

# RUW SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COUNCIL

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



### RUW SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH COUNCIL NEWS

We are pleased to announce the launching of the RUW Scientific Research Council. The plan for the council was developed some time ago, but until now, hasn't had the opportunity to be put into effect. Newly hired staff, Ms. Kathryn Funk, Research Associate, will work alongside Dr. Mona Suri, Academic Vice President, to implement the RUW Scientific Research Council development plan and establish its existence.

Through this Council, RUW anticipates to cultivate a research based culture within RUW and the outside community at large. This will build a stronger academic network as well as further accredit the university within the Kingdom of Bahrain, the region, and internationally. The Council will strive to become a leader in the field of research on issues related to women in the region. The Council will also act as a support system for both faculty and students to gain knowledge and/or assistance in research methodologies and skills. Carrying forward, the Centre will make its activities known via monthly e-newsletter.

### Welcome Note by the President

It gives me great pleasure to announce the first Research Newsletter from Royal University for Women (RUW) Scientific Research Council, that will be published on a monthly basis. This Council will further support RUW's mission to be a forward thinking, regional leader in academic excellence for women. AY 2017-18 has been dedicated as Research year for RUW to enhance the much needed impetus to research culture at the university level and in the region. The RUW Scientific Research Council will dedicate itself to produce research about women issues in the region while simultaneously developing a center for excellence of modernizing women. High importance is placed on the need to create and publish research as a university. This Council will assist in building a research based atmosphere around the RUW campus to promote research amongst faculty and students. However, we look forward to a substantial amount of growth of the Research Centre's presence within the upcoming year. I encourage the RUW community to engage and assist in the RUW Scientific Research Council.

**Professor Mazin M. A. Juma'ah**  
**President,**  
**Royal University for Women**

## RUW RESEARCH FORUM

Presented on 07/11/2017:

***The Institutional Impediments to the Application of International Law in Myanmar: A Case Study of the Heroin and Jade Trade***

The presentation explained the institutional impediments to the application of international law in Myanmar using the jade and opium trade as case studies. The discussion focused on Kachin State and Shan State because each is sufficiently similar in their shared colonial and post-colonial experiences and each possess a valuable resource that is subject to intense competition and conflict: Kachin State is home to the most pristine and sought-after jade on the planet, and Shan State is the largest producer of opium poppy in Myanmar—and the second largest producer in the world. The presentation showed that international law can only address human rights issues arising out of the jade and heroin industries in so far as domestic political and economic institutions allow. Myanmar is unable to address the human rights abuses in either industry because the powerful elites in the Burmese military and other ethnic armed groups lack incentives to bring about institutional change because doing so would disrupt the political equilibrium and reduce their rent-seeking income flow. These two commodities—jade and opium production—sustain war economies and embolden powerful elites who benefit from the extractive institutions in place while allowing human rights violations, including the right to life, the right to health, and workers' rights, to persist unabated.



Dr. Ashlee Stetser,  
Assistant Professor,  
Centre for General Studies

***The carrier exemption from his liability in the contract for the carriage of goods by sea in accordance with the Rotterdam convention 2009 and the Bahraini Maritime law***

The transportation of goods is generally considered the paramount factor in the movement of fortunes. Maritime transport is the most forefront method for transport; thus, explaining the immense legislative importance for the organization of its rules, on both international and/or national levels. The contract of maritime carriage is the regulator for this form of transport of goods, it confirms the shipping carrier has an obligation to carry the goods from one port to another for a fee. Accordingly, international efforts have been made to unify the rules and provisions relating to this responsibility, considering the maritime transport process as a multi-lateral activity and in territories belonging to different countries. Furthermore, international conventions and national legislation have attempted to reconcile between two important considerations. Overall, this study aims to clarify the provisions of liability and the exemptions of the carrier in both the Bahraini legislation and Rotterdam convention 2009 through compare and contrast with other various conventions. The studied, divided into two analysis sections, has reached several remediation of the studied international conventions and national legislations, referring to and how they can achieve the required balance between the protection of shippers and encourage maritime transport projects. Besides, research concluded several important recommendations regarding the amendment of some provisions of Bahrain maritime law.



Dr. Husham Alawsi,  
Assistant Professor,  
College of Law

Presented on 21/11/2017:

***Protection of Copyright and Neighboring Rights***

The TRIPS agreement came with the principle of priority for national treatment to be practically enforced to eliminate borders between member countries; expanded the range of protection through these principles to cover the citizens of non-member countries and residents in countries members in the agreement; and included a set of exceptions on these principles, which conform with providing unified protection for copyright and art protection in light of applying these exceptions. While the objective of TRIPS agreement was to enhance protection measures among member countries and apply its principles and objectives to internationally promote the value of intellectual property, as TRIPS included the headlines of protection of copyrights and neighboring rights, and enforcing these principles was enough to rule with practically marginalizing the legal value of these principles. It is obvious that TRIPS agreement committed all its member states to provide legal protection not less than that provided to its citizens, as the legislations of the member states included texts regarding these principles in light of the fast and continuous technological development of cloning methods, and the increased need for the continuation of cultural exchange among states. This agreement showed the importance of neighboring rights, besides to author's copyright for its importance in publishing author's production through performers, Audio-recording producers, Radio organizations, and provide full protection for these organizations. The agreement showed the mechanism of protection for authors of digital literature and art works in the advanced countries upon using these works in the developing countries through enforcing the principles of the agreement, in a way that guarantees the literature and financial rights of authors, and the need of developing countries for these digital works to develop and exchange cultures between the citizens of member states.



Dr. Raed Alnimer, Assistant  
Professor, College of Law

***Sustainable Development and Architecture: New challenges due to the climate change***

Creating in each individual person the consciousness that everything that surrounds us as a natural environment must be protected, preserved and perpetuated for future generations is a way of action that will have long-term results, and that will certainly generate new concepts and possibilities of concrete action and efficiency. New knowledge sources innovative new research and business opportunities towards more "green" environmentally friendly and changing architectural designs globally for example the Solar Passive House Standard in Romania. Communities and cities must incorporate renewable energy within the design of structures in prevention of drastic climate changes resulting from our large and often unnecessary carbon footprint; thus a building revolution must go into immediate effect globally.



Dr. Ruxandra Crutescu,  
Associate Professor,  
College of Art & Design

Research Forums to be held in December 2017: 05/12/2017 and 19/12/2017

## STUDENT RESEARCH

## Masters' Thesis:

Master of Design Management, March 2017

### **Employability of Women in Art & Design in The Kingdom of Bahrain; Opportunities and Challenges**

by: Ms. Khadija Saeed Ali

#### **Abstract:**

All over the world, employers want to hire graduates with the appropriate skill set for the job. In a global perspective, embedding employability in a creative curriculum is the integration of practice, behaviors and qualities to develop and sustain a rewarding profession or career. Thus, generating benefits for the new graduate and their communities.

Graduates, specifically in Art and Design disciplines, have clear intentions and desires to engage in enterprise by using their employability skills after graduation within the workplace. However, it should be well comprehended how much they really can offer as fresh graduates to the industry. Preparing students for employment in Art and Design incorporates explicit learning, teaching, and curriculum intended to incorporate employability as a prominent, inclusive and valued part of discipline practice. This research addressed the topic of Employability for Women in Art and Design in the Kingdom of Bahrain, which is an important issue to study in the dynamic market of the Kingdom of Bahrain for the Art and Design sector. University qualification is the key to many careers within the growing Art and Design market which emphasizes the significates of this research. The research also investigated how universities globally prepare their graduates for a career in Art and Design through review of literature, and observation of how local institutions prepare their graduates in an exceedingly competitive and highly skilled environment. Women Art and Design graduates in Bahrain face different challenges and issues when searching for a suitable job and place to succeed in their profession. The challenges women face in their career are addressed in this research. In addition, challenges are not the priority of choice in terms of putting them at work due to several identified factors which needed to be addressed to open opportunities and meet basic expectations of employers to employ recent

graduates and give them a platform to become competitive with others.

## Research in Progress – Graduation Projects

### College of Art & Design

**Zainab Ibrahim**, interior design student, is focusing her senior project on the RUW Dorms. In order to conduct her research, she has divided the project into a three series. Step 1. Case study of 3 international dorms, located in Denmark, Chigo, and Cambridge to understand their design functions and in what ways they provoke student interaction. For step 2, Zainab created a survey for students living in the RUW dorms. Through this survey she questioned what they wish for from the dorms (colors, functions, etc.), what they enjoy, and what complaints they have. Stage 3 consisted of an interview with Director of Student Affairs, who oversees the dorms. For the conclusion, Zainab will provide design suggestions on ways to improve the dorm space, so it will have a "homier environment to attract more students to live in the dorms." She chose this topic because, "I am studying at RUW, so I wanted something dealing with my university to help encourage the women and spaces here." Her project advisor is Dr. Hadeel, however she is consulting all the CAD doctors for feedback on her project.

### College of Business & Financial Services

**Layla Althawadi**, is working on a collaborative research project with Dr. Hala, Dr. Arpita, and the Northern Municipality. The research, based on qualitative and quantitate methods, concentrates on municipal budgeting within the Northern region of Bahrain. It is being conducted in a two phase process. In phase one the municipality is analyzed through assessment of functions, programs, problems with the current budgeting system, and who the stakeholders are; while the second phase concludes suggestive approaches which the municipality can adopt for budget enhancement. Layla is finding the research limitations to be, "a gap in research, and access to statistics." However, she is overcoming the gap through interviews with municipal officials, usually conducted via email and/or phone. When Layla was asked how she felt about the research topic she said, "When I got involved in the numbers it became interesting to know the budgeting for each program and I get enthusiastic to proceed in this research." The project will be completed in Spring 2018.

### College of Law

**Zainab Hassan**, College of Law senior student, is currently working on completing her final year project titled "*International Protection of Intellectual Property Rights and National Implementation in the Kingdom of Bahrain*" supervised by Dr. Maria Casoria. She has divided her project into four chapters: 1. General overview of intellectual property, 2. International protection of intellectual property (IP) rights, 3. Protection of IP rights in Bahrain, and 4. Conclusion. She is passionate about her chosen topic and is excited to be at this stage in her studies. She stated, "This is my final challenge and I have to achieve it successfully." She decided upon this topic after taking the course "Law of Intellectual Property" with Dr. Maria Casoria where she found it to be interesting that these rights must be protected. Further on, Zainab passionately believes in her research and the necessity of examining it because, "people must be aware of how they can protect their rights that are intangible, and people need more knowledge on this matter." She will support her project by using mixed research methods, many various sources such as books, journals, websites, databases, opinions and legal articles. Upon completion, her project conclusion will provide recommendations for the Kingdom of Bahrain about ways to better implement these rights for its citizens.

## RUW RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS/ CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS



President of RUW  
Mazin M. A. Juma'ah

Professor Mazin M. A. Juma'ah, President of Royal University for Women, Presented a Research paper on **“Status of Women in STEM field of Study”** in Policy Focus session titled **“All you need is STEM”** at Women Political Leaders (WPL) Global Annual Summit in Reykjavik, Iceland on 28-30 November.



Prof. Mazin Jumaah and President of Iceland, His Excellency Guđni Th. Jóhannesson



Prof. Mazin Jumaah with Ms. Silvana Koch-Merhrin, President of Women Political Leaders Global Forum (WPL)



Dr. Janon Kadhim

Dr. Janon A.W. Kadhim, Associate Professor Ms. Amna Hassan, Research Assistant, and Ms. Sara Ahmed, Research Assistant, College of Art and Design, Presented Research paper titled **“Bahraini Women in the Field of Engineering: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future Expectations.”** Paper prepared in collaboration with the Supreme Council for Women SCW and presented by Dr. Janon Kadhim at the Bahraini Women and Engineering Conference: **“Sustainability of Achievements on National Grounds... Towards International Competitiveness”**, November 5, 2017. Paper will also be published soon.



Dr. Rashmi Jalota, Assistant Professor, College of Art and Design, published a research paper titled **“The Visual Representation of Modern Indian painters on poems of poets: Omar Khayyam and Mirza Ghalib.”** In the Proceedings of Dakam's International Art Studies Meeting –June 2017, Paper presented at, HISTART'17 /IV. International History of Art Conference, Istanbul, (ISBN :978-605-9207-78-2).

Dr. Rashmi Jalota

## IN THE REGION

**Orange Campaign**

November 25 to December 10 the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) and its partners launched the Orange Campaign, 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. The campaign aimed to raise public awareness and mobilize people worldwide to bring forth change. The 2017 theme was “Leave no one behind: end violence against women and girls.” UNIC Manama and partners observed the International Day to End Violence against Women and Girls on November 25 at the A’ali Mall (Gate No. 2). UNIC Manama called upon all of its partners within the area to participate in the United Nations Global Orange Campaign aiming “to reach out to the most undeserved and marginalized including refugees, migrants, minorities, indigenous peoples and populations” afflicted by conflict and disaster. UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres stated that, in order to effectively fulfill the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of reaching the fulfillment of human rights, women’s inclusion and participation in sustaining peace, then collective action must be taken to end major barriers such as violence, harassment and harmful practices against women.

**Plans to Increase Percentage of Women in Local Trade Unions**

In Bahrain News, the General Federation of Bahrain Trade Union (GFBTU) leads a campaign to increase the percentage of women representation of local trade unions over the next 3 years. The target percentage of women representatives is 30, while currently 12% of women representation is held in sectors of mixed male and female employees, and 25% represent in sectors with higher female employees. In hopes to achieve the target goal of 30%, efforts will be mostly concentrated on sectors where women employees are more such as kindergarten teachers and retail industries. Initiatives are being executed, for example, a workshop held on November 27<sup>th</sup> to train and encourage women to pursue trade union leadership roles. Overall, this is another step towards the Kingdom of Bahrain’s vision to empower women in all fields.

**Exposure of Bahrain Initiatives Abroad**

On November 12-14, Shaikha Rana bint Isa Al Khalifa, Bahrain Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Bahrain, visited Japan on a working visit. There she met with Noriyuki Koda, Japan’s Undersecretary of the Gender Equality Bureau. In their meeting Shaikha Rana bint Isa Al Khalifa stressed the importance placed by the Kingdom of Bahrain on the empowerment of Bahraini women at all levels. Noting achievements such as the establishment of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Award for Empowering Women. The Japanese Undersecretary was pleased to hear of these progressions and praised them. Overall the visit further developed friendly relations between Bahrain and Japan.

**ARAB WOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2017**

The third edition of the Arab Women of the Year Awards took place in London, November 30<sup>th</sup>. The prestigious global celebration of achievement and excellence for Arab women from around the world honored some exceptional Arab women involved in all types of pioneering work. Among them was Bahrain’s **Shaikha Hind Bint Salman Al-Khalifa** receiving **Achievement in Trade Development Award**. She has been involved in business activities in different economic areas and is the Director of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce & Industry. The Bahraini royal, President of the International Federation for Bahraini Business & Professional Women, is further known for her numerous community related achievements. The high-profile awards ceremony, toasted outstanding women who have left a positive mark in different fields, regionally and internationally, and have contributed immensely to public life.



Shaikha Hind Bint Salman Al-Khalifa receiving Achievement in Trade Development Award.



## Announcing RUW 2<sup>nd</sup> Women and Society Conference The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Gulf Education Conference Empowering Women through Higher Education (18-19 April 2018)

*RUW continues with its bi-annual Women and Society conference which initially began in April 2016. In April 2018 RUW will host its 2<sup>nd</sup> conference in collaboration with Gulf Conferences LTD., a U.K. based event coordinating company with specialisation in Higher Education. The conference organising committee is currently working on finalising all brochures and documents. The RUW Scientific Research Council newsletter will dedicate a section specifically for the conference in order to give necessary updates.*

### About the Conference:

Women are contributors to the nation building, economic sector and the community life; however, throughout the world women are under-represented in the majority of employment sectors. Most often, women are paid less than men and have fewer opportunities to reach top positions. The gender gap is not only a misfortune to women themselves; economies, communities and families also endure burden from this inequality. Education is one of the most significant factors towards the progression and advancement of women. Nevertheless, higher education institutions must increase their efforts to enhance further developments.

**Royal University for Women (RUW)** is the first private HEC accredited, purpose-built, international university in the Kingdom of Bahrain dedicated solely to educating women. RUW held a very successful Conference on Women and Society in April 2016 where more than 45 research papers were presented by participants spanning from over 15 countries. Student poster presentations were an event highlight which promoted research culture among the regions youth. **Gulf Education Conferences Ltd. (GCL)** is a UK based company together with **Gulf Education** have event organization expertise, specifically in connection to the Gulf education sector. GCL has successfully coordinated a yearly in-house education based conference for the last 6 years.

In 2018, these two entities, namely RUW and GCL partner together to host a conference with the theme of **Empowering Women through Education**, which aims to highlight the opportunities and challenges women face in higher education. The goal is to discover additional methods universities might deploy in order to generate outstanding overall improvement for Women in Higher Education.

The conference will comprise a combination of high official keynote speakers, including but not limited to university leaders, ministry officials, and experts/organisations concerned with improving provisions for women, as well as workshops, academic paper presentations and student poster presentations. Those not present will benefit from the conference as published proceedings, research contributions, and networking opportunities will multiply the social impact.

### KEY TOPICS TO BE EXPLORED IN THE CONFERENCE

- Empowering Women in the Twenty First Century: the role of Universities
- Building Gender Equality through Education
- Inspiring women to take Leadership positions
- Empowering Women through legal education
- Role of STEM education in women empowerment
- Preparation of students for Employability and Entrepreneurial activity
- Generation Z: Women's Advancement
- Empowering Women in Art and Design Education

### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Possible attendees include: academics from local, regional and international universities and educational institutions, research institutes and foundations, representatives from the Ministry of Education, government organisations, NGOs, researchers, consultants, professionals & graduate students.

### CONFERENCE STRUCTURE

**Day 1:** Keynote Speakers, Panel sessions, Gala dinner, and Networking

**Day 2:** Workshop sessions, Academic Research paper presentations, Poster presentations, Networking