



الجامعة الوطنية
National University
Science & Technology العلوم والتكنولوجيا

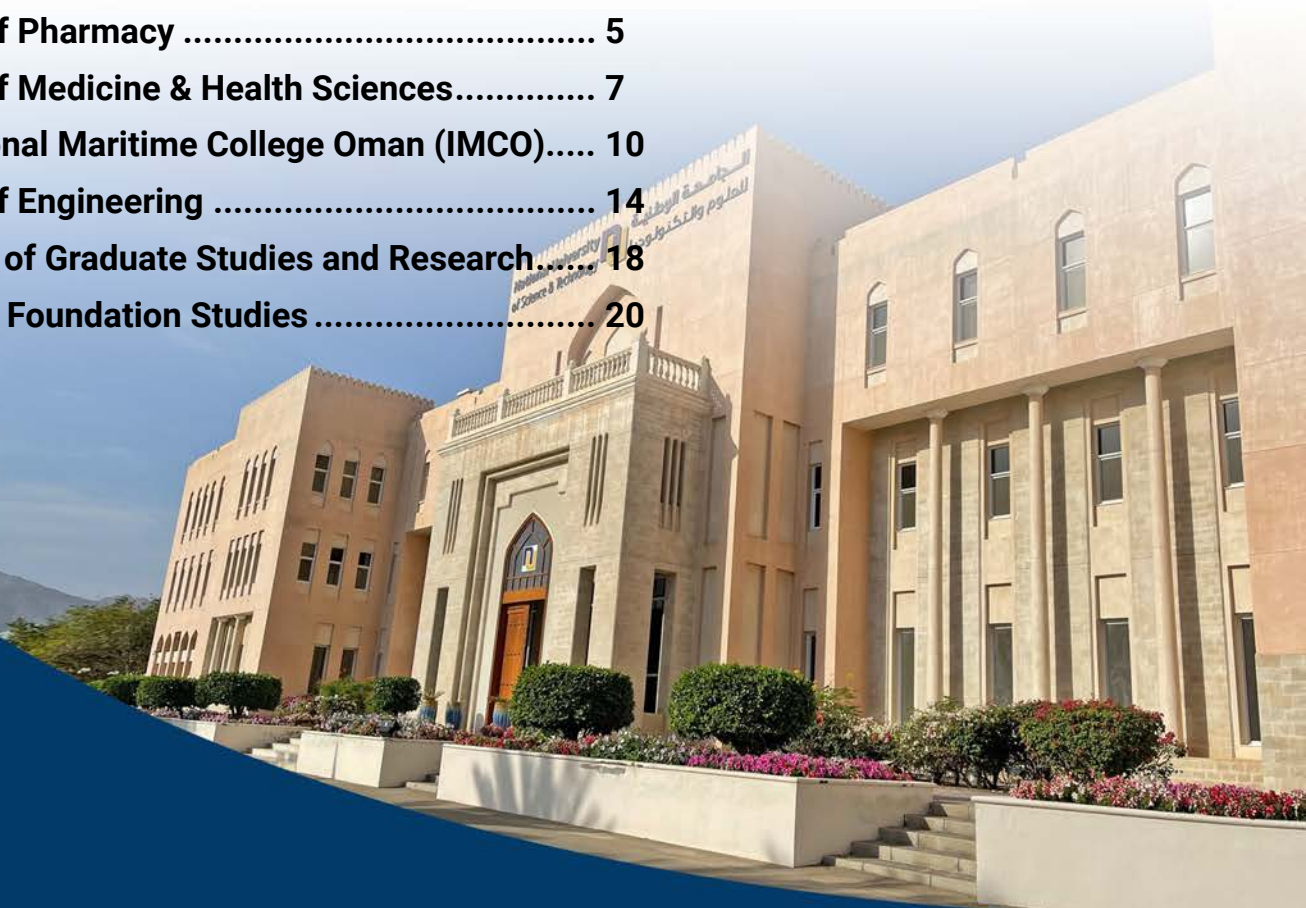
National University NEWSLETTER

Vol 3 - Issue 1, February 2024

Biannual

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Message from the Editorial Team:***Sustaining a Distinguished Tradition!!!***

As the proud custodians of the pen behind the pages, it is our pleasure to welcome you to the latest installment of the VC Newsletter, Volume 3, Issue 1.

Within these carefully curated pages, you will find a mosaic of articles that encapsulate the essence of our university's achievements and activities. We aim to offer you a glimpse into the myriad facets of life at the National University of Science and Technology.

Our journey to compile this edition has been one of excitement and dedication. We hope to inspire and connect our community on a deeper level.

A sincere thank you to the contributors who graciously offered their time, and to the editorial team whose unwavering commitment brought this newsletter to life. Your collective effort reflects the collaborative spirit that sets the National University apart.

Hope everyone has a fabulous reading.

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The VC's Message

Greetings to all !

In these pages, you will find a wealth of information about the remarkable achievements and ongoing activities and initiatives at our esteemed University. From groundbreaking research endeavors to student accomplishments that make us proud, this newsletter serves as a testament to the collective dedication and hard work of our university community.

This issue features achievements and activities in various facets of our university life during the previous 6 months. I encourage you to take a moment to delve into the content.

Together, we can continue to strive for excellence and contribute meaningfully to the ever-evolving landscape of education and knowledge.

I extend my gratitude to the editorial team and contributors who have worked tirelessly to bring this newsletter to fruition. Your commitment to sharing the stories that shape our university community is truly commendable.

Best Regards,

Dr. Ali Al Bimani



University Headquarters

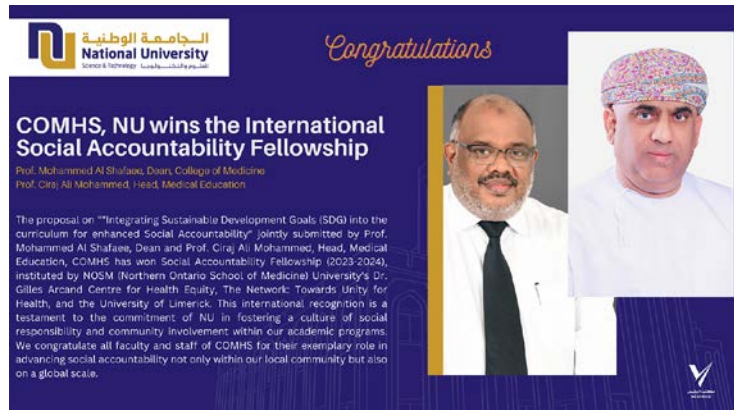
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National University Achievements and Events



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GHEDEX AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION 2024

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

NU won 2 awards at GHEDEX 2024

STUDENT INNOVATION - 1st Place
BEST OF THE BEST - Oman HEIs

Thanks and appreciation to the Boards, Executives, Deans, Directors, HoDs, Students, Faculty and Staff for the support and well-wishes.



IGNITING MINDS & EXPANDING HORIZONS
EXPAND - ENHANCE - ENGAGE

For more information, please write to ranking@nu.edu.om
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Congratulations!

"We Are Proud of You"

We are delighted to announce that Dr. K. Suresh Manic has been honored with the Best Paper Presentation Award at the International Conference on Innovation, Sustainability, and Applied Sciences (ICISAS) 2023. The conference, organized by Curtin University in Dubai on December 9th and 10th, showcased Dr. Manic's exceptional contribution titled "BIMANIC: AI-Driven Personalized Education Guidance for Higher Education in Oman."

Co-authored by Ali Saud Al Bimani, the paper is a significant outcome of the YMC project under the guidance of the Honorable Vice Chancellor, Dr. Ali Bimani. The research explores the innovative realm of AI-driven personalized education guidance, with implications for higher education in Oman.

"Together towards Excellence"
Dr. Ali Al Bimani
Vice-Chancellor

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CONGRATULATIONS

"We Are Proud of You"

It is a great privilege to inform you that NU student JAHAD ZAHIR MOHAMMED AL JABRI, from IMCO PE Dept, under the guidance of Prof Jaffer Sadhik Basha, won the FIRST PRIZE by submitting a paper "Effective Utilization of waste plastics and waste heat gases from a diesel engine for a sustainable future" during the 5th Edition Carbon Neutrality Cup award ceremony through GPCA Responsible Care Conference between 5-7 Sep 2023 in Manama, Bahrain

"Together towards Excellence"
Dr. Ali Al Bimani
Vice-Chancellor

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CONGRATULATIONS

GLOBALWIIN
GOLD RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT
AWARD WINNER 2023



DR. TAHEREH AHMAD JAFARI
From Oman

CONGRATULATIONS

"We Are Proud of You"

Dr. Tahereh of the Process Engineering Department, National University of Science and Technology, Oman is the GOLD RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT OF THE YEAR 2023 AWARD winner in GlobalWiin (Global Women Inventors and innovators Network), 2023.

"Together towards Excellence"
Dr. Ali Al Bimani
Vice-Chancellor

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CONGRATULATIONS

"We Are Proud of You"

NU Alumni Ms. Anna Al Rasbi, Chemical Engineering graduate from CoE has received Bronze Medal in the prestigious International Invention and Innovation award 2023 (Seel International Invention fair 2023) held from 1st November 2023 to 4th November 2023 in Korea) for her final year project. Titled "Sustainable organic pollutants removal in refinery wastewater using nanoparticles Ms. Anna Al Rasbi, also received the "Thailand award for the best international invention and innovation" from the National Research Council of Thailand.

"Together towards Excellence"
Dr. Ali Al Bimani
Vice-Chancellor

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CONGRATULATIONS

"We Are Proud of You"

We are proud to announce that a new achievement has been recorded for the College of Engineering at National University (waste to energy lab), represented by Dr. Shabib Al Rasdi winning first place in the international competition (falling walls) and the project is qualified to compete within 20 scientific and international projects in Berlin next November to obtain an investor to take on the idea of the product on behalf of the National University.

"Together towards Excellence"
Dr. Ali Al Bimani
Vice-Chancellor



A land was allocated for the College of Advanced Technology in The Sultan Haytham city which is Designed to foster an inclusive future for Oman's growing population, the city introduces a new model for sustainable development. It provides a mix of housing types within walking distance to new public amenities, parks, and vibrant open spaces.

College of Pharmacy

Research Symposium:

The Graduate studies, Research, and Innovation committee of the College of Pharmacy organized the Research Symposium on 7th November 2023.



Exhibition:

On 15th November, 25 students accompanied by a faculty, attended an event held by the University of Nizwa. Six students participated in the exhibition.



Award:

Prof. Shah Alam received the "Best Professor in Pharmacy" at Oman Education Leadership Awards 2023 ceremony held on, 25th July 2023 at Crowne Plaza, Muscat, Oman.



Schools Visit:

The College of Pharmacy's SAFC organized an introductory session for Sultan Qaboos Private School and Al-Mawhiba Private School at the College campus. During the session the

school students were introduced to the different programs offered by the University and in detail about the Pharmacy program and a tour around the campus.



White Coat Ceremony 2022-2023:

On 8th June 2023, CoP celebrated the White Coat Ceremony with great fanfare.



Career Guidance Day:

The Career Guidance Day was organized for the students on Tuesday, March 21, 2023.



1st NU Pharmacy Batch Farewell:

On 21st March 2023, the 1st batch of NU CoP was given a farewell party. HoP Dr. Alka Ahuja congratulated the 1st NU batch for completing the 4 years successfully and overcoming all the challenges. The final year students shared their memorable moments in college through a video capturing all the milestones.



CoP Library Day:

On 8th March 2023, CoP celebrated Library Day. Head of Library, Mr. Sultan Al Bakri welcomed the Dean Prof. Khalid Al Balushi, faculty, staff and students. On this occasion, a book fair followed by a presentation of the library LMS delivered by Nexuslib and a fun quiz was organized.



Emergency Evacuation Mock Drill:

On Wednesday, 14th June 2023 by the Health and Safety Committee. During the drill, all the faculty, staff and students were familiarised with the location of assembly points, roles and responsibilities of the fire wardens, emergency evacuation procedure fire escape plans for CoP campus.



Short Course:

The short course on Formulation and Clinical Aspects of Cosmetics and Cosmeceuticals was conducted on 8th and 9th July 2023, by the CoP Industry and Community Engagement Committee.



Training Sessions:

On 8th March 2023, CoP celebrated Library Day. Head of Library, Mr. Sultan Al Bakri welcomed the Dean Prof. Khalid Al Balushi, faculty, staff and students. On this occasion, a book fair followed by a presentation of the library LMS delivered by Nexuslib and a fun quiz was organized.



Training on Standard Setting in Medical Education:

Conducted by Mr. Khalid Al Busaidi, Director Training & Studies Department, Royal Hospital on 12th June 2023.



Academic Advising for Slow Learners Workshop:

Academic Advising for Slow Learners Workshop by Dr. Shadia Mohammed Al Bahlani, Associate Professor, Department of Biomedical Sciences, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, SQU on 6th July, 2023.



College of Medicine & Health Sciences

COMHS got 1st place at the National University 12th Science Fair on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Exhibition.

On A team of energetic students and staff members from COMHS led by the Student Affairs Department participated in the AI Exhibition Fair at the NU on 12th Dec. 2023 at the School of Foundation, Muscat. The COMHS organized seven stalls: AI greetings for exhibition audiences, 3D Hologram Anatomy Corner, Forensic AI, Vien Viewer Scan-AI, worldwide AI, Photography-AI, and AI-Competitions. The team achieved remarkable success by securing 1st place in the inter-collegiate AI Project competition at the Science Fair, under the patronage of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Provost, Dr. Salim Al Araiimi. This achievement is a testament to the exceptional talents, hard work, and dedication exhibited by the college's outstanding staff and students and their commitment played a pivotal role in clinching the top position, showcasing the college's high standard.



World Children's Day:

The College of Medicine and Health Sciences conducted a World Children's Day celebration on the 20th of November 2023 in the pediatric wards of Sohar Hospital. This event was held as a Community Engagement Program, and it was conducted in collaboration with the 'Compassion in Action' student team at the college. The Chief organizers were Dr. Chhaya Divecha and Ms. Arwa Al Sabri.

The Objective of this event is to bring joy and amusement to the young patients admitted to the pediatric wards. Through games, activities, and the distribution of gifts, the event sought to create a cheerful and interactive environment, providing a memorable

experience for the hospitalized children.



Basic First Aid and Sport Injuries Workshop:

The College of Medicine and Health Sciences represented by the Community Engagement Office organized a workshop on Basic First Aid and Sport Injuries for Sports Aiders from Sports Teams - Suhar Sport Club on 19th October for two days, at the college of Medicine Health Sciences campus. The workshop was conducted by Mr Hamed Al Hamdi & Mr Khamis Al Aoufi, Skill Lab supervisors at COMHS. They gave a theory lecture and showed some videos to the candidates. They also conducted practical training on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) for each candidate. On the second day, the trainers addressed common sports injuries including sprains, strains, contusions, fractures, dislocations, overuse injury, and skin injuries.

Upon conclusion, Mr Said Al Kindi, Community Engagement Manager, presented certificates to both the participants and trainers, acknowledging their active participation and commitment to enhancing their first aid and sports injury management skills.



The Little Paramedic Event:

The College of Medicine and Health Sciences successfully conducted a workshop titled "The Little Paramedic" on 3rd December for over four days, at the Suhar Club Hall, catering to students from two government schools.

The primary objective of the workshop was to empower the younger generation with basic paramedic skills, enabling them to handle emergency situations effectively. Participants were

trained on essential first aid principles and safety protocols applicable to diverse environments. The focus was on equipping them with the knowledge and skills required to respond promptly and efficiently in situations demanding immediate action to save lives.

Key workshop topics included techniques for managing incidents such as swallowing the tongue, addressing nosebleeds, and treating wounds resulting from accidents. Through engaging sessions, the students gained practical insights into these critical areas, fostering a sense of responsibility and preparedness in dealing with unforeseen emergencies.



Site Visit to COMHS by TEPDAD for WFME Accreditation of its Medical Program:

The recent site visit for program accreditation was conducted by the Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Medical Education Programs (TEPDAD) from 5th to 8th November 2023, which marked a significant milestone for COMHS. The site visit team had the following members: Prof. Iskender Sayek (Chair), Mustafa Kemal Alimoğlu, Professor of Medical Education, Akdeniz University Medical School, Ali Kağan Coşkun, Professor of Surgery, University Gülhane Medical School and Levent Altıntaş, Associate Professor of Medical Education, Acibadem University Medical School. Ms Khadija Al Balushi from the Oman Authority for Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance of Education was also present in the team.

The site-visit was conducted to evaluate the status of the medical school against 9 standards as stipulated by the WFME global standards (2015). The events related to the site visit commenced with the Dean's presentation which highlighted COMHS' fulfillment of WFME standards at various levels. This was



followed by a meeting with the Education Committee members which deliberated on aspects related to curriculum delivery, curricular integration, educational innovations, assessment strategies/approaches and feedback mechanisms. Meeting with staff related to student affairs, community engagement, wellbeing, admission and registration were organized thereafter. This was followed by the visit of the accreditation team to the educational facilities including classrooms, laboratories, library & IT resources, hostel and recreational facilities. A meeting with the administrative heads from NU, including the Vice Chancellor and the Deputy Vice Chancellor followed.

The team also had meetings with Directors and affiliate faculty from Sohar Regional Hospital and Rustaq hospital; the clinical training sites of COMHS. Interactions with Heads of departments and alumni were also a part of the site visit. A representative from our academic partner, University of West Virginia, USA, Prof. Christopher J Martin, was also available to discuss academic collaboration related matters.

The detailed examination on all days, encompassed every aspect of our site's operations, including infrastructure, curriculum, teaching-learning, assessment, faculty qualifications, hospital facilities, student facilities, wellbeing, governance and program evaluation.



COMHS Organizes Climate Awareness Programs:

Emphasizing the commitment of NU in promoting climate action and sustainability, the Medical Education Unit (MEU) of COMHS organized a one-day awareness program combining education, advocacy, and community engagement to address the issue of climate change. The event was organized in collaboration with Oman's Environment Authority, Environment Society of Oman, Students for Climate Action (under the aegis of Activities and Initiatives subcommittee), and the Department of Student Affairs, COMHS.

Prof. Mohammed Al Shafae, Dean of COMHS welcomed the guests and participants. He stressed upon the significance of such events as a part of social accountability. The daylong event commenced in the morning with an exhibition that featured displays showcasing sustainable technologies, eco-friendly products, and successful climate change mitigation initiatives by the Environment Authority of Oman. Posters that focus on iconic visuals explaining the wider realities of climate change and its impact on health displayed by the MEU were a hallmark of this exhibition. A student booth, run by the medical students aimed at raising awareness and inspiring positive actions,

received appreciation from the visitors. Attendees also had the opportunity to explore practical solutions and engage with experts to better understand the impact of their daily choices on the environment specifically on themes related to renewable energy and waste reduction.

The highlight of the afternoon session was an inspiring talk by Ms. Rumaitha Al Busaidi, Director, of the Environment Society of Oman, a renowned advocate for climate action, sharing her experiences being a climate activist in the region. She shared her insights into the current state of the planet, emphasizing the urgency of taking immediate action to mitigate climate change. She encouraged the audience to become actively involved in sustainable practices and to advocate for policy changes that prioritize the environment. This was followed by a productive interaction of students, faculty, and staff with Ms Rumaitha on issues related to pollution, environmental sustainability, sustainable development, global warming, and impact on human health. Prof. Ciraj Ali Mohammed, Head of MEU specified that COMHS had initiated steps to include climate-related topics in the medical and lab sciences curriculum and possibilities of collaborative research in this domain are also being explored.

Ms. Yumna Al Khaduri, Director, of Activities and Initiatives from the COMHS Students Advisory Council, proposed the vote of thanks.



White Coat and Medical Oath Ceremony:

The College of Medicine and Health Sciences, NU, organized the White Coat and Medical Oath Ceremony on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, for 166 medical students under the patronage of H.E. Dr. Said bin Harib Al Lamki, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health for Health Affairs. The main aim of the ceremony was to place the white coat on the shoulders of future doctors as they move to the hospital for clinical training.

Prof. Mohammad Ali Al-Shafee, Dean of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, stated that the White Coat ceremony is a global tradition that symbolizes the beginning of clinical training. He congratulated the 166 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.

The Keynote Speaker for the ceremony was Prof. Lamk Al Lamki, an esteemed figure in Radiology and medical education in Oman, who delivered an insightful keynote address, adding depth to the ceremony.

H.E. Dr. Said bin Harib Al Lamki, the patron of the ceremony, honored the best MOH clinical faculty with awards who collaborated and assisted in the clinical training of the students. Top achievers from MD1 to MD4 classes were also rewarded with certificates. The MD4 students were honored on the stage with white coats on their shoulders by the assistant deans and senior clinical faculty members. This was followed by a recitation of the Hippocratic Medical Oath and singing of an operetta. At the end, a group photograph was taken with the chief guests and the faculty members. This occasion was attended by the parents and other family members of the MD4 students, with lots of joy and presenting of flower bouquets to their sons and daughters; the future doctors of Oman.

Community Awareness Campaigns by COMHS Students:

Under the Department of Epidemiology & Public Health, community health, students of MD4 class organized a HIV/AIDS awareness campaign on 7th December 2023 in Sohar park from 5pm to 9pm. Health education material provided an insight into HIV/AIDS in Oman, modes of transmission, clinical features, diagnosis, treatment, myths about HIV AIDS, legal concerns about HIV AIDS and laws pertaining to it specifically in Oman. An Instagram account was created with over 400 followers in which videos and posts about the event (time and venue), target audience (teenagers and adults) and the aim (to create awareness about the disease and overcoming the stigma that comes with the disease and how to provide support) were uploaded. Interactive posts in the account were uploaded in which questions were posted for the followers to answer.



World Diabetes Day at Oasis Mall, Sohar:

A Diabetes Awareness Campaign was held in the evening of 16 November 2023 in solidarity with World Diabetes Day, at Oasis Mall. The purpose of this event was to provide awareness to the public about diabetes in Oman, diagnosis and management of diabetes, prevention and control of diabetes including healthy food alternatives, causes, risk factors and complications of diabetes. The MD4 class prepared posters and exhibits and attracted a large number of people. The group received a budget of 150 OMR from the college and raised 120 OMR from the sponsors who aided the program. There was positive feedback from the audience who liked the organization of the event, it raised their awareness on diabetes prevention and gave them new information.

International Maritime College Oman (IMCO)

A School Visit:

International Maritime College Oman hosted the students of Yarub bin Balarab Basic Education School in Saham, and they were given a comprehensive explanation of the specializations available at the college. They visited the simulators that are exclusively available at IMCO campus.



A Visit to Al Wafaa Center for Special Needs:

"Ghymah Volunteer Club" at IMCO visited Al-Wafaa Center for Special Needs in Shinas. They learned about the center and its role in the community. about the center and role assigned to it. The club organized an interesting event to entertain the center's members and its employees.



IMCO Female Student Camp:

The IMCO Adventure Club organized its second trip this year for college students. The camp was held in Wadi Al-Hawasinah in Wilayat Al-Khaboura. The camp lasted for three days. A variety of activities were implemented, such as hiking accompanied by recreational activities. The activities helped to develop skills such as time management, planning, leadership, and teamwork.



Reading Maps Workshop:

IMCO Social Club organized a workshop about 'Reading maps' for 26 students. The workshop was held in the auditorium. Its objective was to train students to read maps, using stars and other sea equipment to identify the locations.



Visit of His Excellency Engineer, Khamis bin Mohammed Al Shamakhi to IMCO.:

His Excellency Engineer Khamis bin Mohammed Al Shamakhi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Transport, Communications, and Information Technology for Transport visited IMCO on Sunday, November 5th, 2023.

The purpose of the visit was to meet the students and introduce the programs and projects of the Ministry of Transport, Communication, Information Technology and strategic directions in the transport and logistics sector. During his visit, he received a brief about the programs, labs, workshops, and simulators.



IMCO Male Student Camp:

The IMCO Adventure Club organized its first trip this year for college students on 14th December 2023. The camp was held in Wadi Shafan in Wilayat Al-Khaboura. The camp lasted for three days. The Dean of IMCO joined the camp on the second day. A variety of activities were implemented, such as hiking accompanied by recreational activities, which promoted skills such as time management, planning, leadership, and teamwork.



IMCO Cross Country:

IMCO sport Club organized a cross Country event. 75 participants from IMCO, ROP(Sohar), Royal Army of Oman and Ali bin Abi Talib Government School participated in this marathon which started off from Al Falaj roundabout finishing at IMCO campus. Winners included Mr Mazen Al Riyami (R O P, Sohar), Mr. Nauryzbek (IMCO staff) and Ahmed Al Shuaibi (IMCO, students). A huge congratulations to the fantastic achievement of our female competitors representing ROP and IMCO. Winners in the ladies category include Ms.Lobna Al Marzuqi, Ms Noof Al Hosani and Ms Taif Al Marzuqi.



Basketball Championships:

IMCO Sport Club organized a basketball championship competition for two days on 9th October 2023.

8 teams participated in this competition. 4 teams for IMCO students and 2 teams for IMCO staff.

The staff A team won the championship. The head of the Student Affairs in the college handed over the prizes at the end of the tournament.



Concrete Workshop:

The workshop conducted by IMCO Art Club on 14th December 2023. 24 female students participated in this workshop. lead by Ms Aisha Al Hosana. The workshop featured producing shapes for home decorations. She taught students how to use molds for forming tools, demonstrated the process of using white cements, additives and plastics to produce high quality shapes. The workshop aimed to encourage and support women seeking entrepreneurial opportunities.



Photos for Memories:

Personal photos of employees and students were taken on the occasion of the 53rd National Day celebration.

The photos were kept and sent to them as a memory of this occasion. A creative frame was used to commemorate the National Day for students and employees. This wonderful concept was organized by the Student Affairs Office.



Research and Innovation Day:

IMCO successfully hosted its third annual Research and Innovation Day (RID) for the academic year 2022-2023. This occasion is a college-wide academic event providing a platform for both faculty and students to showcase the diverse and impactful research activities conducted at IMCO. This event is a significant component of our commitment to fostering a vibrant research culture among the academic community and fostering multidisciplinary research collaborations. RID attracts professionals from surrounding industries.

This convergence of academia and industry contributes to the broader goal of aligning research outcomes with real-world applications. RID serves also as an occasion to recognize the outstanding research contributions of both faculty and students.



Faculty Journal Articles:

1. A.M. Amer, Nourhan I. Ghoneim and Ahmed M. Megahed , Investigation of dissipation phenomenon of non-Newtonian nanofluid due to a horizontal stretching rough sheet through a Darcy porous medium , Applications in Engineering Science Journal, December 2023
2. Seyed behbood Issa zadeh, Hamid Reza Soltani, Nourhan I. Ghoneim , Revamping Seaport Operations with Renewable Energy: A Sustainable Approach to Reducing Carbon Footprint” GMSARN , International, December 2023
3. Hamid Reza Soltani, Seyed behbood Issa Zadeh, Towards International Maritime Organization Carbon Targets: A Multi-Criteria Decision-Making Analysis for Sustainable Container Shipping ,Sustainability journal, December 2023
4. Seyed behbood Issa Zadeh , Enhancing Urban Sustainability: Unravelling Carbon Footprint Reduction in Smart Cities through Supply Chain Measures , Smart Cities” journal, November 2023
5. Seyed behbood Issa Zadeh, Optimizing Smart Energy Infrastructure in Smart Ports: A Systematic Scoping Review of Carbon Footprint Reduction , JMSE journal, October 2023
6. Salim A. S. Al Rashdi, Nourhan I. Ghoneim, A.M. Amer and Ahmed M. Megahed, Investigation of magnetohydrodynamic slip flow for Maxwell nanofluid over a vertical surface with Cattaneo-Christov heat flux in a saturated porous medium , Results in Engineering Journal, September 2023
7. Mary, A.A., Raj, A.P., Karthik, C. and Karunaharan, A., 2023. GastroNet: A Custom Deep Learning Approach for

Classification of Anomalies in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Images. Current Medical Imaging.

8. Olaniyi, S., Taofeek O. Alade, Chuma, F. M., Ogunsola, A. W., Aderele, O. R., & Abimbade, S. F. (2023). A fractional-order nonlinear model for a within-host chikungunya virus dynamics with adaptive immunity using Caputo derivative operator. Healthcare Analytics, 100205. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.health.2023.100205>

Faculty Conference:

1. Benayoune, A. 2023. Port 4.0: Integrating Advanced Technologies to Transform Port Operations. 6th European Conference on Industrial Engineering and Operations Management Proceeding. Lisbon, Portugal, 17-20 July 2023. DOI: 10.46254/EU6.20230037
2. Nourhan I. Ghoneim, Assessing Environmental, Technical, and Economic Aspects of Various Marine Emission Reduction Strategies Using Alternative Fuels, The 3rd NU Research Day, October 2023, Oman
3. Dr. Abdul Hameed et.al, Development of Electromechanical condition monitoring system for fault diagnosis in motors and gearboxes of motor operated valves, Icon ACES 2023, December 2023, India.
4. Dr. Tugsan, Hamid Reza Soltani and Dr. Abdulhameed, Remote Sensing Technologies for Renewable Energy Management, (GCGW-2023), June 2023, Turkey

Student Conference:

1. Dr. Abdul Hameed, Mohamed Khalil Ibrahim Alwindawi, Modeling and Simulation of Matrix Converter for Marine Electric Propulsion, MEC student Conference, June 2023, Oman.

Book Chapters:

1. Tripathi, P., Yadawa, Y., Verma, A., Kumar, P., Sinha, A.S.K., Dwivedi, D., Yeneneh, A.M. and Al-Balushi, K., 2023. Application of Self-Cleaning Materials in the Oil and Gas Industries. In Functional Materials for the Oil and Gas Industry (pp. 87-108). CRC Press.
2. Jafary, T., Yeneneh, A.M., Al Hinai, M., Bakar, M.H.A. and Rahimnejad, M., 2023. Future applications of biological fuel cells. In Biological Fuel Cells (pp. 463-485). Elsevier.
3. Yeneneh, A.M., Jafary, T., Al Kharousi, A., Al-Ajmi, M., Oladipo, H., Kumar, T., Adewole, J., Al-Balushi, K., Al-Hinai, M. and Al-Hamadani, A., Application of Functional Materials and Corrosion Inhibitors for Downstream Offshore Oil and Gas Industry. In Functional Materials for the Oil and Gas Industry (pp. 23-37). CRC Press.
4. Jafary, T., Yeneneh, A.M., Abidoye, L., Kumar, T., Khalifullah, A., Adewole, J., Al-Balushi, K. and Al Buraiki, M., Functional Clay Minerals Application in Oil and Gas Industries. In Functional Materials for the Oil and Gas Industry (pp. 207-220). CRC Press

Research clubs, seminars, workshops:

1. The Marine Engineering department organized a workshop

on Graduation Project for year 4 ME&DO students facilitated by the coordinators.

2. The Marine Engineering Department Organized a workshop on Report Writing expertly facilitated by Dr. Rommel Manzon from the Foundation Department.
3. Distinguished guest speaker, Dr. Rajinder Sharma, from University of Technology and Applied Sciences-Suhar, invited by the Process Engineering Department, delivered an interactive presentation on the pertinent "Fixed Point Theory, Mathematical Modeling and Availability of Research Platforms".
4. Distinguished guest speaker, Mr. Jitendra Pandey, from Middle East College, invited by the Process Engineering Department, delivered an interactive presentation on the pertinent "Demystifying Machine Learning: An Introduction and Overview."
5. Distinguished guest speaker, Dr. R. Senthilkumar, from University of Technology and Applied Sciences-Suhar, invited by the Process Engineering Department, delivered an interactive presentation on the pertinent "The Use of Strychnos Potatorium in an Environmental IoT System for the Treatment of Commercial and Domestic Washing Discharge in both Batch and Continuous column Studies"
6. Distinguished guest speaker from KENT Company, invited by the Process Engineering Department, delivered an interactive presentation on the pertinent "Water Chemical Treatment Technologies".



Research Awards:

Atheer Al Mammari, Fatema Al Baluki, Majid Al Ghaithi and Abrar Al Harthy under supervisions of Dr Tahereh Jafari and Dr Muna Al Hini from Process Engineering Department won the first prize of Project Presentation Competition during STEP 2023, organized by University of Technology and Applied Sciences, Shinas.



Dr Tahereh Jafari won the GOLD RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT OF THE YEAR 2023 AWARD organized by GlobalWiin in Iceland in September 2023.



Dr Tahereh Jafari and her team won National Research award 2023, PhD category, organized by MoHERI in December 2023.



PE student Jahad Al Jabri under the supervision of Prof. Dr. J. Sathik Basha won the GPCA 2023 - CARBON NEUTRALITY CUP COMPETITION.



College of Engineering

NU CoE Welcomes New Batch of Future Engineers:

The NU College of Engineering welcomed more than 300 new students who progressed from our School of Foundation Studies on 11-13 September 2023, at the Assembly Hall.

The 3-day induction program intended to brief, orient, and prepare students to the various regulations, services, and programs of the College of Engineering.

The Dean, Dr. Ahmed Al Balushi welcomed our students with high hopes that they could make a difference in society by prioritizing their studies while getting involved in various clubs and activities of the college. Dr. Ahmed also emphasized the need to read and love books and avail of various library resources and information available to them.

Also, the Sultan Haitham Smart City was introduced to students which aimed at spreading awareness of an innovative and technologically advanced "smart" city concept that addresses urban planning, sustainability, as well as employment among young Omanis.

This time, invited speakers from OMREN, Oman Research and Education Network, Mr. Hilal Al Jassasi and Mr. Hisham Al Aرامي came to induct students on Oman's education and research facilities available to students through MOHERI.

The department-wide induction program happened on Day 2 with a campus tour by respective engineering departments. A variety of snacks were served on all three days at the said venue.



Engineers Capture Best Paper Award in National Symposium:

Three BEng in Chemical Engineering students, namely: Aysha Khalifa Al Shukaili, Shaima Ahmed Al Dgheishi, and Nadra Ali Al Zakwani represented the team from the NU College of Engineering to the 12th National Symposium on Engineering for Final Year Projects at the Nizwa University on 8th May 2023.

The three lady engineers won the Best Paper Award in the areas of Chemical, Biological, and Petrochemical Engineering. They were supervised by Dr. Geetha Devi. The title of their paper presentation was "Green Synthesis of Silver Nanoparticles from Mesquite Tree Leaves for Oily Wastewater Treatment". The winners received a certificate and a scope for publishing their work in an IEEE peer-reviewed journal.



Student-researcher Presents in Research Conference vis-à-vis Oman Vision 2040:

Ms. Hajer Ahmed Ali Al-Lezami, was invited to present her novel research findings at the 6th Sohar University Research Conference on 10th May 2023 at Sohar University. The title of her research presentation was "Synthesis of Calcium Carbonate Nanoparticles and its Application in Grey Water Treatment". She was supervised by Dr. Geetha Devi. The research conference was conducted in the realization of Oman Vision 2040.



Enriching the NU CoE Experience: A Semester in Review by the NU CoE Student Affairs Office:

The Student Affairs Office or SAO of the NU College of Engineering has accomplished various undertakings this Fall Semester (SY 2023-24, Semester A). The following presents the details in statistics:

- The SAO with its student clubs joined forces in offering diversified activities aimed at promoting student growth and engagement with 30 activities to sum up.
- There were 12 workshops, 6 cultural and athletic events, and 2 site visits that were conducted.
- As for community engagement, 3 community services were initiated and 5 external participations which included international representation.
- Also, there were 4 notable accomplishments with 3 on an international scale.

With all these mentioned, its impact is astonishing, i.e., more enhanced knowledge and skills, much-strengthened team bonds, and further shaped personal and professional future.

MIE Students Attend Training Program:

A training program was organized for L3 and L4 students of the Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department in collaboration with Autodesk, Technograph, and Al Suwaidi Computer Co LLC. Oman on September 26, 2023. 23 students attended the training program and received certificates of participation. The training was facilitated by Dr. Pradeep Kumar Krishnan, Dr. Dinesh Keloth Kaithari, and Mr. AbdulShafi Mohammed Al Abri.



MSc Students Attend Workshop:

A workshop on "6 Thinking Hats for Critical Thinking and Complex Problem Solution" was conducted on 12th October 2023 among MS IT students. This targeted one of NU's graduate attributes on critical thinking which benefited the 11 graduate students who attended the workshop.

By exploring diverse perspectives represented by the different hats, students got the opportunity to develop the ability to consider multiple viewpoints and make informed decisions through critical thinking. It also enhanced problem-solving skills by providing a structured framework for analyzing and generating creative solutions. Furthermore, it promoted effective communication, self-awareness, and critical evaluation. Finally, students learn to think systematically, organize their thoughts, and articulate ideas coherently. These skills are transferable to various areas of their lives and future endeavors. Overall, the workshop fosters critical thinking, creativity, and decision-making abilities that are valuable for academic and personal success.

This workshop was facilitated by Dr. Priy Brat Dwivedi from MIE Department, and Dr. Ramakrishna Kumar from the ECE Department of the College of Engineering at NU, Oman.



IMechE through MIE Organizes Guest Lectures:

The IMechE student chapter and the Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department of the College of Engineering, National University organized a guest lecture on 15th November 2023

entitled "Build Your Own Career Path". This alumni guest lecture is presented by Engr. Tasnim Al Dauwdi, the R&D Engineer at MB Petroleum Services Oman. She is also an entrepreneur herself. During her speech, she shared her experience on her career pathway from schooling until today. She also detailed her achievements, the hurdles she overcame, and the efforts she made, and shared several milestones in her career until now.



IMechE Organizes 14th Oratory Competition

The 14th SPE or Society of Petroleum Engineers Oratory Competition was held on 1st November 2023 by the Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department. The competition was jointly organized by professional student chapters of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE).

The theme of the event was green hydrogen, sustainable development goals, artificial intelligence, and the 4th Industrial Revolution. The primary objective of the event is to provide an opportunity for students to practice and enhance their oratory skills. As communication is a crucial tool for personality development in today's competitive world, students are challenged to further develop their skills to communicate and promote their ideas on this platform.

Prof C V Sudhir conveyed his message to the dynamic students on the importance of inculcating soft skills, particularly communication for a better career in process and manufacturing industries. Prizes were distributed among winners and participants. Prof. Ahmed Al Balushi, Dean of the College of Engineering, conveyed his best wishes for the competition.



MIE Hosts 3-day Workshop:

The Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department successfully hosted a three-day workshop on "Condition Monitoring Skill Sets for Oil and Gas Engineering Industry" from 26th to 28th November 2023. The workshop aimed at enhancing the skillsets of students in the field of condition monitoring, which is a crucial aspect of the oil and gas engineering industry.

Engineering conducted the workshop. Mohammed Al Busaidi of Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) who is also one of the Industry and Community Engagement Committee (ICEC) members.

The workshop covered a comprehensive range of topics related to condition monitoring, including vibration analysis, thermography, oil

analysis, and acoustic emission monitoring. Engr. Al Busaidi, with his extensive experience in the industry, shared valuable insights and practical knowledge to provide students with a thorough understanding of condition monitoring.

The workshop saw active participation from students, creating an interactive and engaging learning environment. Engr. Al Busaidi's practical demonstrations and real-world examples resonated well with the students, enhancing their grasp of the concepts discussed. Students actively took part in hands-on activities and case studies, further reinforcing their understanding of condition-monitoring techniques.



Kaithari, Bhambare Facilitate Workshop on MDSOLIDS Software:

A workshop on "MDSOLIDS software for Level 2 Engineering Mechanics students" was organized on 30th November and 7th December 2023. This workshop is aimed at improving the understanding and analysis of practical engineering mechanics problems and enhancing software skills for solving real-time engineering mechanics problems.

This workshop is a combination of theory and hands-on sessions using MDSOLIDS software in the lab. The topics for the workshop included the analysis of beams including shear force and bending moment diagrams along with the analysis of plane trusses.

This workshop has also enhanced students' technical skills and competencies while improving the quality of level-four technical projects.

Dr. Dinesh K. Kaithari and Dr. Parimal S. Bhambare facilitated the workshop along with Mr. Abdulshafi Mohammed Al Abri of the MIE Department. A total of 21 Level 2 students attended this workshop.



College of Engineering Organizes Ruwad Carnival 2023:

The College of Engineering has organized Ruwad Carnival 2023 under the patronage of Eng. Said bin Abdullah Al Mandhari, CEO of ITHCA Group and Member of the Supervisory Committee of Promising Oman Startups Program. The event was attended by various stakeholders from public and private organizations including the Ministry of Higher Educations, Research and Innovation, Authority for SME Development, Omental Innovation Lab, Oman Academy for SME, Injaz Oman, and other HEIs. The event was organized in three categories NU students' businesses, Omani Startups, and the talents section which supports the talented students to utilize their talents for money making such as drawing and photography. The total number of student businesses reached Twenty-nine from all NU campuses, who were able to showcase and sell their products. The event also hosted the participation of five Omani Startups Otaxi, eMushrif, Tecknow, Kushk, and Ankaa Space and Technology. In addition, the Ruwad team has launched an initiative to support Omani products by creating awareness among visitors on the positive impact of purchasing Oman products on the economy and employment.

The chief guest and other external guests visited the new incubation center (under renovation), Mr. Ibrahim Al Balushi briefed the guests on the progress of work, the center plans, and programs. They expressed their interest and commitment in the collaboration to support the center program and the incubated projects.

Engineering Student Participates in LIYSF in London:

Mr. Abdullah Said Al Hasani participated in the London International Youth Science Forum from 26 July to 9 August 2023. He was selected by MOHERI after passing all required assessments. The forum was hosted at Imperial College London and the participants visited various scientific and research organizations such as the University of Sussex, the National Physical Laboratory, and HR Wallingford to explore the recent research, innovations, and major projects in the chemical and physical sciences. He participated also in the Science Exhibition to display and showcase the innovation of the "Smart Gas Regulator" with a great discussion with scientists, innovators, and researchers from around the world. This project is supervised by Mr. Ibrahim Issa Al Balushi.



CENU Students Compete in OCPC 2023:

Six students from our Level 3 Computer Engineering and ITMB program showcased their talent and commitment by taking part in the 10th Oman Collegiate Programming Contest (OCPC2023) held in Sultan Qaboos University. This contest was held on October 31st and November 1st, 2023. The event featured a total of 95 teams, including 195 participants from various universities and colleges

across Oman. Dr. Ramakrishna Kumar and Dr. Vijayalakshmi from Electrical and Communication Engineering are the coaches for our teams. On October 31st, the teams dedicated themselves to training and practice sessions, fully preparing for the main contest held on November 1st, 2023. Our teams strove to achieve a top-20 ranking with all their efforts. Even though they didn't secure a win, the contest proved to be an invaluable experience for them. It served as a powerful motivator, significantly broadening their horizons within the programming world. Furthermore, these contests offered a platform for students not only to compete but also to collaborate and exchange ideas with their peers. We thank the management for supporting the teams to participate in the competition.



News Bits:

- Mr Shabib Sulaiman Ali Al Rashdi, a Senior Lecturer of the MIE Department was awarded the "Emerging Talents: Breaking the wall of Biochar Performance" at Falling Walls Science Summit held in Berlin, Germany on 7th November 2023.
- Dr. Faustino Taderera facilitated a workshop on "Managing Customs Clearance and Minimizing Risks, Delays, and Penalties" at the Africa Centre for Customs Excise and Trade Facilitation in Harare, Zimbabwe on 5th August 2023.
- Dr. Rajakannu Amuthakkannan delivered a keynote speech on "Opportunities for Computer Engineers in 4th Industrial Revolution" at the Technical Expo on IoT and Maths, College of Applied Science, Al Musanna on 5th November 2023.
- On 9th Nov 2023, a training session on "National University Energy Audit [NUEA] and Electrical Energy Analysis using soft tools" was conducted by Dr. Sudhir C. V., Dr. Dharmasa, and Dr. Achuthan for service staff at the College of Engineering.
- Dr. Pradeep Kumar Krishnan received an award from the Institute of Physics (IOP) on October 17, 2023 for achieving the esteemed status of Trusted Reviewer.
- Mr. Salim Ahmed Al Rashdi who recently graduated MSCMM has won the CC Energy Development Oman Student Award. The award presentation ceremony took place at the Oman Industry Al Forum in Muscat on 1st Nov. 2023. Salim is under the supervisory leadership of Dr. Sudhir C.V. who was likewise a student of the latter.
- ASME and IMechE Student chapters of the MIE Department organized a guest lecture on the topic 'How to manage risk in waste management' on the 15th of November 2023 at the College of Engineering Campus. Mr. Jayan Valliyaveedu the QHSE Manager of Ecovision LLC, Oman delivered a special talk and clarified questions raised by students as regards risk management and hazardous environment in waste management. This was attended by more than 50 participants.
- The Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering and the IMechE student chapter of the National University College of Engineering organized the "Speak Out for Engineering" presentation competition among its student members. This competition is aimed at improving students' presentation and public speaking skills. This event was conducted on 20th November 2023 at the Conference Hall of the college. 20 members participated in the event, and one was declared the winner. The winner will advance to the national level of IMechE's Speak Out for Engineering competition. This competition was conducted as per the guidelines prescribed by the IMechE professional body.
- Mr. Ibrahim Issa Al Balushi, Senior Lecturer at the College of Engineering graduated from the National Leadership Program (Etimad) organized by the Royal Academy of Management after completing all modules and the required assessments. The program focused on various areas related to leadership, managing innovation, digital transformation, and leading change.
- Mr. Ibrahim Issa Al Balushi, Senior Lecturer at the College of Engineering completed the professional certification of the Entrepreneurship Centre Management Program from the International Business Innovation Association, organized from 22 August to 14 November 2023.
- Mr. Ibrahim Issa Al Balushi, Senior Lecturer at the College of Engineering was invited to be part of the judging panel of the North Al Batinah Governorate Entrepreneurship Award, organized by the Governor's Office in North Al Batinah.
- Atechz Team from the College of Engineering participated at the Promising Omani Startups Forum on 4th December 2023, organized by the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Development Authority. It was a great opportunity to display their innovative product and interact with a diverse audience including official visitors, investors, experts, and representatives of public and private institutions in Oman.
- Ruwad Club at the College of Engineering organized the "Company Program Workshop". The workshop focused on strategies for generating business ideas by identifying various community and market-related problems. The workshop also discussed the prototyping process and the needed tools. Sixty-five students attended this workshop. It was facilitated on 18th Oct 2023 by Mr. Ammar Al Fizari and Mr. Ali Al Ajmi from Injaz Oman".
- Ruwad Club at the College of Engineering organized a "Stock Market Trading" workshop in collaboration with Lets Trade Institute. The workshop was conducted on 24th October 2023 by Mr. Mazin Al Jardani. The workshop supported participants to discover the local and global stock markets and the way they operate. Additionally, understanding investor psychology is relevant to trading, and analyzing markets.
- Ruwad Club organized the "Consumer Behavior in Social Media Marketing" workshop on 7th November 2023. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Alyamama Al Saidi, Manager of Marketing and Communication at Oman Academy for SME, and Mr. Abdullah Al Kharusi, Marketing Specialist. The workshop focused on exploring tools used in social media marketing, Understanding customer behavior in marketing, offering products/services, discovering good practices, and learning about other's mistakes in using social media marketing.
- College of Engineering organized the third cohort of the "Tagseer Program" in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour. The program was held from 28 to 31 August 2023 to support graduate students in enhancing their employability skills.
- Mr. Ibrahim Issa Al Balushi, Senior Lecturer at the College of Engineering was invited to attend the Leadership and Management Forum organized by Oman Academy for SME. He was the moderator of a panel discussion on financial management, investment, and human resources management in Omna, with the participation of key leaders and experts from the industry.
- Mr. Ibrahim Issa Al Balushi, Senior Lecturer at the College of Engineering PDH participated and presented at the Incubation Workshop organized by MoHERI to discuss the incubation program progress and upcoming projects on 23 October 2023 at Muscat Innovation Park.

Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research

Visit of the CEO of the Industrial Innovation Academy to the National University | 14th September 2023.

National University held a meeting with the Academy of Industrial Innovation to discuss aspects of cooperation between the two sides. The meeting was attended by Dr. Ali Al-Bimani, Vice Chancellor of the University and Dr. Ayman Al-Fudhaili, CEO of the Academy, in addition to specialists from the two institutions.



from various colleges and departments of NU also attended this important event.

The event included a speech delivered by the Vice Chancellor of the University, in which he touched on the most important research achievements that were achieved by the students and faculty members during the academic year 2022/2023. Mr. Mansour Al-Abdali, CEO of OQ, also delivered a speech in which he focused on the most prominent research and field studies related to natural gas networks in the Sultanate of Oman.

During the Research Day, 49 papers and many presentations were presented, in addition to more than 22 posters and research projects presented by faculty members and student researchers from the College of Engineering, College of Pharmacy, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, and International Maritime College Oman. The event also featured the prizes and rewards for the best students and faculty categories.

MSc Clinical Pharmacy Orientation – September 2023 Intake | 17th September 2023.

The orientation program was organized at the College of Pharmacy for the newly admitted students in the MSc Clinical Pharmacy and commenced on 17th September 2023. Dr. Khalid Al Balushi, Dean College of Pharmacy, Acting Dean of Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research, Program Manager and faculty members apprised the new students of various facilities, rules and regulations related to the programs, HSE aspects and of the support extended to them for ensuring an excellent learning experience.



CoE PG Programs Induction – September 2023 Intake | 4th October 2023.

Induction programs for new MSc students were organized on 4th October 2023 at the College of Engineering. The new students were given orientation about various facilities, HSE aspects, rules and regulations related to the programs and about the support extended to them for ensuring an excellent learning experience.

3rd NU Research Day | 15th October 2023.

The National University of Science and Technology organized the "Third Research Day" under the patronage of His Excellency Dr. Saif bin Abdullah Al-Hiddabi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation for Research and Innovation, in the presence of Dr. Ali Al Bimani, the Vice-chancellor as well as the senior NU Executives and both faculty and student researchers from the different Colleges. Various stakeholders including industries and community researchers

MoHERI RG Project Workshop on IoT Based Fishing Boat Automation System | 17th October 2023.

Workshop on IOT Based Fishing Boat Automation System was conducted on 17th October 2023 as part of the MoHERI research project titled "Development of Fishermen Boats with Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Fishing Experience Ensuring Safety, Security, Navigation, and Sharing Information for Omani Fishermen", Ref No : BFP/RGP/ICT/21/271. The welcome address was given by Dr. Ahmed Al Bulushi, Dean, College of Engineering. There were 48 participants consisting of faculty members and students of MIE and ECE departments.

The technical talk was given by Dr. R. Amuthakkannan, Principal Investigator of the research project. The workshop covered the topics on the present scenario of the fishery sector in the Sultanate of Oman, the economic contribution to the nation by the fishery sector, opportunities to implement modern technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Fishing boats.

The integrated boat automation system was demonstrated by the research team to the participants. The successfully developed automation system, its integration, testing, benefits to the fishermen and the nation, fishermen safety, security, and the future scope were discussed during the workshop. Also,

Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research

the research team clarified doubts raised by the participants and motivated them to conduct research in the area of Marine Automation in the future.



Announcement of BFP Projects Call 23:

The MoHERI has approved Block Funding Projects (BFP) (RG/GRG/URG) for 2023-2024 under Call 2023. The university received a total worth of 208,770 OMR. The total funds allocated to NU have increased significantly by 62% compared to the previous year. A total of 25 projects were approved, 11 projects under RG category, 7 projects under GRG and URG.

Announcement of NURG Projects Call 2023:

The Dean of Deanship of Graduate Studies and Research announced and congratulated the team members involved in the approved NURG project of Call 2023. A total of 13 projects worth of 37000 OMR were approved. Eight faculty projects, four students project and one international joint research project.

Support Publication Program, Call 2023:

The following six applications have been submitted to MOHERI under the Support Publication Program:

- Coefficient Inequalities of a Comprehensive Subclass of Analytic Functions with Respect to Symmetric Points (CoE).
- Tarlike Functions of Complex Order with Respect to Symmetric Points Defined Using Higher Order Derivatives (CoE).
- Framework to Detect Schizophrenia in Brain MRI Slices with Mayfly Algorithm-Selected Deep and Handcrafted Features (CoE).
- A Novel Bearing Faults Detection Method Using Generalized Gaussian Distribution Refined Composite Multiscale Dispersion Entropy (CoE).
- Evaluation of Prevalence & Predictors of Waterpipe (Shisha) Use among Pre-medicine and Pharmacy Students in the Muscat Region- A pilot study (CoP).
- Investigating the Health Impacts of Plant-based Milk Ingredients: Additives and Oxalate (CoP).

Annual Research Report:

The Annual Research Report for the academic year 2022 – 2023 was published on 21st December 2023. The report illustrates significant achievements of researchers across the university as follows:

- Journal Publications & Patents
- Conference Publications
- Books/Chapters authored
- Funded Research projects
- Awards and Recognition
- Publications and Citations
- NU Research Collaboration and Links
- Abstracts of Journal Publications



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

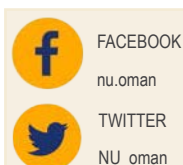
On the 20th of March 2023, Ms. Tasnim Ibrahim Al Shukaili, the Student Counselor at AHC, and her mental health team participated in the Psychology Forum at Mazoon College. The purpose of the participation includes understanding the psychology of the brain, spread awareness of the most important me, knowing 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."

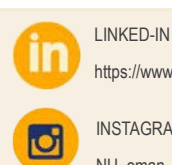
A Field Trip at the Pharmaceutical Company

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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