



Internal Weekly Bulletin

Public Relations Office

Published for the Bethlehem University Campus Community on Mondays.

PLEASE send items in BOTH English and Arabic to wb@bethlehem.edu

Before the 9:00 a.m. Friday deadline.

24 August 2009

1. From the Vice Chancellor's Office

- New Students. This year we will be welcoming some 760 new first year students into Bethlehem University. The first month or so of their time here will be important for setting patterns for study, involvement, recreation, and fitting into the life of Bethlehem University. As they transition from secondary school it is important they establish good habits as students at Bethlehem University. I would ask everyone who has dealings with these new students to keep encouraging them, particularly over these next four or five weeks, to establish patterns of work that are going to help them find success during their time here.
- There was a very good start made during the three-day student Orientation Programme last week. That was a very useful way of helping the new students settle in. The first impressions are so important so I think the structure of the programme made for a very worthwhile time for them. Thanks particularly to May Jaber for the wonderful work she did in coordinating the whole time. It was wonderful that May was able to work with students and have them take a valuable part in introducing the new students to Bethlehem University. She particularly mentioned Moh'd Abu Latife, Moh'd Munir, Nasser Thweib, Ahmed Nijim, Hamza Hindi and Salah Abu Laban as students who made a wonderful contribution. So a special thanks to May to those students and all the students, staff and faculty who worked with May to make such a good start for our community's newest members.

2. From the Interim Vice President for Finances

- Please note that salaries for the month of August will be paid on Thursday, 27 August 2009. Pay slips may be picked up from Mrs. Mary Zeit in the Finance Office starting Tuesday, 25 August 2009.
- Second reminder. Full Time Contracts must be in the Finance Office on or before Friday, 4 September 2009.
- Since we are closing our book of accounts ending fiscal year Monday, 31 August 2009 please submit all invoices need to be processed and paid not later than Friday, 28 August 2009.

3. From the Coordinator for Institutional Values

Welcome back to the new Academic year. Thanks to the generosity of our faculty and local priests who make themselves available to preside at the weekday Mass at the University, we will resume celebrating the weekday Mass at 12:00 noon beginning Monday, 24 August in the Chapel of the Divine Child. Mass is in English from Monday through Thursday and in Arabic on Friday. All are welcome.

4. From the Office of the Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs

- We received from Ministry of Education and Higher Education that the Government of Japan through UNESCO offers 20 Scholarships for Research Studies in any country of the world in the following domains:
 - Environment (with particular emphasis on Water Sciences)
 - Intercultural Dialogue
 - Information and Communication Technologies
 - Peaceful Conflict Resolution.

All related forms, information and guidelines are available in our office.

Deadline of the submission is on Friday, 25 December 2009.

- The Ministry of Education and Higher Education has informed us that the International Research Conference (IEA) invites the submission of research studies for its 7th Conference, which will be held on Thursday, 24 June 2010 in Göteborgs University – Sweden. The deadline for submission of abstracts is Thursday, 15 October 2009. For further details, you can visit IEA website at www.iea.irc.org.

- We would like to draw your attention to the following subjects posted on the Webpage under “Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs”:
 - Dahdaleh Foundation/ Soros Palestinian PhD Scholarships – UK. The application deadline is Monday, 24 August 2009.
 - King Abdullah II Award - year 2009/2010”. Submission dates from Wednesday, 15 July until Tuesday, 15 December 2009.
 - To all BU staff: Short Duration Training Programs funded by the Indian Government.
- Now available in the library Periodical Section:
 - Association of Arab Universities
 - Arab Administrative Development Organization

5. From the Faculty of Education

- Representatives from Palestinian universities, St. Mary’s Lasallian University in Minnesota, Palestinian non-governmental institutions and the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education met in Ramallah on Monday for the first national conference on Special Education programs in Palestinian universities. The conference launched a basic framework for Special Education training as part of a broader initiative to establish a Palestinian university MA program in Special Education.
- Dr. Sami Basha, called the conference “a historic event”. The conference program, he believes, “will open new opportunities for collaboration among the Palestinian universities to elevate the quality of services presented in the local community”. Ms. Rima Al Kilani, the director of the special needs office in the Palestinian Ministry of higher Education, highlighted the common vision between the ministry and the team as good indicators for important national issues and supports the national strategy for teacher training. Dr. Mohammad Sboo, the director of the accreditation office at the Palestinian Ministry of higher Education, indicated the great need for such a program and invited all partners to work on its realization.
- Bethlehem University’s Academic Vice President Brother Robert Smith participated in this event and impressed upon the audience the necessity to address and respond to the urgent need of special education in Palestine.
- The Special Education initiative is funded through the Collaborative Projects of the teaching arm of USAID, Amideast and the Open Society Institute’s Palestinian Faculty Development Program.

6. From the Biology Department

Mrs. Rita Dieck attended the worldwide Goldschmidt Conference 2009 on “Challenges to Our Volatile Planet” in Davos / Switzerland from Sunday 21, June 2009 until Friday, 26 June 2009. She presented a paper entitled $^{226}\text{Ra}/^{222}\text{Rn}$ in groundwater of the Mountain Aquifer and Ein-Feshcha Spring / West Bank.

7. From the Computer Information Systems Department

The CIS Department in cooperation with PalDev (the Palestinian .NET Developers User Group) is organizing a workshop for the CIS seniors on Saturday August 29th. The subject of the workshop will be “Introduction to [ASP.NET](#) and Visual Studio 2008.”

8. From the Institute of Hotel Management and Tourism

The Institute of Hotel Management and Tourism announces the opening of its training restaurant starting Monday, 31 August 2009. Please make your reservations at least one day in advance. Ahlan Wa Sahlan

9. From Prof. Adnan Shqueir

Prof. Adnan Shqueir and family would like to extend their deep appreciation and gratitude for the sympathy and support that we have received from Bethlehem University community at the passing away of my dear mother. We are grateful for the universitys administration and colleagues who came and offer their condolences at our family's home, for the BU administration, Biology Department, and the union of teachers and employees for their condolences in the newspaper. Also our gratitude to all colleagues who expressed their support whether in person, e-mail or by phone. Your kindness is highly appreciated and had helped us at these difficult moments. May God bless you all.

10. Your Calendar

Day	Date	Event / Activity	Time	Location
Mon.	24 Aug.	First Day of Class for Fall 2009 Semester		
		Add/Drop Period		

Sun.-Wed.	20-23 Sept.	Eid Al Fitr: University Closed, No Classes		
Sun.	15 Nov.	Independent Day		
Thu.-Mon.	26-30 Nov.	Eid Al Adha: No Classes, University Offices Closed		
Mon.-Thu.	14-17 Dec.	Final Exams for Fall 2009 Semester		
Fri.	18 Dec.	Al Hijra: University Offices Closed, No Classes		
Mon.-Tue.	21-22 Dec.	Final Exams for Fall 2009 Semester		
		Grade Reports Available		
		Registration		
Thu.-Sat.	24-26 Dec.	Latin Christmas: University Offices Closed, No Classes		
		Year 2010		
Fri.	1 Jan.	Latin New Year: University Offices Closed, No Classes		
Wed.-Fri.	6-8 Jan.	Orthodox Christmas: University Offices Closed, No Classes		
Thu.	14 Jan.	Orthodox New Year: University Offices Closed, No Classes		
Fri.	22 Jan.	Faculty and Staff Meeting for Spring 2010		
Mon.	25 Jan.	First Day of Class for Spring 2010 Semester		
		Add/Drop Period		
Fri.	26 Feb.	Mawlid An-Nabi: University Offices Closed, No Classes		
Thu.-Mon.	1-5 Apr.	Latin and Orthodox Easter: University Offices Closed, No Classes		
Sat.	1 May	Labour Day		
Sat.	15 May	De La Salle		
Mon.-Tue.	17-25 May	Final Exams for Spring 2010 Semester		
Fri.	11 June	Graduation		
Mon.	14 June	Summer 2010 Semester Classes Begin		
Fri.	9 July	Isra' Wa Miraj: University Offices Closed, No Classes		
Fri.	23 July	Last Day of Classes for Summer 2010 Semester		
Mon.-Tue.	26-27 July	Final Exams for Summer 2010 Semester, Registrars' Office	All Day	TBA

Visitors					
Day	Date	Group	Country	#	Time
Mon.	Aug. 24	Pax Christi Group	Italy	10	9:30
Tue.	Aug. 25	Irish Students group	UK and Ireland	15	10:00
Tue.	Aug. 25	5 th Gospel Group	UK	4	11:30
Fri.	Aug. 28	CRS Group	USA	2	14:00
Thu.	Sep. 03	Father Peter Fox Group	UK	24	11:00
Tue.	Sep. 15	Biblical Program	International	20	14:30
Thu.	Sep. 17	Students from Goethe University	Germany	15	
Fri.	Sep. 25	Dr. Phil Johnston Group	USA	42	11:00
Sun.-Sun.	Oct. 11-18	Dr. Detlef Brummer	Germany		
Thu.	Oct.15	KHS Northern	USA	45	12:00
Thu.	Oct.29	KHS Northern	USA	45	12:00
Mon.	Nov. 02	ICAHD-Linda Ramsden	UK		
Thu.	Nov. 05	Franciscan Delegation Group	USA		11:00
Fri.	Nov. 13	Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ	USA	9	11:00

Thu.	Dec. 31	Father Peter Vaccari Group	USA		9:00
Mon. – Fri.	Jan. 18- 22, 2010	St. Mary's College	USA		
Wed.	Mar. 17, 2010	Sister Mary Meier Group	USA	30	11:00
Fri.	Mar 19, 2010	St. Vitus Parish of Oberottmarshausen	Germany	45	11:00
Mon.	Apr. 19, 2010	Father McCarron Group	USA	30	11:00
Mon.	May 3, 2010	Archdiocese of Halifax (Fr. James Mallon)	Canada	45	11:00