requirements in the context of human element and competency issues from the perspective of TMSA (The Tanker Management and Self-Assessment)" in the Informal Tanker Operators Safety Forum (ITOSF) in Oman hosted by OSMC.

Research paper

A group of students published an article in the Journal of Maritime Research under the supervision of Captain Mehrdad.



Prof. Ikbal S Hasnain visit.

IMCO hosted the NU BOT member Prof. Ikbal S Hasnain where he met the college management and learned about the college programs, facilities, and simulators.



Orchid Private school

IMCO hosted Orchid Private school, where students had fun learning about the college programs.



Fundamentals of Photography

The student Affairs department hosted the photographer Rashid Al Maqbali to give a workshop titled: Fundamentals of photography.

The article's title is:

"How do the Depression and Mental Health of Crew Members Create Threats to The Shipping Industry?"

The paper is accessible from the below link:

<https://www.jmr.unican.es/index.php/jmr/article/view/694/726>

Royal Air Force

IMCO hosted a delegation from the Royal Air Force of Oman, represented by the Logistics School. During the visit, they learned about the college programs, its facilities and were closely acquainted with the simulators and the Logistics and Transport Management Program.



Visit of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry

IMCO hosted Dr. Ali Al Lawati, Chairman of the Education, Research and Development Committee at Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry in North Al Batinah to discuss areas of cooperation in research, development, and training.

College of Medicine & Health Sciences

H. E. Prof. Dr. Rahma Bint Ibrahim Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation (MOHERI) visited the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, National University in Sohar.

On Wednesday, March 15th, 2023, H. E. Prof. Rahma Bint Ibrahim Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation. Her Excellency visited the College of Medicine and Health Sciences in Sohar (COMHS) and inaugurated the new COMHS girls hostel suites. Her Excellency was accompanied during the visit by HE Dr. Bakhit bin Ahmed Al-Mahri, Undersecretary for Higher Education, and some of the Ministry's concerned officials.

Besides NU's Executive members, Dr. P. Mohamed Ali, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and Dr. Ali bin Saud Al Bimani, Vice-Chancellor of the National University, Dr. Salim bin Khamis Al Araimi, the DVC received her and welcomed Her Excellency and the accompanying team.

Prof. Mohammad Al-Shafae, Dean of the college told the guests: "This new COMHS students' girls' hostel is equipped with comfortable suites with single bedroom, modern kitchen and laundry facilities, and state of the art gym for girls. This project is also characterized by its green surroundings and outdoor sports fields for practising sports activities. The new COMHS students hostel suites project consists of 3 buildings, each building has 4 floors, and 150 rooms equipped with all services as well as living rooms, study and deliberation rooms, and various activities.

During her visit, she addressed the faculty members, staff and the students and praised the hard work the faculty members and staff have put into this college. H. E. the Minister and the accompanying delegation were briefed on the college's facilities, laboratories, and simulator building. H. E. the Minister and the delegation visited the Gross Anatomy lab, Physiology lab, and the library. She was very impressed by the state-of-the-art Gross Anatomy lab and interacted with the students who were studying on the prosected specimens and cadavers. She stressed the need to link the College's programs to the most seen clinical cases in Oman.

In addition, she advocated the importance of the creation of a competitive environment that attracts international students and provides Omani students with the necessary competence and expertise to qualify them to compete in the labour market. H. E. urged private higher education institutions to convert their campuses into green buildings using renewable and sustainable energy.

Visit of the Minister of Health Dr Hilal bin Ali bin Hilal Al-Sabti

The honourable Minister of Health His Excellency Dr Hilal bin Ali bin Hilal Al-Sabti paid an unofficial visit to College of Medicine and Health Sciences at Sohar on Dec. 13, 2022. The Dean, assistant dean and other staff members received His Excellency. All the HOD's assembled in the lobby and the dean introduced them to the H.E. During his visit, he interacted with the final year medical students and the faculty members in the

Oman Amphitheater. This was followed by a tour of the college. He was very impressed with the Gross Anatomy lab and said that this was an asset for the whole country and could be used by the other doctor's research on human specimens. He was also very impressed by the Skill lab.



Open Day celebrations at the College of Medicine and Health Sciences

The yearly Open Day (Cultural Street) was organized by the College Student Advisory Council Students and the Student Affairs department at the COMHS at the NU. Open day theme was Cultural Street. The event was held under the patronage of the Vice-Chancellor of the National University, Dr. Ali bin Souad Al Bimani and presences of the deputy vice-chancellor of the National University, Dr. Salim bin Khamis Al Araimi, and the Dean of the college, Prof. Mohamed Al Shafae and college faculty, staff members and students. In addition, representatives of four leading entrepreneurs' companies in Oman were invited as guest speakers and these companies were the Jusoor Company (building Bridges), the Vale Oman Pelletizing Company, the Sohar Operation Services Company and the Injaz Oman and staff from blood donation centre at the Sohar Hospital.

The program of the day started with the Entrepreneurship program which aimed to enhance the spirit of entrepreneurship at the University and local communities and to simplify the concept of entrepreneurship for college students through this innovative and professional workshop. The college students' entrepreneurship club director Ms. Sandaus Al Rashidi introduced the student club activities and initiatives for the current academic year and emphasized on the role of young people in developing their own finance budget through starting a small business. She stated that the real challenge remained the uncertainty that came with moving out of the box. Finally, Dr. Ali bin Souad Al Bimani, VC, Dr. Salim bin Khamis Al Araimi, deputy VC & provost and Prof. Mohamed Al Shafae, the Dean praised all the speakers who participated at the workshop by presenting mementos to them.

Many stalls were organized by expert students from the following countries: Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Egypt, Iraq, Sudan, Palestine and many more. The stalls displayed their culture by offering food and drinks, clothes, handicrafts, etc. The guests were given a round of these stalls and briefed about their country's culture and tradition. At night there was a stage

show which included a fashion show, some poetry sons and prize distribution.



White coat ceremony

Under the patronage of H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Suliman Al Kindi, Governor of North Al-Batinah, COMHS, National University, organized the White Coat and Medical Oath Ceremony for 115 medical students on Wednesday 21st December 2022. In his speech, Dr. Ali Saud Al Bimani, VC of NU, stressed on the development witnessed by medical education in the Sultanate of Oman and the interest it receives at all levels. He highlighted the importance of cooperation between the university and the health institutions that are partners in this development, especially through clinical training and services. Prof. Mohammad Ali Al-Shafee, Dean of College, stated that the White Coat ceremony is a global tradition that symbolizes the beginning of clinical training. He congratulated the 155 future doctors pointing out the importance of their training during this stage in tenets of leadership, ethics, human values, communication skills, and care for patients that will qualify them to be distinguished physicians in their chosen fields. In conclusion, His Excellency Mohammed



bin Sulaiman Al Kindi, Governor of North Al Batinah, Patron of the ceremony, honoured the health institutions and doctors who collaborated and assisted in the clinical training of the students of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences.



TEDx NUSciTech 2023

TED is an annual event where the world's leading thinkers and doers are invited to share their passions. "TED" stands for Technology, Entertainment, and Design – three broad subject areas that are shaping our future. TEDx is a local, self-organized event that brings people together to share a TED-like experience, in the spirit of ideas worth spreading. These local events are branded as TEDx, the 'x' represents an independently organized TED event. TEDxNUSciTech is independently organized and fully coordinated by students at the National University.

Everything in your life comes because of your choices. Sometimes it's the smallest decision that can change your life forever. TEDxNUSciTech this year is determined to inspire the crowd, to make good choices now and to assure better things that are yet to happen.

The speakers for this occasion were Dr. Afnan Al-Ghamdi from Saudi Arabia, in the field of psychiatry, Mr. Zakaria Ibrahim Kazim from the Kingdom of Bahrain who is the President of the Bahrain Diabetes Association and Mr. Mohammed Ahmed from the Kingdom of Bahrain in the field of aviation (CEO of Salam Air). As for the Sultanate, we were accompanied by Her Highness, Mian Al Said, in the field of art. Diver Omar AlGhailani, in the field of scuba diving, Dr. Nawal Al-Sharjeh a consultant pediatric urologist at the Royal Hospital and Noura Al-Kamzaria, a blind student, excelled in the field of learning and teaching, and the virtuous Fahad Al-Abri in the field of music.

The organizing committee consisted of enthusiastic and ambitious students from the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, at National University, Sohar campus.

Faculty development workshop on program evaluation and quality management by Prof. Janet Grant

The The Medical Education Unit (MEU) and the core group for Research in Medical Education (RIME), COMHS, NU organized a faculty development workshop on "program evaluation and quality management" by Professor Janet Grant, Director, Cenmedic, United Kingdom and Honorary Professor at the University College London Medical School. Prof. Janet is also a Senior Scholar, University of Illinois at Chicago College

of Medicine and Chair of standards updating for the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME). The event was organized on Tuesday, February 21st at the Al Bathinah Hall, Second Floor, COMHS, Sohar Campus. The workshop delineated the issues, methods and frameworks which enabled participants to think about, analyses, and plan their own program evaluation for quality management and improvement at their institutions. Besides COMHS faculty, selected representatives from the constituent colleges of National University and other medical and health sciences colleges from Oman also participated in this workshop.



The COMHS interprofessional education fest (CIPEF) – 2023

The Medical Education Unit (MEU) of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences hosted the Interprofessional Education Fest, CIPEF – 2023, the first of its kind in Oman from 12th to 16th March 2023. The fest was an attempt to celebrate interprofessional and collaborative practice involving learners from diverse health professions. The program was formally inaugurated by Prof. John Gilbert, Hon. Professor, University of British Columbia, Canada and Founding Director, of the Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative (CIHC).

The curricular initiatives of the fest began with an interactive

session with final year medical students on a topic “Learning together to Work together”. This session was facilitated by Dr John Gilbert & Dr Ciraj AM (Head, Medical Education, COMHS). On Monday 13th March, a Faculty Development Program was organised in Al Bathina Hall on the topic “Introducing Interprofessional Education & Collaborative Practice in the Curriculum”. On 14th March, a poster display on collaborative competencies was organized in the student’s lounge, library building with MD4 students displaying their posters.

The weeklong celebrations culminated in an interprofessional Students’ Conclave on 16th March, which was themed “Interprofessional Education & Collaborative Practice: Pathways to Patient Safety and One Health”. Around 200 students from colleges of medicine, nursing and pharmacy registered for this event. The conclave had experts from WHO, Ministry of Health and IPE Global Networks along with faculty members from National University of Science & Technology and other health profession institutes from Oman delivering sessions focusing on themes related to patient safety, one-health and medication safety. Student groups discussed the themes in small groups thereafter which was facilitated by COMHS faculty. These groups later presented their inputs to the whole group during debrief sessions. Students were highly appreciative of this event and expressed their interest for participating in similar events in the future. They mentioned that the conclave not only provided opportunities for experiential learning but also highlighted the importance of working with other professions for enhancing health outcomes.



College of Pharmacy

National Vision 2040

Under the patronage of VC Dr. Ali Al Bimani on 23rd March 2023, Graduate Studies, Research and Innovation Committee (GSRIC) conducted two sessions related to National Vision 2040 importance and achievements. The first session, "Overview of Oman vision 2040 and the Health Priority Strategic Direction" was delivered by Dr. Halima Al Hinai, Sr Consultant Public Health and Health Management, Health Priority Lead, Vision 2040. The second session, "The National Research Strategic Direction" was delivered by Dr. Fahad Zadjali, Director of Health Research Center - Ministry of Health.



Stars of Science Program

Ms. Sumaiya Al Siyabi, the first-place winner in Stars of Science program, Qatar, was invited by the College of Pharmacy on 14th December 2022, to share her research experience and about her winning project. She talked about the journey from idea, innovation to product. She highlighted the importance of saving the environment from plastic and how it affects human health. She explained the concept of her invention and how she managed to get the final product. The event was under the patronage of VC Dr. Ali Bimani, and DVCP Dr. Salim Khamis Al Aarimi. Students from Azza Bin Qais School (ABQ) also attended the presentation.



Annual CoP Gathering

On 25th January, the annual CoP staff and faculty gathering was organized. The gathering was held in Marina Bander Al Rowdha to enjoy dolphin watching followed by lunch and playing different team building games, in the green lawns of the W Hotel. All the staff received a gift as a token of appreciation.



52nd National Day

CoP celebrated National Day with enthusiasm. There was a lively performance by a musical band followed by a traditional dance by school children and traditional Omani food along with the cultural tents.



Pharmacy Day Celebration

CoP celebrated Pharmacy Day 2023 with participation from both faculty and students.



Oman Science Festival

A group of NU CoP students participated as volunteers in the health corner of the Oman Science Festival in collaboration with Sultan Qaboos Comprehensive Cancer and Research Center for five days from 10th to 15th October 2022 held in the Oman Exhibition and Conference Center.



Open Day

Students Affairs and Facilities Committee organized the on 28th February, 2023, Open Day and the theme was "The Carnival Funfair". Throughout the day, different cultural and entertaining events were witnessed by both students and faculty. The day ended with the announcement of the winners of the cultural show, some fun competitions, music and magic shows.



CoP Social Responsibility Initiative

A group of pharmacy students visited the –Will Initiate for You– voluntary team for cancer patients and provided them with in-kind support. They also visited the Children's Oncology Ward at the Royal Hospital and gave gifts.



Mental Health Day

The Student Counselling Office organized an event to celebrate World Mental Health Awareness Day on Monday, October 11, 2022. A mental health badge was distributed to everyone, with the slogan "Towards Better Mental Health". There were several activities like a cinema, books and a mental health exhibition for students, faculty, and staff.



Awareness about Breast Cancer

On 31st October 2023 a Breast Cancer Awareness Program was conducted for all students and faculty. This year the theme was Pink is Stronger than you think. The Oman Breast Cancer Society participated in the event, which was followed by an exhibition and a walkathon.



Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research

Research Project Implementation BFP Call 22.

The Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research conducted a workshop on 12th December 22 on the Research Project Implementation of Call 22 projects funded by MoHERI. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the research team and research projects. Further, the workshop aimed to give orientation for the proper implementation and integration of the project. Dr. Ali Al Bimani welcomed the researchers and reminded the importance of conducting the research promptly without compromising the quality. Further, he also mentioned that the impact and application of these projects must be addressed as NU is committed to contributing towards the nation's social and industrial development and well-being. He extended his congratulations to all faculty members from all

and support extended to them for ensuring excellent learning experiences.



Workshop on Condition Monitoring of Rotating Machines

Under the patronage of Professor Ahmed AL Balushi, the Dean College of Engineering at the National University of Science and Technology, a workshop on condition monitoring of rotating machines was hosted for the students and recent graduates of the College of Engineering.

Prof. Ahmed Al Balushi Dean at the College of Engineering at NU has inaugurated this workshop at Caledonian Campus on 10th May 2023. The workshop was facilitated by the research team of the CoERG project titled "Intelligent Prediction and Fault Diagnosis System for Belt Drive" (CoERG21.1), funded by NU, Oman and the research group "Intelligent Maintenance Monitoring & Instrumentation". This workshop aims to create awareness about the condition monitoring of rotating machines and provide hands-on training on the Machine Fault Simulator and the Centrifugal Fan Belt drive experimental setup for the various mechanical fault analysis. The participants are also trained to acquire vibration signals using LabVIEW software along with NI Data Acquisition System (DAQ).

Professor K P Ramachandran, acting Dean of Deanship Graduate Studies of Research, emphasized state-of-the-art trends and application of condition monitoring and highlighted the current research activities of the research group. In his keynote address, Dr. Mohammed Al Yahyai, Senior Rotating Equipment Engineer, Petroleum Development of Oman (PDO), highlighted the importance and application of condition monitoring in PDO. The workshop covered mostly hands-on training and activities. Participants consisted of candidates from continuing students and recent graduates of the College of Engineering. Twenty-five participants benefited from this workshop and participated in real-time data acquisition system.



the colleges who got their projects approved and accepted by the Ministry. During the workshop, all PIs were given the chance to introduce their projects and their team members. Moreover, a brief presentation on the project process, starting from the initiation, planning, execution, monitoring, and closing of the project was explained. Additionally, the importance of ensuring a high-quality project by meeting all the KPIs and deliverables was emphasized.

BFP Call 23 Project Proposals

The Ministry of Higher Education Research and Innovation has announced the 2023 call for proposals of the Block Funding Program on January 23. NU researchers across all the colleges submitted more than 35 project proposals in March 23 through RIMS.

Successful completion of BFP project Call 18, 19 and 20

The Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research confirmed to the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation the successful completion, submission and closure of all BFP projects worth more than 145,000/- OMR funded from 2018 to 2020.

PG programs Induction – Feb 2023 intake

The induction programs for new MSc students were organized on 1st March 2023 at the College of Engineering. The new students were given orientation towards various facilities, HSE aspects, rules and regulations related to the programs

School of Foundation Studies (SoFS)

SoFS Students Visit Oman Exhibition Center

On the 27th of September 2022, selected Foundation students attended a conference at the Oman Exhibition Center, Muscat. These students are going to pursue medical courses after the completion of the FDN program. In conjunction with this, they attended the "Oman Health Exhibition Conference" to motivate and make them aware of the latest medical technology innovations likewise to orient them about the medical industry.



Mental Health Day at SoFS

World Mental Health Day is an international day for global mental health education, awareness, and advocacy against social stigma. In Oman, schools, universities, and colleges celebrate this event yearly. At the Airport Heights Campus, Mental Health Day was celebrated on the 19th of October 2022 in the Assembly Hall from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. In conjunction with this, interesting activities were conducted by different clinics like SJMC Clinic, Top Medical Care Complex, Al-Amal Hospital for addiction recovery, Malath Clinic, and Psychology Youth Team.

SoFS Celebrates Oman's 52nd National Day

The 52nd National Day of Oman was celebrated at SoFS Department on the 22nd of November 2022. It was held on the lawn area of the campus from 2:30 p.m. until 4:10 p.m. This outdoor program had added enthusiasm among students, participants, guests, and teachers. There were several project exhibits during the event like pottery making, painting, and other forms of arts that showcased the talent of SoFS students and some guests from other colleges.



11th Annual Science Fair at SoFS

Every year, the Science Fair is celebrated at the SoFS department with its goals of helping students to explore, research, and think creatively using different scientific methods. In line with this, the 11th Annual Science Fair was held on the 20th of November 2022 from 10:00 to 1:15 p.m. in the Assembly Hall. The program comprised of a science quiz, science projects, and a debate competition. This event was under the patronage of Dr. Ali Al Bimani, Vice Chancellor, and the National University of Science & Technology.



Math Club Awards SoFS Students

The Math Club at SoFS held its "Awards Ceremony" on the 8th of December 2022 in Science Lab 1 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Math Club aims to develop the student's level of Math skills and critical thinking. The competitions consisted of Math Quiz and The Treasure Hunt Competition. In Math Quiz, the participants competed for 15 questions through World Wall Websites. Two brilliant teams won the Math quiz, namely Anfal Al Balushi, Mariya Al Shehhi, and Arooba Al Balushi; they got the second prize while Saja Al Mamari, Ibtihal Alhinai, and Shahad Al Lawati received the first prize. On the whole, the Math Club Activity and awards ceremony was a great one. Thumbs up to the Math Club team.



SoFS Field Trip at Royal Opera House

Seventeen F2 students from the SoFS department visited the Royal Opera House on the 5th of December 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. They went there to see an exhibition about the different traditional and modern musical instruments. This

field trip awakened curiosity among them as well as explored their learning experience outside the classroom. Similarly, it helps them to develop awareness about different cultures and nature which is one of the objectives of the SoFS program. The program is under the Learning and Teaching & Learning Resources Committee led by Dr. Sharifa Al Harassi.



DQAE Conducts Workshop at SoFS

The Directorate of Quality Assurance & Enhancement (DQAE) conducted a workshop on the 8th of December 2022. It was conducted by Mr. Ali Salim Al Balushi, Senior Manager, QAE; the awareness session was held in the Assembly Hall from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

The main objectives of the workshop included the following: the importance of the QAE policy; the development and review process of any policy, procedure, and guidelines; the responsibilities of the owners of such policies, procedures, and guidelines; colleges supplemental policies, procedures, and guidelines; and maintenance and review of policies, procedures, and guidelines.

The presenter, Mr. Ali Balushi emphasized the objectives clearly, and the participants joined him with enthusiasm. There was a QA segment as well as some interesting information from Dr. Sleem, the SoFS Director.



SoFS Launches In-House Materials

On the 2nd of February 2023, a meeting was held and the books for Mathematics were launched by Dr. Sleem together with the SoFS Mathematics team. The books were developed under the National University Operational Plan 2020-2022. In conjunction with this, the books were written in line with the learning objectives tailored to the needs and learning styles of the SoFS

students that focus on analytical and problem-solving skills. Before publication, the books were proofread by SoFS English lecturers and reviewed by the external reviewer and digitizer. The first version of the book was published in Fall 2022. This accomplishment is truly a great contribution to NUOP's vision for 2040.



OPEN Day at SoFS

The Open Day Event at SoFS was held on the 22nd of February 2023 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Talented students in the Foundation Department participated in showcasing their interesting projects, and various displays from other institutions. Most of the displays were showcased in the Assembly Hall such as the Library Corner, Sports Corner, Mental Health Corner, Drawing, Photography and Calligraphy, Entrepreneur Corner, and the Food Cart Corner. These projects were coordinated by Ms. Tasnim, Ms. Huda and Ms. Asma, Ms. Jokha, Ms. Aziza and Ms. Mariya, Ms. Inas, and Ms. Iman. The "It's My Day Event" (Open Day) was truly a great event for the students and staff as well.

SoFS Celebrates Omani Women's Day & Youth Day

Omani Women's Day is celebrated annually in different universities and colleges in the Sultanate as a tribute to the contributions of Omani women in various sectors of society. In the SoFS department, this special event was celebrated on the 26th of October 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. On the same day and at the same time, the Omani Youth Day was also held, and it aimed to acknowledge the importance of youth as one of the backbones of the country's future. During the program, Ms. Safiya Al Jabri gave an inspirational talk as well as the selected student which brought an awesome atmosphere among students, guests, and staff. To sum up, Omani Women's Day and Omani Youth Day were celebrated with great preparation. It was such a wholesome event to remember.



Educational Workshop

On the 26th of January 2023, a workshop for SoFS Department was held at the Crowne Plaza IHG Hotel, Muscat Oman. The workshop started from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The academic, admin, technical as well as support staff attended the mentioned event. Ms. Sura Al Muscati facilitated the workshop which is titled "Strengthening your Communication Skills". In her presentation, she discussed different communication styles such as passive, aggressive, passive-aggressive, and assertive. Moreover, she mentioned that learning how to communicate effectively can build a good workplace relationship, and can improve productivity as well.



SoFS Lecturers Receive the Best Research Award

The National University of Science & Technology puts huge efforts to support research and innovation. Thus, a special day for research every year is conducted to encourage faculty members and students to conduct research on various areas of study. In conjunction with this, the SoFS department has a Research Committee that monitors the status of research projects among staff and students. This year, three lecturers from the School of Foundation Studies (SoFS) won the Best Research Presentation Award on NU Research Day 2022. Ms. Anitra Hernandez, Ms. Aliza Batool, and Ms. Yashmin Mansuria participated and won the Best Research Award. The paper is entitled "Connectivism and Language Learning: a call to transcend beyond traditional learning theories." The paper explores different ways to modernize teaching approaches during post Covid-19 pandemic. In a nutshell, the SoFS has already started in the contribution of research, and hopefully, in the future, more research papers will be ready for presentation.

SoFS Students Receive the Best Award for Marketing Strategy

The F2- SoFS students participated in the 19th Science Festival "CREATHON" competition (Create Marathon) which was held from 12- 20 February 2023 at Sultan Qaboos University. This competition aimed to develop students' creativity and innovative awareness related to global business ventures likewise to instil in them strong determination, patience, responsibility, and hard work. Eleven students from the SoFS department excelled in the competition. These talented students created an application about how to educate society regarding Autism Spectrum Disorders. The application is named NADEEM; this tool is the first app in Oman that is indeed very useful for society.



FDN Students Participate in Emotional Intelligence Event

On November 2022, SoFS students and student counsellors participated in the 8th Psychology Forum at Sultan Qaboos University which focused on emotional intelligence, and how it ties to the Oman Vision 2040. The students' booths showcased six categories which featured the following: The definition of NU corner, the Daniel Goleman Model, the Disassociations Corner, the Feelings Wheel, the Art Corner, and a Kahoot Game.

SoFS Mental Health Team Participates in Psychology Forum

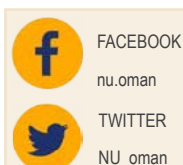
On the 20th of March 2023, Ms. Tasnim Ibrahim Al Shukaili, the Student Counselor at AHC, and her mental health team participated in the Psychology Forum at Mazoon College. The purpose of the participation includes understanding the psychology of the brain, spread awareness of the most important me, knowing the most important strategies in strengthening memory and working imagination in daily life, and discussing the Hermann Scale.

SoFS Students Participate in Muscat International Book Fair

The SoFS Mental Health Team with Ms. Tasnim, the Student Counselor participated in the Muscat International Book Fair from 26-27 February 2023. The two-day event was a great experience for the FDN students as they shared their knowledge and skills on the topic "It's my right to know my rights."

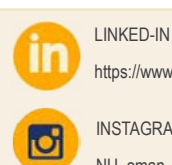
A Field Trip at the Pharmaceutical Company

The Foundation Programme at Airport Heights Campus prepares the students for their field of specialization, and one of the ways to sustain and enhance their learning capabilities is to expose them to real scenarios and situations. On the 21st of March 2023, a group of SoFS students who'll pursue Pharmacy visited the National Pharmaceutical Industries in Rusayl, Muscat. NPI is an accredited pharmaceutical manufacturing company in Oman with an ISO certificate. The field trip consisted of twenty-five students, and they were accompanied by Ms. Nirmala Babu & Ms. Fatma Al Alawi.



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