Dear AUK Faculty and Staff,

Welcome to the second semester of the 2008–2009 academic year! We have a total of 1,958 students, of whom 1,750 are undergraduates. The school break during much of December 2008 meant a mid-February start for the Spring semester 2009. The AUK Board of Trustees also met this winter in January rather than December. The Board reviewed the AUK budget for the fiscal year 2008-2009, discussed reports and plans, and heard about student successes achieved in Fall 2008, including the distinctions earned in the Model United Nations meeting in Dubai and the public speaking competition in Bahrain. The Trustees approved the major goals of the AUK Strategic Plan for 2008-2013 (Accreditation, Academic Program Planning, and Organizational Planning). They also discussed the introduction of engineering programs and queried the planning for graduate programs. The Board recommended increased hiring of full-time faculty and a thorough analysis of resources needed to support the planned academic programs. Adding to the faculty ranks will not only improve our ability to offer required and elective courses, but also decrease the need for faculty teaching overloads, instead allowing them more time for research and scholarship or advising and mentoring. Despite the global economic downturn, we are continuing to recruit faculty. This semester, we welcome new full-time faculty in Arabic (Dr. Hamed Al-Humaidi, who previously taught for AUK as an adjunct instructor), English (Dr. Angelica Maria DeAngelis in the English Program and Dr. Abdulaziz Abal in IEP), Graphic Design (Mr. Ramy Khair, whose wife Dima Abu Rshaid will teach GDES courses part-time), and in Physics & Mathematics (Dr. Pirin Erdogdu Al-Omari). We have also hired several adjunct faculty and advertised new faculty vacancies. In early April, Dean Hamzeh and I will be interviewing faculty job candidates in Washington, DC together with our team of Dartmouth consultants.

Please join me in congratulating Ms. Jill Allgier, who has been appointed Registrar. The Registrar’s Office personnel have benefited from the recent Banner training in CAPP degree audit and additional staffing. We are also working on developing staff capacity for Institutional Research and look forward to an increased ability to provide data for institutional assessment and decision-making and also for internal and external reporting. Recent additions to the Library staff include Mr. Thomas Cherian, our new Collection Development Librarian, and Ms. Sumayyah Al-Faresi, the Reference/Circulation Librarian.

AUK employees and students may have noticed some changes around the campus: we have new campus maps installed at several locations and a new security company in charge of campus safety. An emergency evacuation drill was conducted in early February. The AUK clinic has extended its work hours and added staff. Please familiarize yourself with the map, exit routes, and the Clinic location to be better prepared in case of emergency.

ACCREDITATION UPDATE

AUK international accreditation efforts have seen recent progress. The Intensive English Program (IEP) hosted a visit from the U.S. Commission for English
Language Program Accreditation (CEA). The visiting team included the CEA Executive Director and spent two very busy days on the AUK campus, talking not only to IEP faculty and students, but also to the various departments and administrators across the University.

AUK’s is the first program in Kuwait and only the second program in the Gulf region undergoing the CEA accreditation review. It is somewhat unusual for young institutions and programs to go for accreditation, but the Council for Private Universities, which accredits AUK in Kuwait, has been putting pressure on us to seek international accreditation. We all are learning from the IEP experience because not only is the program reviewed, but the whole institution gets a look from international experts in higher education. The site visit is preceded by a program self-study, which IEP conducted last year and submitted last Fall. The self-study process requires a focus on the mission, stimulates a review of policies and procedures, provides a framework for planning and growth, and results in program improvement and renewal. AUK’s aspiration to build an institution that delivers internationally recognized academic programs reflecting AUK’s mission and values requires that our striving for excellence be reflected both in what we do and how we do it, and in how others perceive and evaluate us. This spring we also anticipate preliminary visits from the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACSBP) who will be reviewing our undergraduate Business Program and the American Academy for Liberal Education (AALE), a U.S. organization that accredits Humanities and Social Science programs and has worked with several colleges at Kuwait University. The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, to which we applied for U.S. institutional accreditation, has deferred the decision on our initial application. They are now planning a preliminary site visit to AUK later this spring, and will then make their determination in July 2009. For more detail, consult the Accreditation folder on the general shared drive (X:\Accreditation and Validation).

THE DARTMOUTH CONNECTION
The single most important development within the framework of the AUK-Dartmouth partnership this winter has been the decision of the Thayer School of Engineering to approve the AUK-Dartmouth cooperation in the Engineering Program. Beginning Summer 2010, eligible AUK students majoring in Computer Engineering will be able to attend Dartmouth Summer School, taking courses in Engineering and Science. Furthermore, after completing their AUK Engineering degree, AUK graduates will have an option to take the Dartmouth 5th-year Program in Engineering and earn a Bachelor of Engineering degree from Dartmouth. The Thayer School faculty has made this decision based on a thorough review of the AUK Engineering curriculum and Science course syllabi and a series of consultations between the Dartmouth professor of Engineering Dr. Ursula Gibson and AUK’s Dean of the College Dr. Nizar Hamzeh and the Head of the Division of Science and Engineering Dr. Shereef Abu Al-Maati. AUK is very pleased that our curricula and coursework, discussed also with deans and faculty of other U.S. institutions, have been acknowledged to meet the academic standards of American programs accredited by ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology).

On the Humanities side, the English class taught by Dr. Rawda Awwad with a videolink to Professor Dale Eickelman’s class at Dartmouth College, has been front-page news in the February 2009 issue of Dartmouth Life (http://www.dartmouth.edu/~dartlife/archives/19-1/auck.html). Dr. Eickelman was also a co-coordinator of the international conference hosted by AUK on March 10-12 on the subject of “University Development and Critical Thinking: Education in the Arabian Peninsula for a Global Future.” The conference, held under the patronage of Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Sabah, had its festive opening at the Salwa Al-Sabah Hall on Tuesday evening and held its working sessions at the Arab Development Fund building in Shuwaikh on March 11-12. This conference brought together higher education experts from the United States and Arab countries and put AUK on the map as a leading liberal arts institution in the Gulf region.
AUK Hosts International Conference on University Development

Salmiya, Kuwait, March 16, 2009: The American University of Kuwait (AUK) in collaboration with Dartmouth College, organized its first international conference March 10-12, 2009, titled “University Development and Critical Thinking: Education in the Arabian Peninsula for a Global Future.” The conference brought together international scholars and educators to discuss how institutions are incorporating and adapting various higher education models in the region. Under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the conference’s events were held in the Salwa Al-Sabah Hall and the Arab Organizations Headquarters Building.

In her opening remarks, Sheikha Dana Nasser Al-Sabah, Chair of the AUK Board of Trustees and one of the University’s founders, summarized the spirit of the conference, reminding an audience of more than 300 educators, policy leaders, scholars, and students that “Arab higher education institutes have existed for more than a millennium.” Pointing to the break in that tradition, she noted that at the present time, “almost 60 percent of our universities are less than 15 years old.” Sheikha Dana focused on the implications of and the challenges associated with building complex and high-quality institutions of higher learning. “The successful development of these institutions is not a matter of choice for our region,” she said, “but rather, an imperative that promises to break the status quo of the declining trend in education.” She urged educators and leaders to take an active role in influencing public policy, “to facilitate the formulation of higher education models that are indigenous, yet meet international standards.”

His Royal Highness Prince El-Hassan Bin Talal, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, delivered the keynote address at the opening session. He spoke of the university as a center for human development; of its role through history and the challenges it confronts today. “Muslims have inherited from their first generation,” he said, “the wisdom of ‘Seek knowledge, even unto China’. Now we do not have to travel to China or to America: Dartmouth College and the American University have travelled to be with us here in Kuwait, to engage in what I have often referred to as the noble art of conversation.”

His Highness sounded a cautionary note about university development at a time of financial instability. “In the current global economic crisis, will institutions dedicated to ensuring human dignity be last on the list for policymakers? They may well be, if history is a guide. But with crisis comes opportunity for change.”

On the theme of “Critical Thinking,” Prince El-Hassan observed, “Achieving human dignity on a global level requires more than just education. It requires a particular kind of education. …we need ‘lateral thinking,’” he said, “the kind of thinking that students in liberal arts institutions are encouraged to learn.” He used the AUK-Dartmouth collaboration as a model, saying:

“At [AUK] East and West are getting together to find out more about each other. We should make it our aim to encourage our young Arab people to re-examine their views about those from the West, as well as those from the West to re-examine their views about the Arabs, Muslims and Islam. This would be an added bonus from our drive for critical, collective intelligence. This is our way to shape the future.”
President of AUK Dr. Marina Tolmacheva announced the recipient of the first Dartmouth-AUK Fellowship Award on January 15, 2009. Dr. Simon O’Meara, Assistant Professor of Art History in the Division of Humanities and Arts, will take up his post at Dartmouth College during Summer 2009. During his time in Hanover, New Hampshire, Dr. O’Meara will be creating two publications. The first is the entry on the Arab bazaar (souq) in the new multi-volume Encyclopedia of Islam in preparation by the distinguished publisher of Oriental Studies E.J. Brill. The second is a book chapter in Roads to Paradise: Eschatology and Concepts of the Hereafter in Islam, also to be published by Brill. AUK provides the recipient with travel support and a stipend.

President Marina thanked all the applicants and wished them success in their research pursuits. The fellowship competition was open to AUK faculty members conducting research that can be facilitated by access to Dartmouth's libraries and museum collections, or to senior administrators pursuing professional development projects that can be guided by Dartmouth mentors.

The selection criteria included the proposal’s promise of research outcomes or professional development, alignment with the Strategic Planning Goals of AUK, a project timeline, and appropriate use of Dartmouth resources.

Conference co-organizers Dale F. Eickelman, the Ralph and Richard Lazarus Professor of Anthropology and Human Relations at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, and Clifford Channing of New York closed the evening's event. “Everyone is committed to a knowledge-based society,” they said. “The issue that we have to explore is how this aspiration translates into building institutions of higher education in this region.” Eickelman also serves as the Relationship Coordinator for the Dartmouth College-American University of Kuwait Project.

The following two days saw participants tackling a number of issues including the global culture of critical thinking, exercising leadership in new universities, the impact of gender issues in higher education in the region, Islamic educational traditions in critical thinking, and university development and public awareness.

A partial list of institutions who sent representatives to the conference includes Kuwait University, the University of Bahrain, the Qatar Foundation, Zayed University (UAE), Jordan's Hashemite University, Princess Sumaya University, the University of Nizwa (Oman), the Lebanese American University, United Arab Emirates University, the Aga Khan University Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilizations (London), the Council on Islamic Ideology (Pakistan), the University of Sharjah, and the Teagle Foundation (New York).

O’Meara, First AUK Visiting Faculty Fellowship at Dartmouth

President of AUK Dr. Marina Tolmacheva announced the recipient of the first Dartmouth-AUK Fellowship Award on January 15, 2009. Dr. Simon O’Meara, Assistant Professor of Art History in the Division of Humanities and Arts, will take up his post at Dartmouth College during Summer 2009. During his time in Hanover, New Hampshire, Dr. O’Meara will be creating two publications. The first is the entry on the Arab bazaar (souq) in the new multi-volume Encyclopedia of Islam in preparation by the distinguished publisher of Oriental Studies E.J. Brill. The second is a book chapter in Roads to Paradise: Eschatology and Concepts of the Hereafter in Islam, also to be published by Brill. AUK provides the recipient with travel support and a stipend.

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### AUK’s Conference Organizers Committee

- Hala Auehey - Office of the President
- Alia El-Assaad - Outreach & Events Division of Student Affairs
- Amal Al-Binali - PR & Marketing
- Amer El-Assaad - PR & Marketing
- Ayeshah Al-Khalidi - PR & Marketing
- Sarah Booodai - PR & Marketing
- Hilda Bou Hatoum - PR & Marketing
- Abdalla AbdelRahman - PR & Marketing
- Roland Lopez - PR & Marketing
- Saleem Bou Backer - PR & Marketing
- Fatma Khamis - PR & Marketing
- Fayez Islam
- Syed Fazolallah Syed Rahamathulla
- Mohamed K. Navas

### Special thanks to:

- Norma Badran - Human Resources
- Student workers – Student Affairs
- Abdulrahman Al-Farhan - Student
- Campus Services
- Student Affairs

Dr. Simon O’Meara
Dedicated educator and humanitarian has provided visionary leadership in academia, public policy, and global health continues long tradition of Dartmouth Presidents who have had significant impact on the world stage and in the classroom.

Jim Yong Kim, M.D., Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School, has been elected the 17th President of Dartmouth by the College’s Board of Trustees. Ed Haldeman, Chair of Dartmouth’s Board of Trustees, announced the appointment at a meeting of students, faculty and staff.

Dr. Kim, 49, will take office on July 1, 2009 and succeeds James Wright, who previously announced that he is stepping down in June after 11 years as President of the College.

“Jim Yong Kim embodies the ideals of learning, innovation, and service that lie at the heart of Dartmouth’s mission,” Haldeman said. “As a passionate educator and physician, he has had a profound impact on students, faculty, colleagues and fellow health professionals. And as a leader in the field of global health, Jim has helped to transform efforts to bring health care to the world’s poor. Jim follows in the long tradition of Dartmouth presidents who have made a significant mark both in higher education and on the world stage, and we are confident he is the ideal person to lead the College in today’s rapidly changing environment.”

Dr. Kim trained as both a physician and anthropologist, receiving his M.D. and Ph.D. from Harvard University. He graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. from Brown University in 1982. A former senior official at the World Health Organization and co-founder of Partners In Health, he is internationally acknowledged for his leadership in the fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and other diseases. In 2004, in recognition of his many accomplishments, he was elected to the prestigious Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Kim said, “I am honored and humbled to accept this role, and look forward to building on the many achievements of Jim Wright and his predecessors that have made Dartmouth the vibrant, world-class institution it is today. Dartmouth is a unique and special place with a powerful sense of community. The educational opportunities it offers, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels, are exceptional, and the loyalty and passion of its alumni, faculty, staff and students are unrivaled. I could not be more excited about this opportunity to help build on Dartmouth’s great traditions as well as its singular role in higher education.”

President-elect Kim is only the 17th president in the Wheelock Succession of leaders since Eleazar Wheelock founded Dartmouth College in 1769. Born in Seoul, Korea, he is also the first Asian American to be appointed President of an Ivy League school.

In addition to his role as Chair of the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School, Dr. Kim is Chief of the Division of Global Health Equity at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, a major Harvard teaching hospital, and Director of the Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights at the Harvard School of Public Health. He continues to teach undergraduate classes alongside his administrative responsibilities, development activities, writings and other academic and clinical contributions. His classes today are enormously popular and constantly oversubscribed and he plans to continue to teach undergraduates at Dartmouth.

President Wright described Dr. Kim’s election as “a proud and defining moment in Dartmouth’s history.”

Dr. Kim has 20 years of experience in improving health in developing countries.

He is a founding trustee and the former executive director...
of Partners In Health, a not-for-profit organization that supports a range of health programs in poor communities worldwide. In 2004, he was appointed Director of the HIV/AIDS Department at the World Health Organization, where he launched an initiative to dramatically expand access to HIV/AIDS treatment in low- and middle-income countries. By 2007, the initiative had helped to provide lifesaving antiretroviral therapy to approximately three million people worldwide and had accelerated global efforts to fight other diseases such as tuberculosis and malaria.

Dartmouth College enrolls approximately 4,100 undergraduates in the liberal arts and 1,700 graduate students. Drawing faculty and students from around the world, Dartmouth is committed to advancing the principles of liberal education within a diverse community of students, teachers and scholars. In addition to 19 graduate programs in the arts and sciences, it is home to the nation’s fourth-oldest medical school: the Dartmouth Medical School, founded in 1797; the nation’s first professional school of engineering: the Thayer School of Engineering, founded in 1867; and the first graduate school of management in the world: the Tuck School of Business, established in 1900.

Since 2003, Dartmouth and the American University of Kuwait have worked together under the terms of an agreement that allows Dartmouth to play an advisory role in helping to build the new university. The two institutions have developed a flourishing relationship that involves faculty, students, and staff.

Dartmouth students in dialogue with AUK students via web-based video conferencing
Web-based videoconferencing takes place in Baker Library within the Dartmouth Center for the Advancement of Learning (DCAL), a state-of-the-art facility used by faculty to improve their teaching techniques, to bring groups of scholars together to discuss ongoing research, and to host seminars. The AUK students gather in a similar facility on their campus.

There are no country codes or telephone numbers involved. Instead, one institution dials in to the other’s Internet Protocol (IP) address. They are on opposite sides of the world, but once the connection is made, students instantly see and hear each other. Asking questions, responding—even arguing—it’s as though they are all participating in a seminar in the same room.

But this is no ordinary discussion. Students at both AUK and Dartmouth sense that their conversations represent an opportunity to connect in ways that could make all the difference, and they are eager to make that happen. “I leave these sessions feeling the urge to continuously seek every opportunity that will help me better understand the global state of affairs, tolerate diverse views, and figure out how I can contribute to bridging the widening gap between ‘East’ and ‘West,’” says AUK student Dina El-Zohairy.

Matthew Forman ’11 of New York says, “To see students from a remarkably different background pursuing the same kind of education we are here at Dartmouth is so gratifying. If we can come together to engage in debate and scholarly discourse, surely our political leaders can find common ground.”

In a very real sense, the sessions between students symbolize the true significance of the Dartmouth-AUK partnership. The students acknowledge that these conversations—difficult though they sometimes are—could
IEP Undergoes First Site Visit

A two-person team of evaluators representing the Commission for Intensive English Program Accreditation, and the Executive Director, Teresa O’Donnell, from the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA) met with administrators, faculty, and students at the American University of Kuwait this week to review the Intensive English Program’s ability to meet criteria for accreditation.

This is the first site visit for CEA. Margaret Combs, the Director of the Intensive English Program, said “It’s an opportunity for us to ask how to improve. It’s about dialogue and conversations and challenges in certain areas.”

The evaluators that visited the University this week include Mark Algren, Associate Director of the Applied English Center (AEC) at the University of Kansas (KU), and Sarah J. Klinghammer, Director of the Linguistics MA, Language Teaching Specialization Program at the University of Oregon.

Meeting accreditation standards:
- Signals a clear indication that the program desires to have a competitive advantage by undergoing a voluntary evaluation.
- Encourages students’ confidence in IEP by their undergoing regular impartial and independent audits by an internationally respected body.
- Sustains continual improvement for the IEP and their courses through the assessment of effectiveness, efficiency and competence.
- Promotes consistency and demonstrates equivalence of assessments via mutual recognition based on peer review.

Combs said key components of the visit included a session on internal governance, a review of IEP’s strategic planning process, and a gathering to hear student views and a concluding overview for all University personnel.

After the visit, Algren and Klinghammer will submit a report to the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation within 45 days and IEP will receive a copy of the report.

The Commission will affirm IEP’s accreditation by August 2009, Combs said.

AUK Participates in its 6th Educare Exhibition

The American University of Kuwait (AUK) is pleased to announce its participation in Educare 2009 for the 6th consecutive year. The annual education and career development exhibition was held at the Kuwait International Fair (KIF) fairgrounds on March 8-11, 2009.

A view of the AUK booth at the 2009 Educare exhibition
AUK Admissions team was available at the exhibition to offer information and answer questions about the admissions process, campus life, and the different academic programs available at the University. Currently, the University offers the following degree programs:

- Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in: Accounting, Finance, Marketing, and Management.
- Bachelor of Science (BS) in: Computer Science, Information Systems.

AUK has started accepting applications for its new Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Engineering Program.

In addition, the Intensive English Program (IEP) at the American University of Kuwait offers courses that are designed to prepare non-native English speakers for the academic tasks required of them in their first and successive years of university education.

Representatives from the Center for Continuing Education (CCE) at AUK were also available at the exhibition to inform visitors about the extensive catalog of courses and programs the Center has to offer.

AUK hosts lecture on Milestones in Kuwait’s History

The Gulf Studies Center (GSC) at the American University of Kuwait (AUK) hosted a lecture on Tuesday February 23 by Dr. Maymounah Al-Khalifa Al-Sabah, Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Kuwait University (KU) and the President of the Historical Society of Kuwait. Dr. Al-Sabah specializes in the Arabian Gulf modern and contemporary history, she is a well known Kuwaiti historian with more than 5 volumes on the history of Kuwait.

In her first visit to AUK, Dr. Al-Sabah tackled three major topics: important turning points in the history of Kuwait, the first generation of leaders’ role in building the modern state, and the current generation’s responsibility in shaping the future of the nation.

Dr. Al-Sabah stated that extensive research by historians on the topic of the existence of Kuwait and its structure as an independent country has shown that it was never under any political systems in the modern age. Dr. Al-Sabah also pointed out that there was evidence confirming the establishment of Kuwait as a country as early as the year 1613 AD when the small castle with twenty cannons, that was known by the name of “Al Kout” was established and as the artifacts of Alexander the Great on Failika attest. The lecturer noted that it was built by the Al-Sabah family, who settled with the tribes of Anza and lived together in the area which surrounded the castle.

The whole coast was apparently called Al-Kareen, and some fishermen and Bedouin travelers who moved around searching for water and land lived in the area. Although some believe that Bani Khaled were the first rulers of Kuwait, the lecturer pointed out that there was evidence that proved that Al-Sabah were the first to rule Kuwait and that the relationship that tied them with Bani Khaled resembled a very strong alliance formed on the basis of a strong friendship. However, Al-Sabah were not under the power of Bani Khaled.
The Gulf Studies Center (GSC) at the American University of Kuwait welcomed Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Washington Jere Bacharach last Sunday, where developments in conserving Middle Eastern culture were the topic at hand.

Bacharach illustrated the efforts employed to maintain and restore Egyptian heritage, during the various Pharaonic, Greco-Roman, Coptic and Islamic periods. Bacharach, who has written extensively on medieval Islamic archaeology and Islamic coinage, stressed the need for Arab governments to conserve their tradition and for young Middle Easterners to get the needed training in the work of conserving historical art and monuments.

Bacharach spelled out the steps needed to conserve Middle Eastern cultures based on his experience as Director of the American Research Center in Egypt responsible for the restoration projects of Egyptian heritage. Bacharach also stressed the role of modern technology and the Internet in documenting Islamic culture. Famous for his book Islamic History through Coins, Bacharach showed students and audiences interested in Arab cultures, illustrations of coins that go back to the periods of the Ayubids in the thirteen Century.

For his part, Head of the Gulf Studies Center at AUK Dr. Hesham Al-Awadi who was hosting the lecture announced that starting this semester, AUK will be offering a course titled ‘Kuwait Modern History’ to be studied in English, and that the University was looking forward to working with the Literature Department at KU to develop student and academic exchange between the two institutions.

History is a way of knowing the past, seeing the present and visualizing the future, remarked Dr. Al-Sabah, she then emphasized the importance of preserving Kuwait’s history, and her pride that a course on the history of Kuwait is now a requirement at Kuwait University. She expressed her hope that a similar course will eventually become a part of the required curriculum at all universities in Kuwait.

“I hope for more interest in the history of Kuwait; I really feel that Kuwait’s history is not always given its proper due,” Al-Sabah stated. She articulated her commitment to the cause of history. “The entire Historical Society of Kuwait is in service of Kuwait’s history and we welcome any students to benefit from our knowledge. We hope that they will eventually feel as passionate about history as we do,” she said.

At the conclusion of the event, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Dr. Nizar Hamzeh presented Dr. Al-Sabah with a crystal plaque on behalf of AUK’s Board of Trustees to show their appreciation for what he described as an invaluable lecture.
Graphic Design Students Showcase their Talent

The American University of Kuwait held its Second Annual Graphic Design Senior Show, which lasted three days starting January 22 at the Liberal Arts Auditorium. The Graphic Design Portfolio Show is a capstone class for senior design students pursuing a BA in Graphic Design at AUK. This event gave students the opportunity to exclusively talk to prospective seniors and employers in the design field in a proficient and transparent manner. This showcasing also provided students with a chance to market themselves and use the skills attained from their university experience in a profitable way.

The first day was open only to the creative and art directors from the field of design in Kuwait, along with management from media and human resources departments from the field at large, the remaining days were open to family and friends so they can celebrate the graduating students and their achievements. Graphic Design Professor and creator of this showcase Dahlia Mahmoud said, ‘Students will not only present their design skills, rather their public speaking, general business etiquette, as well as the professional communication skills they have acquired through the variety of classes allowed in a liberal arts environment.’

The goal, Mahmoud said, to enrich their Arab heritage is evident throughout the entire event from the space design, to the goal of self-definition and expression through design. Students were allocated space within the Liberal Arts Auditorium to design, create and build a visual representation of their work. AUK student Sarah Al-Sharhan said, ‘I express myself through my designs and portray my projects in an artistic way. I believe great designs come from the process of research, planning and development.’ This was evident as the show exhibited multiple facets of students’ ability to design.

AUK Librarian to Attend Professional Development Program

Asma J Yaqoub Al-Kanan, AUK’s Reference/Instruction Librarian, got admission to the ACRL Institute for Information Literacy Immersion ‘09 Program. The program provides four and-a-half-days intensive information literacy training and education for instruction librarians from different institutions worldwide. It is an annual affair and admission to the program is competitive.

Al-Kanan is currently providing information literacy sessions in coordination with faculty members at AUK. She is eager to do more, learn more and be an active part of the campus community. Al-Kanan’s participation in this program is a great opportunity to enhance her instruction skills combined with work experience that she already has. The program will be held in St. Petersburg, Florida in July at Eckerd College.

ACRL is a division of the American Library Association and the only individual membership organization in North America that develops programs, products and services to meet the unique needs of academic librarians. ACRL’s 13,000 members are comprised of individuals from a wide range of academic institutions, publishers and vendors who sell in the academic marketplace. ACRL enhances the effectiveness of academic and research librarians to advance learning, teaching and research in higher education. More information about ACRL’s programs and services can be located on the Web at www.acrl.org.
NEW HIREs

JANUARY 2009
Abdullah M. Diwan, Program Coordinator, Gulf Studies Center

FEBRUARY 2009
Fay F. AlHomoud, PT Women’s Volleyball Coach-Temporary, Student Life
Nabilah Ahmad, Intramurals Fitness Instructor-Temporary, Student Life
Meshal Al Maghrebi, Men’s Football Coach-Temporary, Student Life
Basem BuGmasheh, PT Women’s Basketball Coach-Temporary, Student Life
Mohamed K. Navas, Driver, Office of the President
Cheryl M. Bunzenmeyer, Personal Counselor, Student Success Center
Lama Kablaoui, Scholarship & Information Services Assistant, Registrar
Faeq A. Abu Khair, Network Administrator, Information Technology
Ramy Khair, Instructor of Graphic Design, Humanities & Arts
Rita Merheb, Adjunct Instructor of Graphic Design, Humanities & Arts
Esraa H. Omran, Adjunct Instructor of Computer Sciences, Sciences & Engineering
Hadi H. AbdulAzim, Adjunct Instructor of Computer Sciences, Sciences & Engineering
Adel Qabazard, Adjunct Instructor of Computer Sciences, Sciences & Engineering
Geoffrey A. Webster, Adjunct Instructor of Management, Business & Economics
Zeynep P. AlOmari, Assistant Professor of Math & Physics, Sciences & Engineering
Mansour Al Shamali, Assistant Professor of Finance, Business & Economics

TITLE CHANGES

SEPTEMBER 2008
Summayah AlFaresi, Circulation & Reference Librarian, Library

WORKFORCE SUMMARY

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STATISTICS

Total to date number of employees as of March 09 (FTE) 258
Total number of employees as of September 08 (FTE) 234

NET INCREASE

24
The AMERICAN UNIVERSITY of KUWAIT introduces...

MyAUK
the University Portal

Your path to a unified digital campus

log on to:
https://mya.uk.auk.edu.kw
(use your AUK E-mail username and password to log-in)

AUK E-mail
Registration
Class Schedule
Calendar
Library Catalog
Groups Studio
Message Boards
Chat
Administrative Services
News
and many more features...

Access AUK...
anytime...anywhere

Get access to all AUK online services and resources...
and many more...with only ONE single login.

Brought to you by the AUK PR & Marketing Department & I.T. Department.

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