

Issue 7

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## President's Progress Report, December 2007



Academic Year 2007-08 marks the achievement of the senior year in the AUK undergraduate degree cycle. Next semester the programs initiated in Fall 2004 will complete their four-year degree plans and graduate the Class of 2008. Commence-

ment will take place on Sunday, June 22, 2008. The event will highlight the AUK-Dartmouth connection; the Provost of **Dartmouth College** Dr. Barry Scherr will be the keynote speaker. The year 2007-08 also marks two important institutional processes that require mobilization of our best efforts and resources: the re-accreditation review by the Kuwait Council for Private Universities and the Master Planning for the new Ardhia campus.

### Accreditation

AUK accreditation by the Council for Private Universities is a pre-condition of its continued success as a degree-granting institution. Without national accreditation, AUK cannot expect to achieve international accreditation, and our graduates may have difficulty in having our degrees and coursework credits recognized outside Kuwait. The Accreditation Committee of the Council has reviewed the required Re-Accreditation report submitted by AUK as well as other documents. The Committee visited the campus several times during the week of November 18, requested and received additional information, and met with the Administration, faculty, staff, students, and the Chair of the AUK Board of Trustees Shaikha Dana Nasser Al-Sabah. AUK's continued ability to fulfill its educational mission is circumscribed by the Kuwait laws, accreditation requirements, regulations of the Ministry of Higher Education, and the directives of the Council for Private Universities. Foremost among these is Article 6 of the Amiri Decree no. 34 for the year 2000 on the Establishment of Private Universities in the State of Kuwait (cited on p.20 of the AUK Catalog). AUK Code of Conduct (posted on the website) requires compliance with Kuwait laws and regulations as well as respect for local traditions and values. The adherence to these values and the requirement of gender segregation by private universities has been a subject of concern to the members of the CPU Accreditation team, to the Council at large, and to the Parliament. The Committee will present its report and recommendations to the Council within the next few weeks.

**International Accreditation.** AUK will continue exploring the possibilities for international institutional accreditation with the United State regional accrediting bodies. Dr. Patricia Read-Hunter, Senior Assistant to the President, will coordinate AUK's international accreditation efforts. We are proud to report that AUK has achieved notable success in its first attempts at obtaining international accreditation for individual academic programs. The Intensive English Program (IEP) has been admitted to the candidacy status with the US-based Commissions on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA). Margaret Combs and Stephen Jacques are working on the self-study required for accreditation application. Dr. Jeremy Cripps, Division Head of Business & Economics, is directing preparations for the Business program's accreditation with the US-based Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). In the meantime, AUK has been admitted to membership in ACBSP. The Center for Continuing Education (CCE) has achieved formal approval as a Cambridge International Centre, authorized to offer English (CELTA) training and testing. They also have obtained authorization to offer Sales and Marketing certificate programs from the UK-based NCC Education Ltd.

### Planning

The Master Planning process has engaged various parts of the University in reviewing our priorities, needs, and expectations. The obvious need for site planning on the new campus requires clarity about our enrollment targets, academic programs, and the range of student activities and support services AUK wants to offer.

**Master Planning.** The site planning is being undertaken by the Kuwait company Option 1 with input from Academic, Student, and Business Affairs. Plans include classroom and office buildings, sports facilities, a Student Center, and multi-storey parking. Site development will follow the submission of plans and receipt of necessary permits. Construction may begin in 2009 at the earliest. This means that for the next several years, programs on the Salmiya campus will remain unaffected by new campus development. No major new construction will be undertaken on the Salmiya campus in the meantime. The current facilities are capable of accommodating up to 2,200-2,400 students with good course and schedule planning.

**Academic Planning.** AUK plans for expansion and addition of academic programs are significant. Two major initiatives are in preparation. One involves the development of undergraduate **Engineering** programs, for which AUK is already licensed.

The planning of program curricula and required facilities is being guided by Dr. Shereef Abu Al-Maati, Division Head of Sciences. In preparation for this major addition to AUK's Business and Liberal Arts programs, Dr. Shereef has visited several US universities with strong engineering programs, consulted with their faculty and visited their laboratories. The first Engineering program targeted for implementation will be Computer Engineering, scheduled to be opened to freshmen in AY 2008-09. The Division of Sciences is seeking additional faculty in Mathematics, Computer Science, and Engineering to support the introduction of the new programs.

The second major academic initiative involves the proposed development of a **Graduate School** at AUK. Private universities in Kuwait are required to obtain a license for offering graduate degrees. At this time, the University is licensed only for undergraduate programs up to the Bachelor level. To obtain the license for Master's degree programs, AUK is required to undergo a feasibility study and to conduct a marketing study focused on the specific programs proposed. The feasibility study will be conducted by Ernst & Young; the marketing company will be selected through a bidding process. The academic programs identified for this license application include: Business (MBA), Communication, Computer Science, English, and International Relations. No Ph.D. programs are being planned at this time.

The process will require considerable effort in developing program curricula, course lists, and enrollment projections as well as identifying the faculty, financial, and equipment resources and facilities required. All four divisions have been involved in the preliminary steps; the College of Arts & Sciences will need much more faculty involvement and support to prepare fully developed program applications for submission to the Council for Private Universities. AUK aims to complete the proposal package in Spring 2008. Lead faculty in the five designated programs will be expected to develop the academic portion of the proposal with oversight from their division heads and the College Dean. Executive Director of Finance and Administration Mr. Ernest Conklin will oversee preparation of the finance and facilities sections of the proposal and help in the development of the appropriate space, equipment acquisition, and budgeting plans. Dr. Patricia Read-Hunter will serve as liaison to the President's office and support the overall package preparation for the Graduate School license. The University will need to hire additional faculty in all five areas qualified to teach graduate courses and guide graduate students through projects and these required

for degree completion. The University also anticipates a need for pre-Master's courses, especially in English and Mathematics.

### International Outreach

The first AUK study-abroad program was implemented in Summer 2007. Students in the AUK French class traveled to Cannes for a French in France program. Various student groups participated in international academic competitions and traveled or are planning travel to student conferences and seminars in Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Dubai, Lebanon, and the United States. Individual students traveled to summer study programs and internships in the United States, Germany, and other countries. Two US undergraduates are taking Arabic and Gulf Studies courses at AUK as Visiting students this Fall (from the University of Washington in Seattle and Bowling Green State University in Ohio). Two AUK students interned with the Russian foreign-language program at Dartmouth in Summer 2007, and two Dartmouth interns worked in Student Affairs this Fall. Fulbright scholars have been increasingly seeking affiliation with AUK. Two Fulbright faculty and two Fulbright students were approved for affiliation with AUK for AY 2007-08.

On the institutional level, AUK has initiated conversation with a number of US universities regarding possible program cooperation, faculty recruitment, student exchange, and graduate study opportunities. AUK has also been approached by a number of public and private institutions interested in a Gulf destination for their students in Arabic, Middle Eastern, and Islamic studies and in International Business. AUK recognizes the positive potential of internationalizing institutional outreach, but we need to explore the benefits of such relations in each specific case. At this time, general MOU's are being developed with Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA and Washington State University in Pullman, WA.

On the regional level, in August 2007 AUK sponsored a high-level conference at the Rockefeller Conference Center in Bellagio, Italy. The theme of the conference was Liberal Arts Education in the Gulf. Dr. Dale Eickelman of Dartmouth and Mr. Clifford Chanin of the Heritage Project in New York were program co-chairs. AUK was represented by Shaikha Dana Nasser Al-Sabah, the President of the University Dr. Marina Tolmacheva, and the Director of PR & Marketing Ms. Amal al-Binali.

Closer to home, AUK took initiative to plan a regional conference in Kuwait to discuss the challenges of implementing Liberal Arts education in the Gulf with faculty and academic administrators of new

regional institutions. A small grant from the Hollings Center for International Dialog in the US will support participation of US consultants and academic administrator teams from invited institutions at the May 2008 conference at AUK.

### Transitions

This semester marks the transition of the offices of Admission and Registration to the division of Student Affairs. The current enrollment approximates 1,500 students, and we expect to admit 300-350 more in Spring 2008. The vacant position of Director of Admissions has been filled, and Maher Dabouseh will start in this post in January. Student Affairs has hired new staff in Admissions, Student Life, and the Student Success Center; one notable addition is our recent graduate Rama Sabano who will work as Admissions Counselor. Ms. Maha Khat, who served as Acting Director of IT last spring and summer, has been appointed Director. The AUK Librarian Dr. Harvey Varnet is completing his service to AUK this month and leaving Kuwait. Ms. Amna Al-Omare will serve as Interim Director of the Library while the search process is underway.

AUK faculty on continuing appointment from 2004 had outstanding success rate in obtaining contract renewal in Spring 2007. Contract renewal for faculty hired in 2005 will begin early in 2008. Another remarkable achievement was the promotion of six undergraduate faculty: four were granted promotion from Assistant to Associate Professor and two from Associate to Full Professor. Promotion applications received thorough consideration internally and externally, with outside review by established experts in appropriate fields. Three IEP instructors were promoted to the rank of Senior Instructor.

**All faculty are invited to the Faculty Assembly on Tuesday, December 18 at 2-3 pm in the Auditorium; it will be followed by the general staff and faculty meeting from 3-4 pm.** The Academic Showcase for the Fall Semester will take place on December 10-11. The Faculty Recognition Dinner will take place on December 12 at 7:30 in the Six Palms restaurant at the Marina Hotel. A group of Dartmouth consultants will be visiting AUK on December 13-19, including Dr. Dale Eickelman, Ms. Laurel Stavis (PR) and two IT specialists. The AUK Board of Trustees will hold its Fall meeting on December 16, 2007. The BOT Academic Affairs Committee will meet on Saturday, December 15. The Dean's List awards ceremony will be held on January 15, 2008.

## Getting to Know Dr. Patricia Read-Hunter, Senior Assistant to the President



Dr. Patricia Read-Hunter was born in Boston, Massachusetts, the home of Harvard, MIT, and approximately thirty other institutions of higher education. This was not without its effect...she subsequently studied all over the world. She took an honors degree in psychology at the University of Liverpool, in England, and then served in the British merchant marine for five years. After "swallowing the anchor," she taught management to shipping and port executives, later broadening out to consulting for the marine industry, and then into training/education for industry. Along the way, she earned degrees in administration, business, and education from San Francisco State University and Harvard University. She obtained a doctorate from the joint program of McGill, Concordia, UQAM, and HEC in Mont-

real, Canada. Her interests are behavior in 24/7 organizations, the management of services, and particularly the emotional labor of academics.

Bostonians call their city "The Hub," but after a lifetime of travel, Dr. Patricia has learned to prize exposure to new cultures. She first visited Kuwait when she was in the merchant navy, loading crude oil at the Mina Al Ahmadi terminal, and was fascinated by the extent of the changes she noted after her arrival this summer. "Kuwait is a fascinating place to live...a crossroads of cultures, and a venue for all the important debates about Islam. I am very lucky to have this opportunity." She settled in quickly, joining PAWS, attending lectures at DAI, and shopping at the Salmiya Coop and the myriad of little businesses in the area.

Dr. Patricia was hired to coordinate the University's planning and accreditation efforts. She works out of Dr. Tolmacheva's office, serving as

Senior Assistant to the President. Her main goal is to obtain American regional accreditation for AUK, which involves developing and institutionalizing processes for strategic planning, outcomes assessment, and institutional development. "I have no doubt that AUK will be warmly welcomed by accreditors. It's clear that AUK is an institution which tries to achieve the highest standard in any area it enters. My job will simply be to make it easy for evaluators to see how much is being achieved here – and how rapidly. AUK is simply an amazing place. I'm proud to be a part of it."

When asked where she'd like to see AUK develop, she says, "I own a smallholding in Canada and am an enthusiastic gardener, so I'd love to see AUK champion sustainable development, green building, and other eco-friendly movements. Kuwait has an unparalleled opportunity to show the rest of the world how to implement research findings on environmental management."

## One Woman's Mission to Make Kuwait a Healthier Place

We know her as the lady who teaches Health and Wellness. But aside from the 10 theoretical and practical classes she is teaching this semester, Astrid Al-Hadeedi has a few more things piled onto her healthy plate.

A Registered General Nurse since 1981, Astrid also worked in pharmaceuticals, and then in 2002 received a degree in Stress Management Training. She has since operated a private practice in Stress Management and Healthy Lifestyle Training in Kuwait.

Being involved at AUK for her doesn't stop at teaching her classes. She optimizes her presence in the community by seizing any opportunity to spread health awareness.

Some of these opportunities include offering two free fitness classes for faculty and staff, a small initiative to encourage people to use the stairs (those pesky signs that make you feel rotten for taking the elevator,) and then there's the heftier initiative of labeling the food we

eat at the AUK Diner.

"The aim of the proposed food labeling for calorific values in AUK's diner is an initiative I have taken to provide the AUK community with the necessary information they need to make healthy choices," she said "they can make *informed* choices about their *own* energy balance.

She points out that while counting calories is not the best way to adopt healthy eating patterns, having the food labeled for calorific value may prove helpful in showing diners that "yes, sure you can have your cake every once in a while, eat it, *and* enjoy it but be sure to balance it out with some form of physical activity."

Astrid has teamed up with nutritionist Maya Chabaro (International Clinic) who will be analyzing the recipes of the dishes offered at the diner and will be providing the calorific details of all the main lunch menus.

And on a larger scale, Astrid is presenting the Diwan Al Amiri with a researched proposal for a Population Based Physical Activity Campaign.



In it she proposes that a multi-faceted campaign to boost physical activity is implemented in Kuwait. The campaign aims to combat growing rates of obesity and diabetes., develop public awareness of the importance of physical activity, and remove barriers to physical activity and healthy eating through policy and social-environmental change.

Astrid is also currently training for a 130km walk from Saudi Arabia. As part of her training she organizes a walking group which meets three times a week. If you'd like to join Astrid's walking group, you may get in touch with her by calling 982-1972.

## Faculty News

At the invitation of the Financial Services Volunteers Corps and USAID, Professor Jeremy Cripps spent a week in Casablanca, Morocco to provide seminars for the Bank Al-Maghrib, the Central Bank of Morocco, and the Society of Experts Comptables of Morocco. The first subject of the seminars was the implementation of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) by banks in Morocco. The second subject was an analysis of the new release of Guidelines on Financial Reporting published by the Committee of the European Banking Supervisors (known as FINREP). A number of interesting and specific technical issues were raised by the Bank Al-Maghrib implementation team which is leading the central bank's efforts during the transition process. Professor Cripps was part of a two-person team and this FSVC team dealt with the specific data questions, noting the possibilities for differing interpretations and noting that the European Central Banks were dealing with many of the Bank Al-Maghrib's reporting problems of the same nature. In discussion the Bank Al-Maghrib team, confirmed that consultants the Bank has already hired, provided advice now confirmed independently by the FSVC team.

Dr. Conerly Casey delivered a guest lecture on October 11, 2007 to faculty and graduate students participating in the University College London Medical Anthropology seminar. A revised version of Dr. Casey's lecture, entitled *Victimhood and Postcolonial Subjectivity in Northern Nigeria* will be published in a special edition of *Ethos: The Journal of the Society for Psychological Anthropology* later this year. Dr. David Napir, Professor of Anthropology at UCL, a co-facilitator of the Medical Anthropology seminar, has received substantial funding to expand the UCL Medical Anthropology Master's Program in light of increased world interest in culture and medicine. This bodes well for our recent AUK graduates now applying for graduate programs in anthropology.

Professor Ghazi Nasser has been selected to present a paper at the Thirty-ninth Annual Conference of the American Society for Eighteenth-century Studies (ASECS) held in Portland, Oregon, March 27-30, 2008. His paper "Samuel Johnson's Attitude Toward Islam," explores fully Samuel Johnson's perceptions toward Islam, Muslims, their culture and political system. The Conference will be held in Portland, Oregon/ Colorado (USA).

Senior Business Majors, accompanied by Professor Jeremy Cripps, were the guests of the Kuwait Association of Accountants and Auditors (KAAA) at a meeting at the KAAA Offices on October 31, 2007. The meeting was a special meeting of KAAA to hear two presentations on the topic of the Exposure draft of the proposed "IFRS for small and Medium sized Entities." Comments on this proposed International Financial Reporting Standard need to be submitted by the end of 2007, and so this was an important opportunity for students to participate in the process whereby International Financial reporting Standards are developed. We were also thankful that Alanoud Al-Sabah, Secretary of KAAA, who invited us to this meeting.

Katharine Lovan (AUK) and Jeanne Al-Failakawi (Box Hill College Kuwait) presented "Reading to Learn: Strategies for Independent Vocabulary Acquisition" at the "Egyptesol" conference in Cairo, Egypt on November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The premise of the presentation was that many students attend university in a non-native language, most commonly English. As most university classes are based heavily on lecture and independent reading, it falls to the student to learn the vocabulary necessary to understand the subject matter material. As most EFL students read slowly at best, time is an important factor in their ability to continue to obtain new vocabulary while also maintaining their course averages. The presentation discussed the theoretical issues involved in vocabulary acquisition and provided teachers with activities and materials that teach students to identify, define, contextualize and apply new vocabulary in a systematic, streamlined manner, allowing them to integrate subject matter study and English language acquisition.

## AUK Student, First BP Intern

The picture shows Dina N El-Zohairy being awarded an Internship completion certificate. BP also gave Dina an award for outstanding work while she was an Intern and also to celebrate the fact that Dina was BP's first undergraduate intern. The awards were presented by Tim Marchant, President of BP Kuwait Ltd. BP's relationship with Kuwait dates back to before their receipt of the first Kuwait Oil Concession in 1934 when BP was known as the Anglo-Persian Oil Company.



*Tim Marchant, Dina El-Zohairy, Professor Jeremy Cripps*



*Professor Jeremy Cripps, Dr. Sbih Khalifa, Steven*

## Professor Cripps Attends London Conferences

Professor Jeremy Cripps attended the ACBSP (US Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs) and ECBE (European Council for Business Education) Annual Conference held at Huron College in London. The conference topics included Accreditation requirements; Psychometric testing for university admissions; Internships and Practicum experiences for students; the development of Research Culture on international campuses; and evaluator training for membership of accreditation teams visiting ACBSP and ECBE universities. Professor Cripps has been invited to join one of the ACBSP national committees as the ACBSP regional representative.

## AUK Musicologist Lectures at Dar Al-Athar Al-Islamiyah

Dr. Lisa Urkevich (Musicology) presented a lecture and performance with the Bin Hussein Sea Band at the Dar Dar al-Athar-Al-Islamiyah entitled, "Music to Wash off the Sea: The Communal Sea Song Tradition of Kuwait." The lecture included a discussion of the various types of songs sung on the pearl diving ships as well as songs sung on land after the divers had returned from sea. Live demonstrations accompanied the talk. Segments of the lecture were published by local news outlets. The presentation was also filmed, and will be aired on Bahry TV on December 1, 2007.



*Dr. Lisa Urkevich*



*Bin Hussein Sea Band*

## Staff News



**Waheeda Mohammed** has joined the Student Success Center as a part-time Counselor in the Division of Student Affairs. She will be responsible for providing personal counseling to students and conducting workshops. Waheeda holds a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a graduate degree in Community Counseling from Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York. Her office is located in Room B-505.



**Ms. Laveena Lobo** joined the Student Life team as the Student Life Coordinator to provide support and services for student programs and announcing information on campus. She will coordinate the university ID card system, campus postings and announcements, and working closely with students to support their initiatives.

Laveena graduated in Psychology from the University of Bombay and went on to complete her Master's degree in Human Development from the same university. She began her career in Bombay as a Researcher studying various social issues and as a lecturer in Psychology. She has also done various projects on terminally ill children—which remains an active area of interest for her. After moving to Kuwait almost four years ago she has shifted her focus to the field of education.



**Reem Al-Amin** has begun her new position as the Academic Support Specialist in the Division of Student Affairs. She will be responsible for managing the peer tutoring program and the AUK Study Center. Reem holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, specializing in Information Systems and a Masters of Business Administration from Kuwait University. Her office is located in Room A-008.



**PUBLISHED:** Yaqoub, Asma, J. (2007). Outreach services in academic libraries. *Arab Journal of Library & Information Science*. 27 (2), 16-28.

**Abstract:** Today, libraries face challenges for their success and sometimes for their existence. Academic libraries began to implement library outreach programs or services that not only cater to the needs of the service community but to a wider range of clientele. Outreach provides the means for delivering the information instead of waiting for patrons to come and ask for it. It is noticeable that the concept of outreach coexists with many other library issues for which it proves to be the successful solution. These issues include marketing, information literacy, library connections, liaisons and partnerships. This paper examines the literature that deals with outreach services, specifically in academic libraries. It aims at investigating the various outreach services developed at various academic libraries. Most of the articles that are found and reviewed in this paper are case studies. They cover specific programs established in certain academic libraries, specifically in the United States.

## AUK stands out at International Student Summit hosted by AUC

The Student Union from the American University of Cairo hosted a five day student summit November 13-17, 2007 to bring together student leaders from over eight different universities and spanning three continents. AUK representatives were nominated by the Office of Student life and included Sami Maan, Ala'a Ali-Redha, Nizar Mashal, Fatmah Al-Qadfan, & Areej Al-Bader. Each student has a cumulative GPA over 3.0 (a summit requirement) and represented various groups from campus including SGA, the Voice of AUK, the Environment Club and several others.

This first International Student Summit was a new project developed by AUC's Student Union aiming at connecting student leaders and representatives who work in extracurricular activities to exchange knowledge, cultivate leadership, and overcome obstacles that hinder processes on campus. Nizar Mashal noted that "it was a great experience for me to exchange concerns and thoughts with other university leaders around the world." AUK students stood out among their peers as they led group discussions, made summary presentations, and helped drive the success of the collaboration process. The five day summit closely assessed links between student leadership and three core groups: the student body, the administration, and the external community. Areej Al-Bader stressed that it "is not enough to absorb information only, you need to absorb, digest, transfer and implement in a way that best suits you and the situation."

At the conclusion of the summit each delegation came away with resolutions on how to best work with each core group as well as plans to develop more supportive systems on campus.

Following the summit Fatmah Al-Qadfan stated, "I realized that no matter how 'different' universities may seem (size, location, mission statement), they all face very similar issues with their student body, student government and administration."



AUK representatives with delegates from Franklin College (Switz.), the American University of Cairo, and the University of North Carolina-Asheville on the campus of AUC

## An Updated Listing of AUK Library's Online Resources

### REFERENCE RESOURCES

**AccessScience** *AccessScience* delivers the latest content of the *McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science & Technology*, Research Updates from the *McGraw-Hill Yearbooks of Science & Technology*, and the *McGraw-Hill Dictionary of Scientific and Technical Terms*, and high-quality related information.

**Columbia International Affairs Online (CIAO)** *CLAO* is a comprehensive source for theory and research in international affairs. It publishes a wide range of scholarship from 1991 onward that includes working papers from university research institutes, occasional papers series from NGOs, foundation-funded research projects, proceedings from conferences, books, journals and policy briefs. *CLAO* is also a widely-recognized source for teaching materials including original case studies written by leading international affairs experts, course packs of background readings for history and political science classes, and special features.

**Columbia Gazetteer of the World Online** Entries in the *Gazetteer* include basic information on many of the following: demography; physical geography; political boundaries; industry, trade, and service activities; agriculture; cultural, historical, and archeological points of interest; transportation lines; longitude, latitude, and elevations; distance to relevant places; pronunciations; official local government place-names and changed or variant names and spellings. Their length varies from a brief notation on a small village to an essay on a country or region

**Encyclopedia Britannica Online** An electronic encyclopedia with a thesaurus and a dictionary, and over 120,000 articles, a world atlas, multimedia videos and a comprehensive index.

**Encyclopedia of Islam Online** The *Encyclopaedia of Islam Online* provides desktop access to over 13,000 articles (*number or articles in volumes I-XI, excluding supplements* on every aspect of Islam from Abābda to Zurna). The online edition offers access to: Volumes I-XI of the English edition;

Index of Subjects to Volumes I-XI & to the Supplement, Fascicules 1-6, compiled by P.J. Bearman, 2003; Index of Proper Names to volumes I-X & the Supplement, Fascicules 1-6, compiled by E. van Donzel, 2002; and, Supplement Fascicule number 7-8.

**Grove Art Online** *Grove Art Online* contains the full-text of *The Dictionary of Art* (ed. Jane Turner, 1996). *Grove Art Online* also includes all 2,800 articles from *The Oxford Companion to Western Art* [OCWA] (2001) and continues to offer new content and revisions on a quarterly basis. *Grove Art Online* offers over 1500 colour images and line drawings; links to the Art Resource searchable image database; and links to over 40,000 images on museum and gallery websites.

**Grove Music Online** *Grove Music Online* comprises the full text of *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, second edition, edited by Stanley Sadie and John Tyrrell (London, 2001), *The New Grove Dictionary of Opera*, edited by Stanley Sadie (London, 1992), and *The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz*, second edition, edited by Barry Kernfeld (London, 2002). Articles that have been updated since their appearance in print are date-stamped in the upper right corner of the screen.

**Humanities E-Books** Humanities E-Book is a digital collection offered by the ACLS (American Council of Learned Societies) in collaboration with many learned societies, nearly 80 contributing publishers, and librarians at the University of Michigan's Scholarly Publishing Office. The result is an online, fully searchable collection of high-quality books in the Humanities, recommended and reviewed by scholars.

**Literature Online** *Literature Online* is a leading online resource for the study and teaching of literature in English. It is a fully integrated service that combines

the texts of over 350,000 works of literature with huge resources of criticism and reference. The full text of over 174 current literature journals can be accessed through the renowned literary index, *Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature* (ABELL).

**Literature Online – Literature Collections** With access to Literature Online, there is access to a series of Literature collections. These include: African American Poetry; American Drama 1714-1915; American Poetry; Canadian Poetry; Early American Fiction...; Early English Prose Fiction...; Eighteenth-Century Fiction; English Drama; English Poetry; King James Bible; Nineteenth-Century Fiction; Twentieth-Century ...Poetry; the Bibliography of American Literature; and, Webster's 3<sup>rd</sup> New International Dictionary, Unabridged.

**OED – Oxford English Dictionary** The *Oxford English Dictionary* is the accepted authority on the evolution of the English language over the last millennium. It is an unsurpassed guide to the meaning, history, and pronunciation of over half a million words, both present and past. It traces the usage of words through 2.5 million quotations from a wide range of international English language sources, from classic literature and specialist periodicals to film scripts and cookery books.

### ONLINE RESOURCES

**Academic Search Complete – Ebsco** This is a comprehensive scholarly, multi-disciplinary full-text database, with more than 5,400 full-text periodicals, including more than 4,500 peer-reviewed journals. This database also offers indexing and abstracts for more than 9,300 journals and a total of 9,850 publications. The database features PDF content going back as far as 1887.

**AnthroSource** *AnthroSource* is the premier online resource serving the research, teaching, and professional needs of anthropologists. Developed by the American Anthropological Association (AAA), *AnthroSource* brings 100 years of anthropological material online to scholars and the public, including: current issues for 15 of the AAA's most critical peer-reviewed publications, including *American Anthropologist*, *American Ethnologist*, *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*, and *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*; an electronic archive of all AAA journals; and, seamless access to archival content housed at JSTOR for key AAA publications, including *American Anthropologist*.

**Business Source Complete - Ebsco** This database provides full-text from 11,200 sources, including more than 1,100 scholarly business journals. This database offers information in virtually every area of business including accounting & tax, banking, finance & insurance, construction, computer science, economics and many more. *BSC* also includes publications with full text such as country economic reports from the EIU, Global Insight, ICON Group and CountryWatch, detailed company profiles for the world's 10,000 largest companies as well as Bernstein's White and Black Book series with financial information.

**JSTOR** (Journal Storage), begun in 1995, is an online system for archiving academic journals. It provides full-text searches of digitized (scanned) back issues of several hundred well known journals, some going as far back as over 100 years.

**Lexis-Nexis Academic** This service provides full-text documents from over 5,600 news, business, legal, medical, and reference publications with a variety of flexible search options.

**Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts – Ebsco** (*LISTA*) indexes more than 600 periodicals, plus books, research reports and proceedings. Subject coverage includes librarianship, classify-

cation, cataloging, bibliometrics, online information retrieval, information management and more. Coverage in the database extends back as far as the mid-1960s.

**MLA International Bibliography - Ebsco** a classified listing and subject index of scholarly books and articles on modern languages, literatures, folklore, and linguistics of more than 2 million records.

**MLA Directory of Periodicals - Ebsco** offers detailed information on over 7,100 journals, with 4,400 currently indexed in the International Bibliography. The detailed entries include editorial contact information, as well as frequency, circulation, subscription prices and submission guidelines.

**Philosopher's Index** a bibliographic database with informative author-written abstracts covering scholarly research in the fifteen fields of philosophy, published in journals and books since 1940. Records cite journal articles, books, contributions to anthologies, and book reviews. Nearly 570 journals are cited, from 43 countries, in English, Spanish, German, French, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, Czech, Hungarian, Polish and many other languages. Topics covered include: aesthetics, axiology, philosophy of education, epistemology, ethics, philosophy of history, philosophy of language, logic, metaphysics, philosophical anthropology, metaphilosophy, political philosophy, philosophy of science, social philosophy, and the philosophy of religion.

**Project MUSE** *Project MUSE* is a unique collaboration between libraries and publishers providing 100% full-text, online access to over 300 high quality humanities, arts, and social sciences journals from 60 scholarly publishers. The Project MUSE complete collection offers a comprehensive selection of prestigious humanities, arts, and social sciences journals to support a core liberal arts curriculum. Every journal is heavily indexed and peer-reviewed, with critically acclaimed articles by respected scholars in their fields. MUSE is also the sole source of complete, full-text versions of titles from many of the world's leading university presses and scholarly societies.

**PsycINFO - Ebsco** *PsycINFO* is an abstract (not full-text) database of psychological literature from the 1800s to the present.

**PsycARTICLES - Ebsco** *PsycARTICLES* is a database of full-text articles from journals published by the American Psychological Association, the APA Educational Publishing Foundation, the Canadian Psychological Association, and Hogrefe Publishing Group.

**Regional Business News – Ebsco** This database provides comprehensive full text coverage for regional business publications. Regional Business News incorporates coverage of 75 business journals, newspapers and newswires from all metropolitan and rural areas within the United States. This database is updated on a daily basis.

**SocIndex with Full Text – Ebsco** *SocINDEX with Full Text* is a comprehensive and high quality sociology research database. Its extensive scope and content provide users with a wealth of useful information encompassing the broad spectrum of sociological study. The database features more than 1,660,000 records with subject headings from a 19,300 term sociological thesaurus designed by subject experts and expert lexicographers. This product also contains informative abstracts for more than 750 "core" coverage journals dating as far back as 1895. In addition, this file provides data mined from more than 575 "priority" coverage journals as well as from more than 2,800 "selective" coverage journals. Further, extensive indexing for books/monographs, conference papers, and other non-periodical content sources is included.

## AUK Representation at the Festival of Thinkers in Abu Dhabi

*Norah Al-Hilaly and Nadia Karam*



Four of the best all-around students, nominated by their respective Divisions, represented AUK at second bi-annual Festival of Thinkers (FoT), held in the United Arab Emirates (Abu Dhabi and Dubai) from 21-24 October, 2007. The nominated students were

Business and Economics (Norah Al-Hilaly), Humanities (Nadia Karam), Social Sciences (Fahad Mohammad), and Sciences (Ebrahem Al-Hajri). They were accompanied by Dr. Shoma Munshi, Division Head, Social Sciences, and AUK's Coordinator for international academic outreach.

The FoT was hosted by the Higher Colleges of Technology under the patronage of Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, who was represented at the Festival by the Minister of Higher Education of Abu Dhabi, UAE, Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al-Nahayan.

The program brought together World Thinkers including 16 Nobel Laureates, famous journalists, philanthropists, CEOs of business corporates, along with two hundred students from the region to discuss global challenges and opportunities.

The keynote speaker, who mesmerized the audience with her dedication and enthusiasm, was Wangari Maathai, the Nobel Peace Prize Winner in 2004. An environmentalist, civil society and women's activist, Wangari Maathai, who is Kenyan, founded the Green Belt Movement. She addressed great importance to the environment in her speech. The movement she has founded assisted women in planting more than 20 million trees on their farms, schools, and church compounds. Her motive of creating such a movement has been successful, and has expanded to raise awareness on issues such as education, nutrition, and women's rights.



*(L to R) Ebrahem Al-Hajri, Dr. Shoma Munshi, Nobel Peace Prize Winner Wangari Maathai, Nadia Karam, Norah Al-Hilaly, Fahad Mohammad*

The range of topics that were discussed at the FoT included: "Role of Media and Impacting Future Changes", "Protecting our Environment", "Energy and Sustainable Development", "Globalization, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship", "Health and Wellness", "A Vision for Children and Women of the World", "Moving Beyond Conflicts", "Role of Educators", "Entrepreneurship and Poverty Alleviation".

The Festival consisted of panel and table discussions where students were allocated to different tables to discuss different topics. These discussions were moderated by Nobel Laureates.



AUK students impressed the World Thinkers by asking intelligent questions. The students were enthusiastic about the topics under debate, and carried out in-depth research in advance about the various issues that were tabled, and debated energetically in all discussions. AUK students, accompanied by Dr. Munshi, unhesitatingly negotiated through the large crowds of people to speak with notable guests, including Nobel Laureate Wangari Maathai; Riz Khan, notable TV anchor (earlier with CNN, and now with Al-Jazeera English); Ted Sorenson, (late) President John F. Kennedy's speech writer; Allen Goodman, President and CEO of the Institute of International Education; Sunil Kant Munjal, Chairman and Managing Director of Hero Honda, and former President of the Confederation of Indian Industry in India; Dr. Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart, Scientific Advisor to the President of the Council State of the Republic of Cuba; the world famous artist, M.F. Hussain, now in Dubai, in exile from India; Bakul Patel, former Mayor of Mumbai, India; and Devi Cherian, social activist from India. All these people were special invitees of Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al-Nahayan.

The Festival of Thinkers had a profound effect on our thinking. Fahad concluded that "It was a great opportunity to network and interact with world thinkers of this calibre". And Nadia emphasized by adding that "This event gave us the tools to think in a different light: Think local and act global". With all gratitude, we would like to thank AUK for nominating and providing us with the opportunity to broaden our horizons, and especially thank Dr. Shoma Munshi for accompanying us on this memorable journey. We came out of The Festival of Thinkers eager to 'learn, think and become.'

## Bridging AUK and New York City! *Christopher Gottschalk*

One of the most enjoyable parts of my job is dreaming. Honestly, I am often gleefully taken aback at the notion that I get paid to teach and practice art in Kuwait. About a year and a half ago, I was sipping coffee on a blustery April morning at the corner of 178<sup>th</sup> and Fort Washington, daydreaming about my recent appointment to the Humanities faculty at the American University of Kuwait. There I was, a New York actor-turned-academic, wondering about my new job and reminiscing about my recent visit to Dartmouth—after all, it *was* fun being called “professor” all day. Out of nowhere and fast as lightning (as inspiration is often wont to be) an idea struck me. What about doing a theatre exchange between AUK and Dartmouth? The idea immediately felt good, it seemed to inherently resonate with the spirit of intercultural connectivity and shared humanity. I decided to put the idea on the shelf until I was actually in Kuwait and had officially started my contract.

Well, last spring, before I had gotten around to developing a cogent proposal to pitch to our friends and colleagues in Hanover (I was a little busy with *Much Ado*), I found myself having sushi with a friend who happened to be an assistant professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in Manhattan, NY. We were pleasantly discussing cultural differences between America and Kuwait when my friend said, “You know, John Jay has recently made international programs a big priority. We should think of a project.” To which I replied, “Funny you should say that...” and KADI was born.

Allow me to introduce the Kuwaiti-American Drama Initiative (or KADI, for short), a culture-bridging project between students and faculty at the American University of Kuwait and John Jay College of Criminal Justice (JJC). Relying upon the collaborative nature of theatre production, two groups of student actors from AUK and JJC will be coming together to adapt, workshop, and ultimately perform a single dramatic production in late April

2008 both in Kuwait and New York City. KADI (pronounced “cad-dee”) is an effort to promote greater intercultural learning, development, and understanding of moral, ethical, and cultural values between Kuwait and the United States of America.

At the center of KADI is the theatre production to be staged by AUK and JJC students, co-directed by Kathryn Wylie-Marques (an Associate Professor of Theatre at JJC) and myself. The governing artistic concept surrounding this production is “storytelling.” Working from the understanding that all human cultures have core mythology and lore that greatly contributes to their cultural and social identities, some “stories” are common to nearly all cultures, e.g. the great deluge. It is this idea of shared story that the KADI production centers its concept around; two groups of wandering “tribes” encounter each other in midst of a post-apocalyptic wasteland surrounded by ongoing war and find a common ground through storytelling. Using a “play within a play” dramatic device, Kathryn and I have adapted the play *Mother Courage and Her Children: A Chronicle of the 30 Years’ War* by Bertolt Brecht to best suite this post modern artistic concept.

Certainly a project of KADI’s magnitude requires a lot of assistance from various individuals and organizations. Relationships are off to a healthy start with members of the larger Kuwaiti business and artistic communities offering to help our initiative. Adding to the growing excitement, KADI just won a very generous Council for Private Universities Research and Development Grant, assuring the financial solvency of the project. As KADI moves forward it is my hope this little daydream will provide many opportunities for our entire AUK community to come together and celebrate our combined cultures while banging on the drums of collective humanity!

*Christopher Gottschalk, MFA, is an Assistant Professor of Humanities (Theatre and Drama) at the American University of Kuwait and creator of the Kuwaiti-American Drama Initiative.*

## MUNAUK: An Update

The Model United Nations at the American University of Kuwait (MUNAUK) has played a very active role in the AUK community this semester. As one of the most successful students clubs on campus, MUNAUK strives to develop important skills of leadership, self-confidence, public speaking and negotiating. Furthermore, it aims to raise the political awareness of students on campus.

The club has undertaken numerous fund-raisers for external conferences beginning in the summer with a lemonade stand, bake sales, and most recently, a “Pumpkin Night” celebration that brought together all sectors of the AUK community including students, staff, faculty, and their children. Events included pumpkin piñata, face painting, a movie, and a haunted house. A special thanks goes out to Professor Christopher Gottschalk, our new Ambassador-at-Large for helping us put together the haunted house.

As a student organization, we feel it is our duty to promote political awareness on campus to keep our fellow colleagues and peers updated on world issues. During the Social Awareness week, our members delivered a presentation on the current crisis in Burma, outlining its history, showing its struggle for democracy with a video, and promoting our role as active students in helping spread the plight of the suffering around the world.

Currently, MUNAUK is preparing to participate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Bahrain Universities Model United Nations (BUMUN) on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of December.

The event will be chaperoned by MUNAUK Faculty Advisor Shareefa Al-Adwani and STAND AUK Faculty Advisor Dr. Christopher Ohan.

The topics that will be discussed in the General Assembly are the following: women empowerment, trafficking of light armaments, and drug enforcement. In the Security Council, the topics on the agenda are the changing role of United Nations Peacekeepers and the worsening violence and humanitarian situation in Sudan.

Last year, MUNAUK successfully participated in BUMUN with one of its members, Fahad Mohammad, winning the first place diplomacy awards. MUNAUK participants were instrumental in negotiating, networking and resolution writing. This year, the following students will participate as representatives of the following states and organizations:

### Security Council

Peru – Fahad Mohammad  
Panama – Fahad Al-Tukhaim

### General Assembly

Bulgaria - Fatima Al-Qattan  
Kuwait - Farah Al-Shamali  
WTO - Dana Shamlawi  
Peru - Yusuf Al- Rashed  
Panama – Rosemarie Santizo  
Eritrea – Abdulaziz Al-Mutawaa

All funds for this trip were raised through tireless fund-raising and the generous sponsorship from the Division Heads of Social Sciences and Humanities and Arts: Dr. Shoma Munshi and Dr. Lisa Urkevich, as well as the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Nizar Hamzeh, whom MUNAUK thanks deeply for their support. MUNAUK hopes to make AUK proud in Bahrain and in future conferences and to build upon our success over the last year.

## Upcoming Events

### December 2007

- 16 Su Board of Trustees Meetings.  
19 W Winter Break begins. University closed.

### January 2008

- 6 Su University re-opens. Classes resume.  
10/13 Th or Su Islamic New Year. University closed. TBC.

### February 2008

- 10 Su Classes Begin.  
25 M National Day. University closed.  
26 T Liberation Day. University closed.

### March 2008

- 23 Su Prophet's Birthday. University closed.

*Happy Holidays!*



### Editor's notes:

Dear colleagues,

Please email all future submissions to subsequent issues of the **AUKChronicle** to [rsamerai@auk.edu.kw](mailto:rsamerai@auk.edu.kw)



A note on our environmental efforts: AUK currently accounts for a monthly average of 460 kilograms of recycled waste. AUK has also received a certificate of appreciation from the Ministry of Energy for our full compliance with their energy conservation campaign. Well done AUK!

All photos courtesy of the Public Relations & Marketing Department.

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