

Monthly newsletter published by the Public Relations Office – Issue No. 48, November 2009

High Lights

BZU Inaugurates the "Virtual Reality Theatre/Laboratory"

BZU President, Dr. Nabeel Kassis, and the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Faisal Awadallah, inaugurated on 18 November 2009 the Virtual Reality Hall, the first of its kind in Palestine. The opening ceremony was attended by the Chairman of the Board of Trustee, Dr. Hanna Nasir, Minister of Planning, Dr. Ali Jarbawi, and the Mayor of the City of Ramallah, Janet Michael, along with a number of faculty and staff members at BZU. [More...](#)



Celebrations

BZU Participates in the Celebration of the Fall of Berlin Wall

On 9 November 2009, BZU participated in the great and historic celebration of the fall of the Berlin Wall twenty years ago, through the three "symbolic" sections of the wall drawn by students of architectural engineering within a global project sponsored by the German Goethe Institute, [More](#)



Awards

The Institute of Environmental and Water Studies Wins the Approval of a Tempus-Funded Project

Through the Tempus Program, the European Union approves a project proposal submitted by the Institute of Environmental and Water Studies entitled: "Developing a Strategic Plan for the Reform of Environmental Studies in the Higher Education System of Palestine". [More...](#)

Najjad Zeenni Information Technology Center of Excellence Launches the Activities of the First Lego Robotic Game Competition (FLL) at BZU

On 24 November 2009, the activities of the First Lego Robotic Competition were launched entitled "Intelligent Communication Media". The Competition's Coordinator in Palestine, Mr. Muhannad Omariyah, and the Director of the Najjad Zeenni Information Technology Center of Excellence (NZITCE) at BZU, Mr. Ibrahim Abu Qutaish, has announced that. [More](#)

Academic Events

Orientation Program for Students of Graduate Studies

The Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies, Dr. Liza Taraki, stressed that the Academic Support Unit seeks to support the students of graduate studies in various programs and nourish their academic thought in their fields of specialization and to integrate students' knowledge into BZU academic community and the Palestinian society. [More...](#)



Academic & International Visitors

Department of Mathematics hosts Thierry Monteil from CNRS at the Universite de Montpellier

The Department of Mathematics at BZU hosted Thierry Monteil from CNRS at the Universite de Montpellier to talk about "Finite blocking property on polygonal billiards and translation surfaces," on 5 November 2009. Here below is an abstract of his lecture: [More...](#)

Department of Mathematics holds a Seminar

The Department of Mathematics held a Seminar on "Modeling the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Using Game Theory" on 10 November 2009, in which Dr. Hassan Abu-Hassan from the Mathematics Dept. at BZU participated.

[More...](#)

The Physics Department hosts Prof. Marshall Onellion from the University of Wisconsin

The Physics Department hosted Prof. Marshall Onellion from the Physics Dept at the University of Wisconsin Madison, U.S.A to talk about "Femtosecond Laser Studies of Correlated Electron Materials," on 5 November 2009.

[More...](#)

Academic & Cultural Events

Opening of the 1st Geological Exhibition

BZU President, Dr. Nabil Kassis, opened on 25 November 2009, the 1st geological exhibition, organized by the Geography Department, which displays samples of various rocks, minerals, materials, precious stones and metals from different geological ages. [More...](#)



Lecture on the History and Traditions of the Samaritan Sect

In cooperation with the Samaritan Myth Society, the Public Relations Office and the Department of History and Archeology at BZU held a lecture on: "Samaritans: history, customs and traditions" on 18 November 2009. [More...](#)



Social & Academic Activities

An Educational Encounter on the Challenges Facing Education in Palestine

The Ibn Rushd Unit for Educational Development at BZU held on 27 October 2009 its 8th meeting, as part of the series of encounters, attempting to shed light on educational themes that impact the educational development and modernization, in order to encounter the educational challenges in Palestine.

[More...](#)



The Career Services Unit at BZU and Sharek Youth Forum and organize Two Workshops on “Financial Management” and “Leadership”

In cooperation with the Arab Bank and the Grand Park Hotel, Sharek Youth Forum and the Career Services Unit at BZU organized two workshops on "financial management" and "leadership", in which 70 students from various specializations have participated. [More...](#)



Challenges and Possibilities for the National Health Insurance in Palestine

The Institute for Community and Public Health at BZU held a lecture on 12 November 2009, which is the 3rd lecture of a series of annual public lectures, organized by the Institute, entitled "the Palestinian national health insurance: possibilities and challenges", in which Commissioner General of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens Rights, Dr. Mamdouh al-Aker, has participated. [More...](#)



CCE Concludes a Training Course on Enforcing a Rights-Based Approach in Advocacy Work

Support by the Diakonia and the Norwegian Association of Disabled People, 20 disability activists from the General Union of Disabled Palestinians (GUDP) have successfully completed a disability-rights advocacy training course on 7 November 2009 at the Centre for Continuing Education – BZU. [More...](#)

Developing e-Learning Modules for the 9th Grade Science Course

The Unit for Learning Innovation (ULI) at the Center for Continuing Education - BZU announced the implementation of the e-learning modules that have been developed by using Web 2.0 for the ninth grade science course in fourteen schools within the Directorate of Ramallah and the Directorate of Jerusalem [More...](#)

Workshop on "Youth as Strategy"

On 7 November 2009, the Mental Health Unit at the Institute of Community and Public Health (ICPH) conducted a joint workshop with the Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Program (North West Bank) at Kamal Nasser Hall. [More...](#)

Students Activities

The Debate Forum Organizes The 5th Debate:No Point in the Presence of the Palestinian Authority under Occupation

The Panelists, Mr. Mahmoud Aloul, member of Fateh's Central Committee, and the Palestinian Writer, Mr. Ahmad Qatamish, agreed to the principal of redefining the Palestinian Authority in a way that responds to the needs of the Palestinian issues and people. [More...](#)

Publications

Books:

Institute of Law, **The Palestine Yearbook of International Law**, Volume 14 (2006-2007) , *MARTINUS, NIJHOFF Publishers*, 2009

Ghanem, Wasel and Sayej-Naser, Diana, **LTSP Guide: Extending the life of older computer hardware in your library: how to set up a Linux Terminal Server Project Installation**, *Birzeit University Library experience. eIFL*

2009.

Library News

The Main Library has organized its annual book fair to sell the old duplicate and weeded books. The activity was for two days ; Saturday 7 and Monday 9/11/2009 in the Students Activity Hall .

The Main Library hold a two days course on : " Fundraising for Libraries" with a total of 12 hours . There were 22 participants from university , public and specialized libraries. The trainer was Mr. Iyad Dweikat .

A two hours meeting was held in the library on Monday 2nd of November 2009 with representatives from the Palestinian National Archive Center to discuss the issue of Documentation and Archiving .Few Depatment Heads and Directors from the University or their representatives have joined the meeting .

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