

Welcome Note from the Guest - Editor: Reem Bensham



Ms. Reem Benshams,
Student Council President 2020
RUW Alumna 2020

To the students that are continuing head strong through online learning, this message is for you:

I graduated in the year of 2020, and in the 2 months of online learning, it made me realize this: Out of all the students that have come & gone in the history of RUW, you are the ones who have a skill none of them gained during their university years. You have the skill of discipline. You wake up every morning and attend online classes, sometimes in your pajamas. You continue to do so even when you have to attend classes in your bedroom, and we all know how hard that is. The fact that you have continuously attended classes from home for the past weeks show how disciplined you have become with the challenges of online learning. You have shown the skill of determination. Completing assignments and studying for exams are harder to do when you are stuck to finish them at home. But you are doing it, and you are not letting the circumstances stand in your way. You are determined to graduate, and this determination during such a crazy time is a skill that will stay with you throughout your career. Most importantly, you have shown flexibility. You have adapted during a worldwide pandemic and still continue to pursue your education. Although there have been challenges, the fact that you are reading this shows the extent of your adaptability in a such a challenging time. Students of RUW, I applaud you. Continue to become the best you can be. This is what RUW is about, a beautiful place to grow. Now onto what the future holds: The RUW newsletter of 2020 has a beautiful concept with a new twist. This newsletter is your voice. RUW has created yet another outlet for you to be creative and showcase your ideas. So grasp this opportunity and have fun with it! The ideas are limitless and all that is needed is for you to be a part of this creativity. Use the skills you have gained to make the rest of your years in RUW a memorable experience. Place your fingerprints in RUW, the ideas are limitless and so is your creativity. As I always say, say YES to any opportunity, especially ones that are so fun! If you would like to be a part of the coming creative newsletter, please message Public Relations Department on email pr@ruw.edu.bh. Looking forward to hearing from you!

RUW Mission

To offer our students a rewarding and challenging multi-cultural learning environment that cultivates strong, well-rounded personalities, encourages leadership, and builds character, social consciousness and community. To realize our commitment to teaching, learning, research and service through the activities of all members of the University community.

RUW Vision

"The Royal University for Women will become the regional leader in academic excellence for women. Programmes and practices that meet international standards will prepare our graduates to become leaders who are engaged members of their society demonstrating initiative & life-long habits of learning and individual development. The RUW graduate will be creative, confident and forward thinking."

Academic Programmes Offered at RUW

Academic Programmes Offered at RUW

- College of Art and Design
 - Pearson Edexcel Foundation Diploma in Art & Design
 - Bachelor of Arts in Fashion Design
 - Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design
 - Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design
 - Bachelor in Architectural Design
 - Master of Design Management
 - Master of Fine Arts in Drawing and Painting
- College of Business and Financial Sciences
 - Bachelor of Business in Banking & Finance
 - Bachelor of Business in Human Resource Management
 - Bachelor of Business in International Business
 - Bachelor of Business in Marketing
- College of Law
 - Bachelor of Law

H.E the Ambassator of Italy Visits the Grazia Deledda Center for Italian Language and Culture



The Royal University for Women welcomed H.E. Ms Paola Amadei, the Italian Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain, to celebrate the XXth Week of Italian Language in the World at the Grazia Deledda Center for Italian Language and Culture located on RUW campus. Her Excellency was welcomed by RUW President Dr David Stewart and the vice presidents of the university Dr Mona Suri and Dr Hasan Al Mulla.

It was H.E. Ms Paola Amadei's first visit to the Italian Centre and RUW campus since her nomination as the Italian Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain. Dr David Stewart delivered a speech welcoming the Ambassador and thanked the embassy for its contribution to the successful collaboration in the field of education with the Kingdom of Bahrain and for choosing RUW to be the home of the first and only center for Italian language and culture in the GCC. He stated how the establishment of the Grazia Deledda Center for Italian Language and Culture is part of RUW's growing interest and involvement with Italy and this is further exemplified in the partnerships with the Italian universities Siena, Salerno, Sapienza, Campana and with RUW's involvement with and support of the King Hamad Chair for Inter-religious Dialogue and Peaceful Co-existence" professorship at the University of Sapienza. He thanked the former Ambassador of Italy to Bahrain H.E. Domenico Ballato for his support and said that he very much looks forward to working with H.E. Ms. Paola Amadei to further develop the University's interest in Italy.

H.E. Ms Paola Amadei praised the university's efforts in providing a multi-cultural environment and the opportunity of learning the Italian language along with its artistic culture through the centre. Her Excellency also gave a few remarks about the occasion as its being celebrated world-wide in terms of arts and stories and the importance of discovering the Italian culture through its language.

The XXth Week of Italian Language in the World is celebrated this year with the theme "Italian Between Word & Image: Graffiti, Illustrations, Comic Books". A gift was presented by H.E. the Ambassador to the highest achiever in the Italian language class, Ms Aysha Murad, a student from the College of Art & Design. Along with a gift of comic books to the university.

RUW Successful completion of ISO 9001:2015 Surveillance Audit



Royal University for Women has successfully completed the ISO 9001:2015 surveillance audit which took place on September 30th with an outstanding result of no non-conformances raised for the sixth consecutive year. A hybrid-style audit was conducted taking into consideration all safety measures. The audit was conducted by AJA Europe where a team of three auditors conducted the audits virtually via scheduled online meetings with different administrative managers and process owners. The opening and closing meetings were conducted virtually and attended by the University President, Dr. David Stewart and Management Representative, Ms. Mona A. Jawad, in addition to all administrative Directors and Managers. At the closing meeting, the auditors announced the remarkable outcome of no non-conformances raised. The audit team was impressed that despite a challenging year, the administrative departments of RUW managed to maintain high standard of operations.

Newly appointed Korean ambassador visit campus



His Excellency Mr. Hae-kwan Chung, newly appointed Korean ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain visited RUW and met with Acting President Dr. David Stewart and Director of International Affairs, Dr. Vivien Exartier. His Excellency thanked Dr. David for receiving him. It was an excellent opportunity to discuss collaboration with South Korea in terms of language, cultural events and partnership with Korean universities. Ambassador Chung, a graduate from Seoul University in Chinese language and literature also earned an LLM from George Washington University. In his career, Ambassador Chung served in the US and China and in various Ministries.

Webinar with Box Hill College - Kuwait



RUW team held an interactive webinar with Box Hill College Kuwait graduating students and alumnae. BHCK, a two-year institution is a partner of CBFS. BHCK graduates can join RUW and earn their Bachelor of Business. CBFS bachelors are the only RUW programs recognized by the Kuwaiti Ministry of Education. Dr. Vivien Exartier and Kathryn Funk organized and hosted the webinar and featured Mr. Sami Dagash, Director Enrollment Management who went over the admission transfer criteria for BHCK students. RUW thanks Ms. Carol Bim, PR department at Box Hill for reaching out to Box Hill students.

Students Orientation Day



The Royal University for Women (RUW) held its annual Student Orientation Programme Virtually for the AY 2020-21. The Orientation Day program consisted of events spread over three days. The colleges and departments provided students with information about procedures, curricula, advising, library information and much more. The event was attended by new joiners and faculty. The students were also briefed with RUW rules and regulations and university life in general. The President of RUW Dr David Stewart emphasized on the Royal University for Women's commitment to providing a quality education and its efforts to offer an environment where students can excel both academically and personally.

RUW organizes "Readiness of HEIs for the new academic year amidst COVID-19 pandemic"



The Royal University for Women (RUW) organized a webinar on the "Readiness of HEIs for the new academic year amidst COVID-19 pandemic" which featured top authorities in the collegiate space as they talked through the welcoming process of the upcoming academic year at colleges and universities.

Leaders and representatives of Higher Education institutions in the Kingdom of Bahrain, the United States of America and the United Kingdom joined the webinar to participate in the discussion themes that focused on "Health & Safety of students and staff, Teaching and Learning Models, and Enriching Student Life". The webinar provided an insight, points of consideration and a roadmap for preparation for the coming academic year, and witnessed a wide attendance from Universities Management, Academic decision-makers, Educators, and teaching faculty, in addition to Student Affairs and Quality Assurance staff.

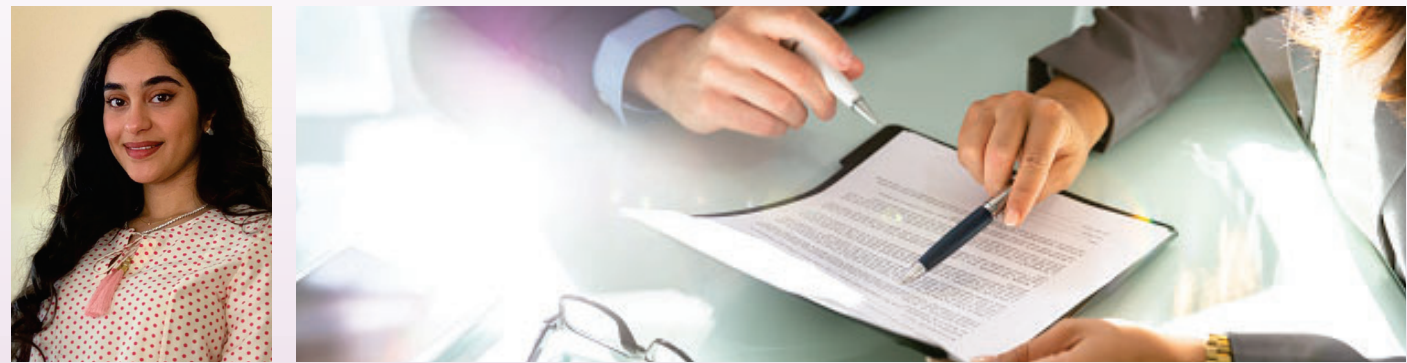
The webinar included speakers from Higher Education Institutions inside Bahrain and Internationally including Dr David Stewart - the Acting President of the Royal University for Women, Professor Riyadh Hamza - President of the University of Bahrain, Prof. Allie Karshenas - Associate Vice President of Clinical Operations & Institutional Advancement from West Virginia University and Prof. Rupert Ward - Professor of Learning Innovation and Associate Dean (International) from the University of Huddersfield.

The webinar explored requirements specific to Higher Education Institutions in preparation for the academic year 2010-2021. The speakers highlighted that the coming year poses many challenges for universities to ensure community safety and also quality teaching at a minimum on par with face-to-face teaching. Besides, universities must ensure inclusive course delivery to all students whether they wish to study online, on-campus, or through a hybrid model. Possibly a significant challenge is the provision of meaningful activities and events to ensure students experience real student life. Dr David Stewart mentioned that "online learning during COVID 19 has helped us to keep our sense of college community where students, faculty and staff can still communicate with each other. It has also allowed us to add value to face-to-face teaching - for example recording the lectures - which is enormously beneficial to our students as it gives them flexibility. Since we are a female university, with students who may have children or a part time job, this flexibility gives them the opportunity to review lectures at their convenience".

Professor Riyadh Hamza highlighted that the University of Bahrain (UoB) had a transformational 5 years plan since 2016 with emphasis on having a smart campus and a shift to E-learning. With training provided in advance to faculty and students this resulted in a smooth transition from face-to-face to E-learning. He mentioned that, "when it comes to teaching and learning during COVID 19, we talk about technical infrastructure and accessibility. UoB had the necessary learning management system already in place to optimize distance learning. Actions were taken to grow online experience, that includes increasing internet, distance learning, competencies, and interactions".

"During these times, some health sciences programmes needed to come together as there was a need for testing, contact tracing and PPEs. These colleges turned their research laboratories into manufacturing facilities through emergency-use authorizations such as the United states FDA. Creating new programs and applications were applied to a dashboard that gives us some understanding of how well we are managing our institutions and colleges on a day-to-day basis" said Professor Allie Karshenas.

Article: Contracting during Covid-19



By: Maryam Ali Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, 2nd year Law student

It is without a doubt that the world has forever changed with the outbreak of the covid-19 pandemic earlier this year. Its lasting effects, whether physically or emotionally, have taken a toll on society as a whole. As businesses endured this pandemic, some had to declare bankruptcy, and if not resolved soon, it will proceed to effect global economies too. On the other hand, many enterprises have used this pandemic as an opportunity to abuse their power on those who lack legal knowledge. Therefore, it is important for everyone, especially those engaged in contractual relations, to know their rights and obligations under such unique circumstances. The law has put in place many measures that protect contractual parties should conditions like these arise. One of these measures is the “force majeure” clause. It is a common clause included in most contracts for legal protection. Its legal effect is that the party is excused from their obligation without paying damages to the other party. To check whether force majeure may be applied, the following conditions must be met. First, there should be a valid contract concluded before the unforeseen event. Second, these circumstances should arise from an extraordinary event beyond the control of the contractual parties. Third, contractual obligations should be impossible to execute. Another solution that the law has placed is the “theory of unforeseen circumstances”. It is similar to the first measure whereby there should be a valid contract concluded before the occurrence of the unavoidable event. However, this theory differs from force majeure as these obligations have become exhausting to execute but not impossible. Covid-19 has definitely made us rethink our priorities. Nonetheless, it is wise to make use of these legal measures during this pandemic in order to protect one’s self.

Online coffee with the Dean

The Dean of Law, Dr. Pasquale Borea, Dr. Husham Alawsi and the Interim Student Representative Ms. Maryam Ghuloom, met with 1st year Law students in an informal manner with the aim to support the new students’ experience in the online learning environment.

Guest Lectures with Judge Judge Hamad Al Suwaidi and Dr. Manal Al-sayed



The College of Law students attended lectures on main amendments of Commercial Companies Law by decree law No. (28) of 2020 with the guest lecture Dr. Manal Mohamed Al-Sayed from the University of Bahrain. Students enrolled in courses related to Civil Law had the opportunity to boost their theoretical knowledge with insights from Judge Hamad Al Suaidi. The lecture was followed by questions from the students and discussion about new amendments.

RUW Participates in the Moot Training

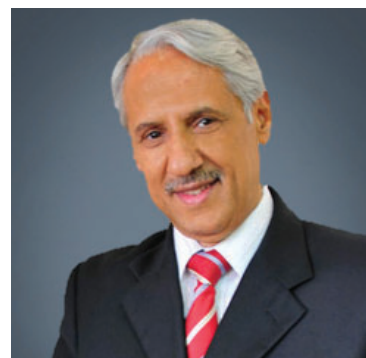


The Moot Court training organized by the Commercial Law Development Programme at the US Department of Commerce, the Center for International Legal Education at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, and the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution, was held online and witnessed the participation of 30 teams from the MENA region and the US, legal practitioners, and law professors. RUW students enrolled in the course Law 488 – International Commercial Arbitration taught by Dr Maria Casoria attended this training as a part of the teaching and learning activities and in preparation for the 11th Vis Pre-moot and 28th Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot.

100 students of CBFS participate in a virtual exchange with West Virginia University

WVU Chambers College of Business and Financial Sciences and CBFS held a virtual exchange throughout the month of October. Six faculty members and more than 100 students from both institutions discussed culture, marketing, strategy and participated in a case study competition on McDonald’s. Dr. Susan Lantz, Dr. Paula Fitzgerald, Dr. Samar Barghouty and Dr. Vivien Exartier developed the initiative over the summer as an alternative to face to face interaction due to the current COVID19 environment. The idea was to promote interaction between Business students and compare their perception on products proposed by a multinational enterprise such as McDonald’s and its adaptation to local markets. Several courses from CBFS were featured including “Introduction to Business”, “International Business”, “Leadership”, “International Marketing”, “Contemporary Topics in International Business” and “Multinational Corporations and Financial Institutions”. Students thoroughly enjoyed it. International Business student, Reem Alsada, was thankful for the experience and wishes to have similar opportunities in the future in other courses.

Professional Banker addresses Dr. Nehal’s students



Mr. Saleh Hussein, a professional Banker with over 40 years of vast experience in Retail Banking, Corporate Banking, investments and trade finance activities lectured students. He is the Founder and President of Saleh Hussain Consultancy, established in 2008. Saleh Hussain Consultancy is committed to being an efficient and effective tool for companies/corporations through providing sound solutions on the area of Corporate Governance and Training and Bookkeeping services to small and medium enterprises. Students gained knowledge about corporate governance in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

McDonald’s Marketing Manager addresses Marketing and International Business majors



Students from INB 362 International Marketing and MKT 471 Public Relations were delighted to listen to Ms. Dunia Mudara, Marketing Manager at McDonald’s Bahrain & Creator of Professionally Young. Since holding after-school jobs at age 15, Dunia believes in the power of starting a professional career early which led her to become the Marketing Manager of the local franchise of a global brand at only 22 years old. She comes armed with experience in the creative, F&B and FMCG industries, and is constantly looking for the “selling story” potential of everything around her, including herself. Her passion to support the development of successful careers of others is what led her to create ‘Professionally Young’ an online community of Millennial and Gen Z working professionals sharing stories, failures and tips & tricks for every day professional life. Students really enjoyed listening to the real practice of Marketing and PR in McDonald’s. CBFS Marketing student, Madawi Alzamil was impressed by the speaker’s dedication, passion and love for knowledge that led her to where she is today.

Accomplished Egyptian businessman addresses Corporate Social Responsibility class

Wael Rashidy, an Accredited SME Business Consultant from the Association of Accredited Small Business Consultant, Texas, USA, a Certified Director from the Egyptian Institute of Directors, holding a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering, has an international experience in the fields of Business Initiation, Development and Sales Management. Through holding a roles in commercial and technical field experience in Multinational and International organizations, across the MENA region, and with successful business deals in Japan, Europe and Middle East; along with, being an expatriate living in Qatar, Saudi and Bahrain, he added lots of value and experience of different markets to his knowledge. Wael founded Guiders Consult L.L.C in 2016, applying unique Management Approach supporting SME’s, and startups with a proven success stories guiding business owners to be profitable and sustainable. Students learned a lot about the CSR and corporate governance in different countries in startups and large organizations. Ayesha Kalem, a Marketing senior who attended the lecture was intrigued by the provocative thoughts of Mr. Wael Rashidy when he explained why companies short on corporate social responsibility would eventually fail.

New Students participate in a weekly forum organized by CBFS

As an initiative proposed by new acting Dean, Dr. Arpita Mehrotra, CBFS launched its “Just Meetup: series.” CBFS believes that despite the current challenges, interaction is a key component of the student experience. The idea is to have informal presentations and chats with members of the CBFS family. Throughout October, Faculty members, current students and alumnae share their experience and told the audience about themselves and gave a few tips on how to best manage their studies. In the first Meet Up, In Dr. Vivien Exartier, who is from France spoke about the famous Dijon mustard and how it was exported all over the world and tailored to the needs of the various markets. In another session focused on alumnae, Ms. Khadija Abdulrahim Alsayed, CBFS graduate and currently senior analyst at the Ministry of Finance mentioned: “It was a great opportunity and a privilege for me to share my experiences throughout my university period and career journey, with the current students and potential graduates of RUW, which played a significant role in shaping the person I am today.” Ms. Hend Aljeeb, currently working for the Economic Development Board really enjoyed being part of the session and was “truly inspired by the bright minds in RUW.”

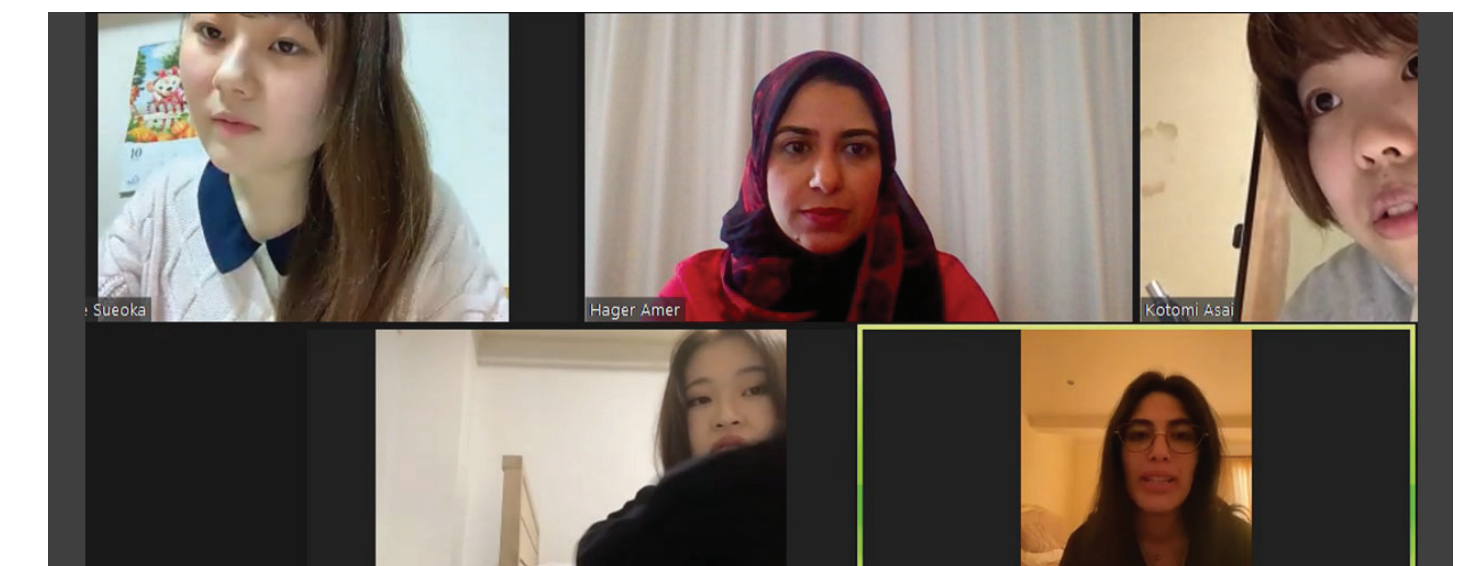
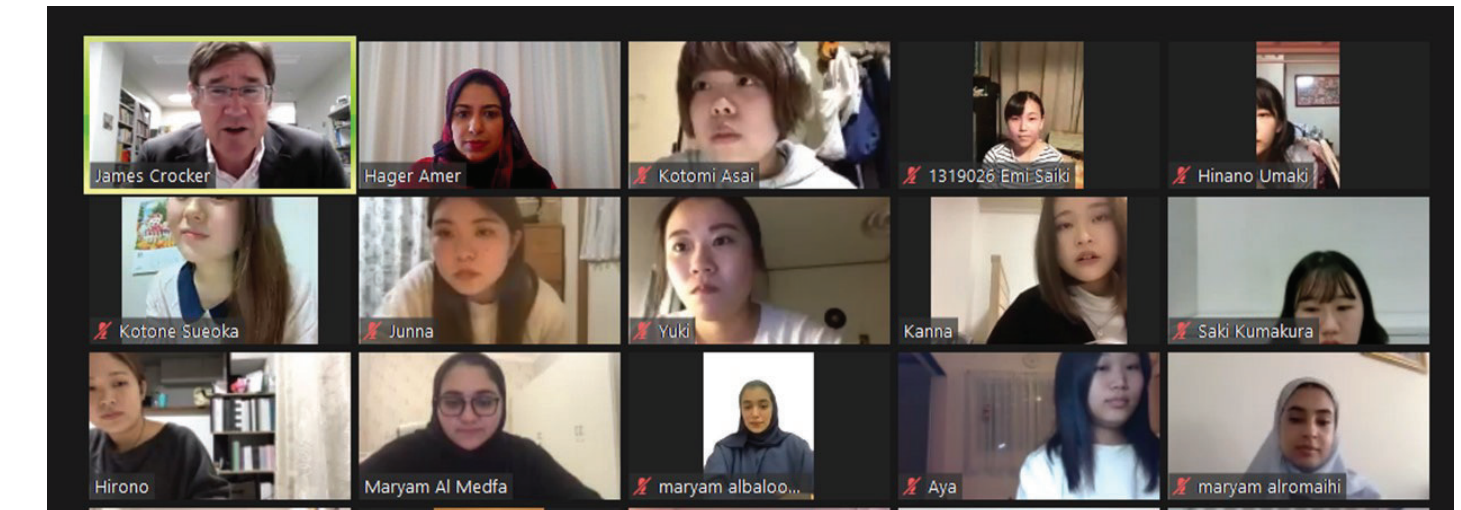
Participation in E-symposium

Dr. Nidhi Goyal, Asst. prof. in Fashion Design, attended and participated in the Digital Fashion Innovation, e-symposium organized by the Manchester Fashion Institute Manchester Metropolitan University. It was held from Sept. 28th -30th and she presented research titled, ‘Fashion Runway Gets its Speed: A Bahrain Perspective’, on the final day of the event.

Research Publication by Dr. Amine Moulay

Dr. Amine Moulay published an article on the post COVID19 aspect of public open spaces from an economic and urban design-perspective (UK magazine September 1, 2020).

CGS Launches Cross-Cultural Virtual Collaboration Program with Kobe Women's University



RUW students participated in the 1st session of the Cross-Cultural Virtual program with their Japanese counterparts as part of the partnership between Royal University for Women and Kobe Women’s University, Japan.

The RUW-KWU Cross-Cultural virtual program aims to give students the opportunity to understand key concepts discussed in classes through dialogue with their peers. Students had the opportunity to engage in facilitated and substantive dialogue and build meaningful relationships beyond national and cultural boundaries. Through a Zoom video conference, students met with their peers in break-out rooms while instructors acted as facilitators. This experience helps students have a better understanding of different cultures and develop more globalized competence essential to thriving in an interconnected world.

Breast Cancer Awareness Webinar

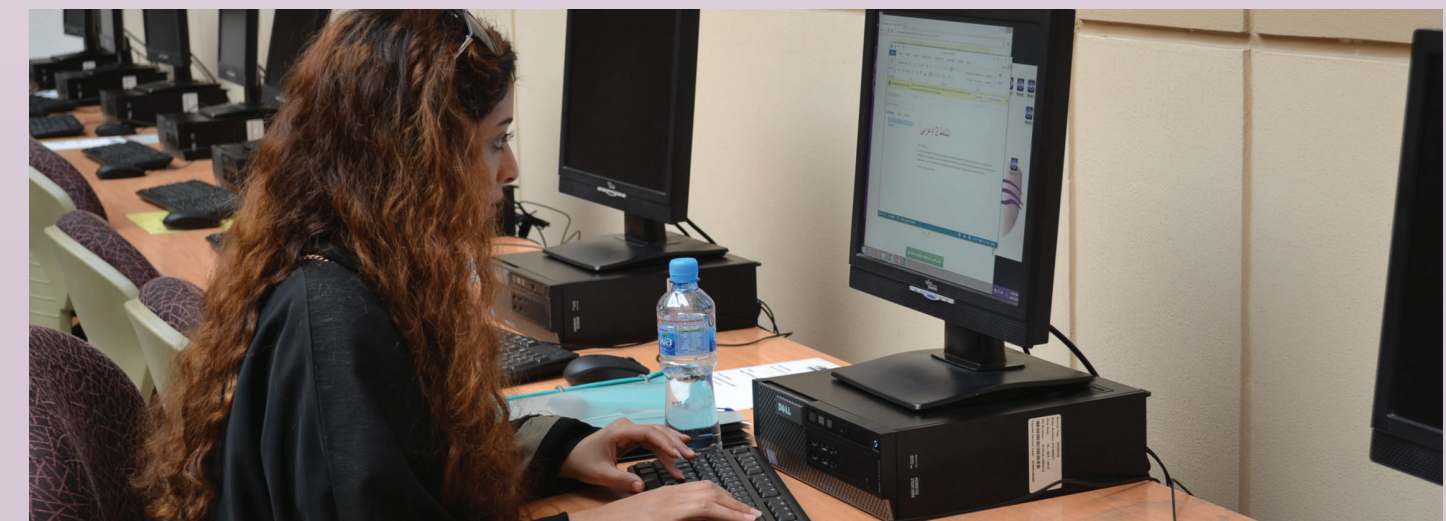


Office of Student Life (OSL) held a Zoom Webinar on Early Detection of Breast Cancer by Dr. Amal Al Rayes, Consultant General Surgical Oncologist. The webinar provided insight into the detection and prevention of breast cancer to raise awareness about detection and prevention of Breast Cancer. The webinar was attended by AVP, RUW students and faculty members and the OSL team.

Thursday’s with Reem

Office of Student Life (OSL) organized the first session of the interactive forum, “Thursday’s with Reem.” A meeting between students and former Student Council President, Ms. Reem Benshams to help new students settle into RUW. Students are free to ask Ms. Reem questions and seek guidance on matters which typically concern students, for example, the importance of using the advising process, Student Council Elections, initiation and establishment of clubs and importance of student participation in activities and events. The session will be held on every alternate Thursday of each month.

Webinars on of ProQuest-Journal Database and E-Book Database



The library conducted a demonstration of its subscribed electronic database from ProQuest on October 6th. The resource person introduced various features of e-journals, namely ABI Inform Complete and Academic Research Library. The unique features of these databases and its support of academic needs were highlighted. 72 Students and 2 faculty members attended. A participation certificate was issued to the students who participated.

The library also scheduled a webinar to introduce its subscribed e-Book Database from ProQuest. The webinar was conducted by its resource person, Ms. Ramy. The Training session covered how to access this database through the RUW website, different search methods, how to share, save, download and print searches and e-books. A participation certificate was issued to the students who participated for a minimum of 15 minutes.