

# RUW SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COUNCIL

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### RUW SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COUNCIL NEWS



#### Wrap Up: 2017-18 AY

In the 2017-18 Academic Year, the RUW Scientific Research Council has made notable strides to further its establishment. Since becoming activated in November 2017, the RUW Scientific Research Council has composed and released nine monthly newsletters, organised and hosted two stimulating workshops/seminars around the topics of research writing techniques and how to publish effectively and women's studies. Furthermore, the RUW Scientific Research Council played an important role in the organisation and exposure of the RUW 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference on Women and Society, a research based conference which successfully provided a platform for expert researchers to gather and discuss women empowerment.

In the upcoming 2018-19 AY, the RUW Scientific Research Council hopes to continue forth in its main mission to cultivate a research based society within RUW and the greater community, most specifically in the field of women's studies with GCC regional focus. The RUW Scientific Research Council notices and thanks all of its supporters.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- The RUW Library will hold a SCOPUS database training session in September, exact date TBA
- The RUW Scientific Research Council hopes to organise workshops/seminars throughout the 2018-19 Academic Year on various topics of: technical writing, research ethics, and women's studies

### HIGHLIGHTS:

RUW Scientific Research Council recommends worthy reads related to Women's Studies:

- 1) The Role of Women in Arabic Literature by Mona Mikhai, published by Cornell University Library, 2017; Reprint of an original piece published by Arab Perspectives in its October, 1980 issue, Vol. 1, No. 7.
- 2) The Map of Salt and Stars: A Novel by Jennifer Zeynab Joukhadar, published by Touchstone; May 2018
- 3) An Arab Women's Notebook: Inspirational Stories by Arab Women to the World by Dana Ben Halim (Author) and Samar Saad (Contributor), published by CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, June 2016
- 4) Workplace Barriers and Leadership Conflicts Experienced by the Women in Higher Education in Saudi Arabia by Afaf Awad Alsbhi, Kazi Enamul Hoque, Ahmed Zabidi Abdul Razak, research article published by MacroThink Institute International Journal of Learning and Development: Volume 8, No. 2, 2018

## FACULTY RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS



**Dr. Hala Elias**, Associate Professor and Dean of College of Business and Financial Sciences, will present a paper titled, “Career Progression of Sudanese Women in the Accounting Field” by **Elias, H. and Mehrotra, A.** (2018) in the IC3SE on 17th - 18th August, 2018 at Orlando, USA.



**Dr. Arpita Mehrotra**, Assistant Professor, College of Business and Financial Services and Head of Bank & Finance Department, will publish a paper **Mehrotra, A. and Elias, H.**, (2018) “Challenges and Growth prospects of Islamic banking in the Kingdom of Bahrain” in the Proceedings of the 24<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Economic Finance and Accounting (pp. 5-9), Copenhagen, Denmark.

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**STUDENT RESEARCH**

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**Masters' Thesis:****Master of Fine Arts in Drawing & Painting, July 2017**

Artistic Transformation of the Works of Sh. Rashid Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa “An Analytical Study of the 1968 – 2013” Period

**By: Najla Mahmood Adnan Al Musawi**

**Supervisor: Dr. Janon Kadhim**

**Abstract:**

The aim of this research was to study and analyse the art works of the commendable Shaikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa from the Kingdom of Bahrain. The study discussed the importance of the aesthetic values which the artist adopted throughout his career in contemporary plastic art; as well as, how he deployed his art as result of various foundations and experiences. Furthermore, the research analysis gives some concentration to the artist's effort to fill the apparent lack of academia in the study of the modern plastic art movement.

In order to achieve the research objectives most correctly, an analytical approach was adopted and the research was divided into two main parts: the theoretical part in the first three chapters, and the analytical study of artistic works in chapters four and five.

Chapter one contains the introduction, previous studies examined, and the statement of the research problem and aims. While the second chapter shines light on the theoretical framework and splits into two main topics: the first topic being the contemporary plastic art movement in the entire Arab World; and, the second is more specific by investigating the contemporary plastic art movement only in the Arabian Gulf countries. Overall, the third chapter explores the role Sheikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa played in the contemporary art movement of the Kingdom of Bahrain. This chapter is also divided into two sections: the first section highlights on the contemporary art movement within the Kingdom of Bahrain; whilst, the second half focuses on the artist himself, and his successful career as a leading Bahraini painter. Specific works of Sheikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa's were chosen to reflect and express upon the various way in which he was influenced.

Part two of the research includes an analytical study of the artist's works, research procedures, and the analytical framework. When conducting comparative analytical criticism, art was sorted based on collection, classification, and information in chronological order. This method was determined to be the best to articulate the continuing evolution of the artist's works, and also reveal the visual which each of these chosen works contained. For precision, interviews were conducted with the artist himself, as well as with other Arab artists. Such interviews allowed opportunity to study the artist's original paintings and analyse tools used. Scientific observation, analytical descriptive logic, and informative presentation methods were enacted, information was documented using illustrations and comparison tables between paintings. Results are presented in chapter five. Ultimately, the results shed more light on the works of Sheikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, and give more in-depth exposure of his efforts, materials, techniques and plastic values. Finally, recommendations and proposals are identified in the conclusion of the research.

## STUDENT RESEARCH GRADUATION PROJECTS

## College of Art &amp; Design

**Lulwah AlRumaihi**, senior interior design student, completed a research project titled “Receiving Knowledge in Blooming Spaces” advised by Dr. Hadeel Regal. The project assessed whether a school building’s interior affects the learning process. Lulwa was applied to redesigning a two story school building located in Juffair, Bahrain with different zones and spaces. The objective was to “design a welcoming educational environment which simplifies the learning process by sharing fun resources and bringing life to the place.” The research was divided into four chapters: the first chapter consisted of the statement, problem, facilities, study on interior trends of this type, historical background, and objectives. Chapter two contained three case studies of other schools to compare and contrast the project objectives. Chapter three dealt with the theoretical research was developed on the Montessori methodology, space analysis, vertical and horizontal limitations, furniture, color scheme, materials used, school interior lighting, school ergonomics, school safety and security, and school acoustics treatment. Chapter four, “programming” included the concept of design, bubble diagram, zoning, and building circulation, which led to the project conclusion. The final outcome of the project developed an interior design for a bright and satisfying school space which could positively impact learning.

## College of Business and Financial Sciences

**Layla Althawadi**, completed a collaborative research project with Dr. Hala Elias, Dr. Arpita Mehrotra, and the Northern Municipality. The research was based on qualitative and quantitative methods and it concentrated on municipal budgeting within the Northern region of Bahrain. It was conducted using a two phase process. In phase one the municipality was analysed through assessment of functions, programs, problems with the current budgeting system, and who were the stakeholders; while the second phase concludes suggestive approaches which the municipality can adopt for budget enhancement. Layla is found the research limitations to be access of statistics, and a gap in research of this topic. Yet, she was able to overcome the gap with informative interviews with municipal officials, which were usually conducted via email and/or phone. When Layla was asked how she felt about the research topic she said, “When I got involved in the numbers it became interesting to know the budgeting for each program and I became enthusiastic to proceed in this research.” The project was completed in May 2018 and was recognised as the best project of the semester from the Business and Financial Sciences College.

## College of Law

**Amina Saleh**, former law student, graduated in 2017, completed a research project titled, “Investment Arbitration and the Importability of Arbitrate Award” advised by Dr. Maria Casoria. The aim of the research was to elaborate on the settlement mechanisms of investment disputes. The research was divided into three chapters. Chapter one gave the introduction and an overview of dispute resolution systems with historical evolution the system and a glimpse into the systems religious roots, then methods were highlighted regarding alternative dispute resolution systems. The second chapter defined investment and investment agreements along with the legal criteria for an agreement and an investment. Then it explained the regulations and clauses of the investments through domestic, regional, and international rules of law. The third and final chapter stated the problem of investment arbitration, to summarize the problem Amina referenced a quote “winning the arbitration is winning the battles whereas successfully enforcing the final award is winning the war.” The enigma in enforceability and the paradox of consent is mentioned in this chapter explaining how arbitral awards can be breached when the domestic laws differ with the international laws. The conclusion gave remedies to breaches and defined the protection measures and investment treaties for cases in which the state refuses enforcement of the award. The topic has many depths, and exploring it in this project led Amina and Dr. Maria Casoria to further develop the research into a book in the up-coming future.

## IN THE REGION

### Bahrain Appoints Women as Director General of Two Municipalities

The Supreme Council for Women celebrates after Bahrain appointed two Bahraini women, Shawqiya Ibrahim Humaidan and Lamia Yousef Al-Fadhala, as director general of the Capital Secretariat and the Northern Municipality. They are the first two women to hold such positions in the history of Bahrain. They will be responsible for promoting municipal work in two of the four governorates in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The attainment of two women in senior administrative positions in the field of municipal work is an example of the continuing development and progression of women in the Kingdom of Bahrain, especially in acquiring leadership positions in public affairs. Currently the proportion of women in leadership and decision-making positions in the executive authority is at 40%. A statistic which includes ministers and women of the ministerial rank, undersecretaries, and assistant undersecretaries. Furthermore, women currently make up 15% of the legislative authority, and the judicial authority is witnessing an increasing qualitative presence of women.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> AUE International Research Conference 2018

The American University in the Emirates will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Research Conference under the theme of “Sustainable Development and Social Responsibility” on 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

The conference will provide a platform for academics, practitioners, and policy makers from around the world “to engage in a dialogue on some of the most pressing issues in the drive towards sustainability, and social responsibility.” Conference highlights will be: sustainable innovations, human security, and creative business which can benefit communities. The scope of the conference includes a broad range of topics on areas which impact contemporary society.

Accepted papers will be published by Springer in edited volumes following their specific fields. Furthermore, authors of selected papers will be invited to submit extended versions on their AUEIRC papers for peer review to be published in a special issue of the AUE journal “Smart City Challenges and Solutions.” Dates: Abstract Submission – July 30, 2018; Acceptance Notification – August 15, 2018; Final Paper Submission – September 15, 2018; Conference – November 13-15, 2018

Conference Venue: American University in the Emirates, Dubai Intl. Academic City, Dubai, UAE

For more information or to contact visit: [aueirc.aue.ae](http://aueirc.aue.ae)

### France Recognises Bahraini Women’s Contribution to Development

French Ambassador to Bahrain, Cecile Longe recognised the important role of Bahraini women in society on July 15<sup>th</sup> at a ceremony hosted to mark the French National Day. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Khalid bin Ahmed Mohammed Al Khalifa, officials, diplomats, businessmen, and other various distinguished personalities attended the ceremony where she recognised the role played by His Majesty King Hamad and Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka in promoting the position of women within Bahrain’s society. The Ambassador was quoted by the Bahrain News Agency saying, “This is an essential criterion – the way a given society endeavours to value the whole of its Human Capital, thus contributing to the development of all, political, economic, social sectors. Bahrain has always actively collaborated in, and enshrined in law, women emancipation and integration in economic process.”

### Global Award for Women’s Empowerment

In partnership with UN Women, the Supreme Council for Women (SCW) has launched a global edition of ‘Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Award for Bahraini Women Empowerment.’ The award targets working women in both public and private sectors, along with civil society institutions. It will highlight the efforts and contributions made towards empowering women and promoting gender equality, and encourage more initiative approaches and solutions concerning women’s empowerment in terms of policies and programming. Most importantly, it will foster creative and inclusive thinking communities to work together to achieve gender equality.

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