

# What's On



AUK president, Dr. Rawda Awwad, during the opening ceremony.



AUK president, Dr. Rawda Awwad, receiving a plaque from Mr. Rashid AlBaik.



From left to right: Ms. Seham Al-Ostath, Ms. Asma Al-Kanan, and Dr. Rawda Awwad.



Dr. Rawda Awwad during the exhibition.



SLA attendees.

## University plays vital role in shaping future of scientific research

### AUK concludes sponsorship of 26th annual Conference & Exhibition

KUWAIT CITY, March 19: The American University of Kuwait (AUK) has concluded its sponsorship of the 26th Annual Conference and Exhibition of the Special Libraries Association (SLA)—Arabian Gulf Chapter (AGC). The conference was attended by AUK president, Dr. Rawda Awwad, and University Librarian, Ms. Asma Al-Kanan, including prominent researchers within the Gulf region.

SLA is a non-profit global organization for innovative information professionals and their strategic partners in business, government, academic, and other specialized settings. The theme of this year's conference was "Emerging Technologies and their Applications in Libraries and Information Institutions."

Ms. Asma Al-Kanan explained that AUK is keen on sponsoring conferences that contribute to the development of scientific research. "The Special Libraries Association has been providing wonderful opportunities for academics and library professionals in the GCC with over 25 years of commitment and accomplishments. It is not uncommon for AUK to support such organizations as both share the common goals of facilitating learning, professional growth, and knowledge exchange," she stated.

#### Contribute

In his opening speech for the conference, the president of the association, Mr. Rashid AlBaik, stated that Kuwait is ahead in hosting conferences that contribute to the development of scientific research, pointing out that the conference brings together several professionals and academics specialized in the field of information sciences. He highlighted how this gives them an excellent opportunity to exchange experiences and learn about the latest developments in the field. He also expressed his gratitude towards AUK for

its support of the conference.

The head of the organizing committee and President-elect, Ms. Seham Al-Ostath, confirmed that this year's conference is a fruitful collaboration with prestigious academic and research institutions in the country, namely the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) and AUK.

#### Transformation

Of equal importance, the keynote speaker at the conference, Dr. Anwar Al-Harbi, discussed the applications of artificial intelligence in libraries and data and information centers, indicating that digital transformation is inevitable and involves the use of emerging technologies in providing services within information institutions.

The University also participated in the conference exhibition, introducing the research community to the Oral History Documentation Project (OHDP) which provides valuable sources for researchers by documenting important historical events. Many researchers inquired about the OHDP interviews—a significant turnout that reflects the importance of the project.

AUK's commitment to sponsoring conferences as such reflects its dedication to advancing knowledge and supporting the scientific community, playing a vital role in shaping the future of scientific research.

#### About AUK:

The American University of Kuwait (AUK) is an independent, private, equal opportunity, and coeducational liberal arts institution of higher education. The educational, cultural and administrative structure, methods and standards of AUK are based on the American model of higher learning. The language of instruction is English. More information on the American University of Kuwait can be found at [www.auk.edu.kw](http://www.auk.edu.kw)



'Wellness Through Mindfulness' workshop attendees



HR Director, Paul Bassil

#### Promote wellness and healthy daily habits

## AUK HR Department launches new activities

KUWAIT CITY, March 19: The American University of Kuwait (AUK) Human Resources Department (HR) continues to launch initiatives that promote wellness and healthy daily habits. In line with their "Together We Grow Healthier" campaign, the HR Department organized an AUK bowling event that was open to all employees and their families.

Held in the Kuwait Bowling Sporting Club, the event was attended by a significant number of AUK faculty and staff

with their dependents and families. This initiative not only encouraged physical activity through friendly bowling competitions, but also provided a unique opportunity for colleagues to come together, network, and build relationships.

Commenting on the success of the event, HR director, Paul Bassil, stated, "We were absolutely thrilled to host this event for our employees. It was a great opportunity for everyone to come together outside of the office and have some fun. The turnout was great, and it

was truly a memorable evening."

The AUK HR Department has long been responsible for creating and implementing programs that promote employee engagement, productivity, and well-being. They have previously launched the "Wellness Through Mindfulness" workshop which provided staff exercises and practices that can be done at their desks to refresh their day, a cheese tasting workshop that was exclusive to campus directors and served as an opportunity to develop AUK's workplace

culture, and a bootcamp in collaboration with the Office of Student Life to encourage physical activity.

The Department's commitment to fostering a positive and supportive work environment is reflected in the numerous programs and initiatives it has launched over the years. From professional development opportunities to health and wellness programs, the HR Department consistently demonstrates its dedication to the overall well-being and growth of the University's employees.

#### 'Embrace womanhood with pride'

## Pakistan Women's Forum, Kuwait celebrates International Women's Day



A collage of photos from the event.

#### By MahRukh Omer

KUWAIT CITY, March 19: Pakistan Women's Forum, Kuwait celebrated International Women's Day on March 8th, 2023 at Kuwait Continental Hotel.

The event was graced by the presence of H.E. Malik Muhammad Farooq (Ambassador of Pakistan to Kuwait and Chief Patron of PWF) as a Chief Guest.

Mrs. Rabiah Burney (Vice President) began the event by welcoming all the respectable guests. The event proceeded with a message from the Founder of PWF, Mrs. Yasmeen Mazzaf followed by a slide show, showcasing the events and activities organized by the dynamic women of PWF.

Inspirational speeches were conveyed by the honorable guest speakers Mrs. Tehreem Ilyas (Head of Chancery), Dr. Hala Aljassar (Acting Chairperson of the Physics Dept. KU), Leader of Kuwait Sat-1 project and Leader of the Space Physics and Climate group), Dr. Samia Al-Saeed (President Green Hands Eco Team), Dr. Beena Youssf (Senior Specialist in Dept. of Anesthesia, Critical Care and Pain Management at Adan Hospital), Mrs. Wafaa Mahdi (Physics Dept. KU), Ms. Sana Arif Triathlete and Ms. Hina Saleem (Managing Director and Partner of CELT Educational Centre & Executive Advisory PWF). They

shared their creative journeys which motivated all to embrace womanhood with pride regardless of the gender restrictions.

Special thanks to Mrs. Nuha Ali AlKhurafi (Founder of Shamiya Nature Reserve Youth Centre) and Mrs. Nighat Amjad (PWF's Senior Member) for gracing the event as Special Guests.

PWF paid a special vote of thanks to Mrs. Sabiha Arain (PWF's Advisory), Mrs. Wafaa Mahdi and Ms. Hina Saleem's CELT Educational Centre for their kind support towards the event on account of International Women's Day.

In order to brighten up the event, two lucky draws were held each announcing three lucky winners.

Concluding the event Mrs. Nighat Tariq (President PWF) paid a vote of thanks to all the attendees of the event and shared her views on Women's Day. H.E. Malik Muhammad Farooq addressed the attendees by appreciating the efforts of PWF Team in organizing the event and described the role of women, who are not only home makers but also the being, that plays a vital role in building a nation. He mentioned that in the past two decades people have developed more and due to social media are well aware of each other's right. So, celebrating Women's Day and campaigning it is spreading awareness about women empowerment and their rights.