

Always be yourself, express yourself, have faith in yourself, do not go out and look for a successful personality and duplicate it.
-Bruce Lee



Awareness Campaign for World Rare Disease Day

For the sixth consecutive year, Al Jawhara Centre for Molecular Medicine, affiliate of the Arabian Gulf University (AGU), is launching a national awareness campaign for rare diseases in early February.

This in conjunction with World Rare Disease Day, which falls on February 28 annually, held this year under the slogan "Show your rare, show your care".

Dr Cristina Skrypnyk, Medical Genetics Consultant at Al Jawhara Centre and Head of the Organising Committee said, "This year's celebration will focus on scientific research on rare diseases and its importance in opening limitless possibilities in treating patients, facilitating diagnosis and finding them treatment."

Diseases are classified as

rare when they afflict one in every 2000 people. There are 100 million individuals in the world afflicted with a rare disease and nearly 15 million in the Arab world. Most rare diseases are genetic, and accompany the patient for life, although the effects of some may only manifest at an older age.

The campaign will launch at the Arad Seef Mall on 10 February, 2018, with an awareness exhibition that includes the distribution of souvenirs and awareness leaflets, in addition to a big celebration at the Bahrain City Centre Mall on February 23, 2018.

The events at AGU and Al Jawhara Centre will also include recreational competitions, direct answers and consultations for visitors, with the participation of AGU

medical students.

In addition, an awareness seminar entitled "Genetic Diseases - Translating Research into Clinical Applications" will be organised by Al Jawhara Centre targeting doctors and researchers in the field of genetics.

On 28 February, a meeting will be held with patients of rare diseases in a special event to discuss the importance of early detection and what can be provided to patients with rare diseases, from diagnosis to aid in developing a better lifestyle to cope with the rare disease, aiming to share their experiences and provide support.

Dr Skrypnyk thanked AGU and BAPCO for their support of this awareness campaign aimed at developing the health and scientific fields in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



Dr Cristina Skrypnyk

RUW students gear up for second semester

The Office of Student Affairs (OSA) at Royal University for Women (RUW) held its annual Student Orientation Programme on Sunday.

In his welcome message to new students and their families RUW President Prof. Mazin Jumaah emphasised the world-class educational services that are provided by RUW to all students which help them become well-rounded, mature, leading individuals. Prof. Jumaah reiterated to students and parents that RUW offers an environment where students can excel in academia and Royal University for Women's commitment to providing a quality education.

This was followed by a speech by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Mona Suri, in which she talked about the academic programs and the



Highlights of the event

importance of integrating to the RUW community as well as informing the students that each student will have an academic advisor to guide them through the four years of university.

Dr. Suri also placed emphasis on quality mentioning the accreditation process and the

rigorous procedures RUW places on academic staff and programs to ensure the highest quality of educational service to the students.

Sameeneh Shirazie, Director of Student Affairs, welcomed students and their families explaining the various

services, clubs and extra-curricular activities organized by the office as well as the facilities available to their use. She stressed that the Royal University for Women fosters a spirit of cooperation and warmth that encourages the students to grow and explore

all the options available to them as students of the university.

Sameeneh also mentioned the supporting facilities on offer at the university such as the student affairs office, the social counsellor, the health clinic, the residence, and the sports centre that hosts a 600

seater stadium and a swimming pool and gymnasium.

Presentations by the Registrar at Royal University for Women Sami Mohammed and the Librarian Manager Sajitha Madan then followed. RUW Alumnae were also present during then event to offer inspiring words of advice to the new joiners. Representatives of student clubs were on hand to introduce the new joiners to their respective clubs.

Following the formal event, PR staff assisted by members of the RUW Student Council in taking new students on a campus tour and were shown the facilities including the Library, Residence Halls, Art and Design Exhibition Center, Learning Center, Gym, Sports Centre & Stadium, Cafeteria and newly opened restaurants and retail spaces.