



FOUNDATION PROGRAM

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2022



**Dhofar
University**

Vision for the Future...

EDITORIAL TEAM

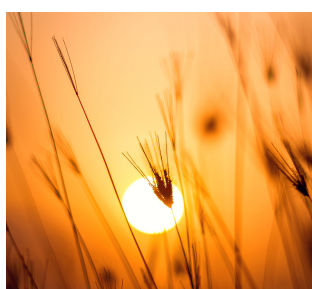
Erica Bailey

Merin John

Steven Sampliner

EDITOR'S LETTER

Welcome to the 2022/2023 academic year!



Every morning starts with a new promise, fresh energy and opportunities awaiting – so did the fall semester at the Foundation Program.

There was a touch of newness everywhere and in everything. The term started with us having a new Director and several new faculty members who brought with them a wide range of acquaintances, rich experiences, and splendid ideas. A new beginning signifies so much that on giving it

a thought we would end up realizing how fortunate we are to be here with such wonderful exposure. 'Life is a climb, but the view is great'- goes the song by the American singer and songwriter Miley Cyrus. Yes, the view of great achievements is always great. However, together let's try to cherish, enjoy, and make the best out of each and every step we take during this climb in the FP, so that one day we can look back and say it is not the view, but the climb that was memorable for each and every one of us.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Editorial Letter/Events

- Page 2

Director Profile

- Pages 4 - 5

FP Administration

- Page 8

FP Highlights

- Page 3

Students with Disabilities

- Pages 6 - 7

Khareef Reflections

- Page 9

Upcoming events

November

2 November

CTL training - Moderation of Assessment

17 November

End of Fall Term

23 - 24 November

National Day (tentative)

December

11 December

Start of Spring Term

17 December

CTL training - Academically Challenged Students

21 December

CTL training - Academic Integrity

January

2 January

End of Fall Semester for Colleges

February

19 February

Al-Israa wal Meraaj (tentative)

26 February

End of FP Term II

FP HIGHLIGHTS

Foundation Program activities



**A visit from the Vice Chancellor,
Professor Amer bin Ali Al-Rawas**



A fond farewell!



**End of the year
celebration luncheon.**

Profile

Dr. Moosa Bait Ali Sulaiman

Foundation Program Director

On June 1, 2022, Dr. Moosa Bait Ali Sulaiman, PhD, was appointed as the new Director of the Foundation Program. With this new role, Dr. Moosa joins the team with enthusiasm and eagerness to bring his own experience to shaping the future of the FP.



MEET & GREET

Originally from Salalah, Oman, Dr. Moosa didn't initially intend on becoming an educator. However, his love of the English language gave him an opportunity to choose language teaching as his specialty. He was the first Omani language teacher in Dhofar and he has a goal to earn the respect from that community achievement. Dr. Moosa arrived at Dhofar University with valuable experiences and qualifications in developing future teachers. Thanks to the university's education program, he knew that he had found his place. His passion for preparing teachers for future students enables him to frame teacher training and their qualifications.

As a professional, Dr. Moosa continued to challenge himself to further his training and used his own experiences to inform others. His leadership roles have always been about teamwork - he values the people around him, as he believes they are there to guide and support each other to be successful. He hopes to continue

that effort in his new role as Director of the Foundation Program.

When asked about what inspires him to work hard, he says it's all about seeing the change happening over time. That feeling of success comes when your goals for students have been met. Achieving goals are at the core of his plan for the FP.

Background

Dr. Moosa began his journey in education with a teaching diploma and nearly 16 years of English language teaching in both elementary and secondary schools. He completed his studies with a B.Ed. in TESOL at the University of Leeds, followed by a MA in TESOL from Sultan Qaboos University. He also spent close to 7 years working for the Ministry of Education as a Senior English Language Supervisor. Following that, he arrived at Dhofar University to work in various levels in the Education department, including as Chair of the Education Department in CAAS, Director of the Postgraduate Department, and now Director of the FP.

My statistics

1988

Teaching
diploma

2003

TESOL B.Ed. at
University of Leeds

2007

TESOL Masters
at SQU

2019

PhD in TESOL
from Malaysia

Goals

Attendance Goal 1 Attendance is the most important thing when carrying on the mission of educating students. Students' cognition is only achieved when students are in the classroom.

Classroom Achievement Goal 2 Knowledge and learning achievement is the second goal. If students understand the role of learning, the students will be able to gain knowledge and meet the goals of the FP.

Meeting Student Needs

Dhofar University

Students with Disabilities Support Services Unit

Access to education is the number one thing all young people need. To better achieve this, Dhofar University has created a special unit that supports that goal.

Background

According to Oman's E-Census 2020, there were nearly 11,000 children with impairments in the country. Oman offers a variety of specialized and mainstream services for those with disabilities; in fact, the Sultanate was among the first in the area to push for children with special needs to be included in mainstream education.

As efforts have been made to care for students with disabilities at various levels of study, the education of persons with disabilities has seen a sharp increase in recent years and has attracted the attention of both the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education.



This is in line with Oman's Vision 2040, which states unequivocally that it is important to "improve the principle of just and equitable access to social care for all members of the Omani society so that they enjoy social welfare."

Impact at Dhofar University

In order to give students with special needs the right services and assistance they require, DU's Students with Disabilities Support Services Unit works hard to anticipate all the difficulties they face while on campus. In addition to providing after-admission preparatory training that

DU's Students with Disabilities Support Services Unit works hard to anticipate all the difficulties students face while on campus.

Dhofar University

involves exposure to campus life and briefings on programs available suited with their impairment conditions as well as integrating them into the Campus community, the Center also provides a wide scope of other services and assistance for students.

Core objectives:

- 01.** To offer people with disabilities all-inclusive support services ranging from their educational requirements, physical requirements, and cognitive requirements, to their social and active needs.
- 02.** To offer consistent, definable, and criteria-based social, psychological, and educational support services to people with disabilities.
- 03.** To encourage research and studies that concentrate on the requirements and difficulties faced by people with disabilities, as well as the means of empowering them and enhancing their talents.

Students with Disabilities Support Services Unit strives to provide outstanding and comprehensive support services to all persons with disabilities in a way that helps them to adapt to their various environments, and empower them in Omani society for positive changes in their life.

Services provided:

- Built-in Accessibility Computer Systems for Visually Impaired Students
- Sign Language Interpreters and Note-takers
- Academic Advising
- Peer Tutoring
- Scribes
- Facilities and Equipment
- Extra-curricular Activities



FOUNDATION PROGRAM

ADMINISTRATION

FATIMA BARHAM

SENIOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

RESPONSIBLE FOR ARRANGING/CONFIRMING DIRECTOR'S APPOINTMENTS; HELPS WITH BUDGET PREPARATION; COMMUNICATES WITH THE FINANCE AND AUDIT DEPARTMENT; AND CATERS TO THE NEEDS OF PARENTS, STUDENTS, AND FACULTY IN THE FP.

NASSER AL SHAHRI

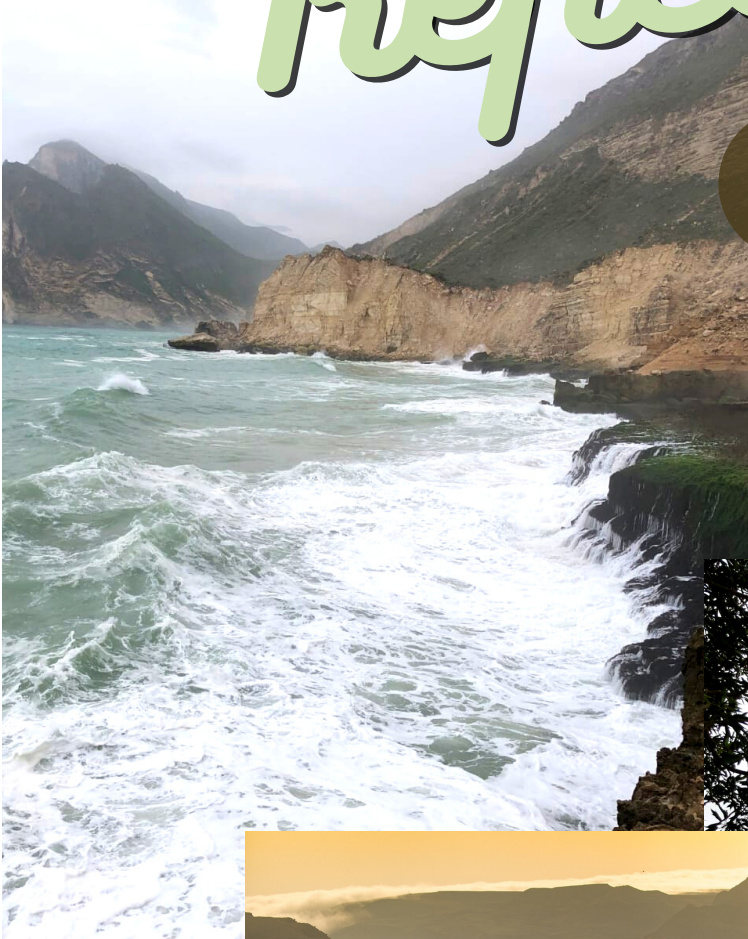
SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
DEALS WITH ALL STUDENT PROBLEMS, LIKE WITHDRAWAL, INCOMPLETES, PETITIONS, AND LETTERS; PREPARES CLASS/EXAM LISTS; PREPARES EVALUATION SCHEDULES AND SELECTS VENUES; AND SUPERVISES THE TRAINING OF TRAINEES.

SULTANA QATAN

SECRETARY

BOOKS HALL FOR EXAMS, WORKSHOPS, AND GENERAL MEETINGS; ADDRESSES OFFICE AND CLASSROOM PROBLEMS TO THE CONCERNED PEOPLE; UPDATES THE FP DIRECTORY FOR THE 3 TERMS; AND ARCHIVES FILES.

Khareef Reflections

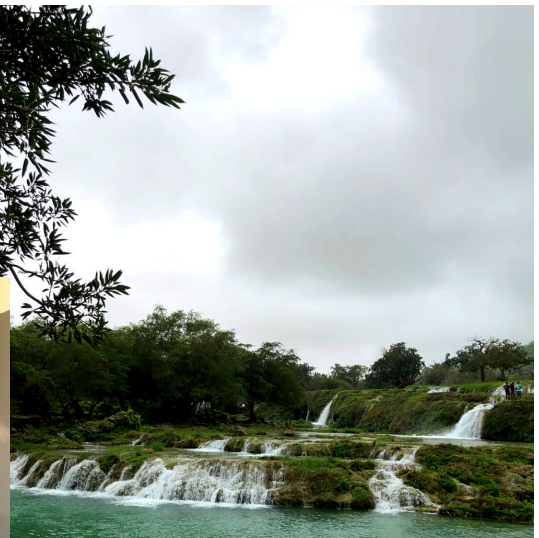


"When Khareef begins, I am reminded that even in a place that looked so dry and lifeless... there is life. Not only is there life, there are FLOWERS and plants and beautiful things. The seeds of those flowers were there even in the dead and dry time, but it is in the time of Khareef that we get to see them bloom and become clear to our eyes."

-Jon Dunnette, English Instructor

"For me, the Khareef season represents the sweet memories of childhood, family gatherings, delicious food cooked on wood and the earthy smell associated with rain."

-Fatima Al Rawas,
IT Coordinator



"Khareef for me is like heaven in the southern region of the Gulf. In Khareef on weekends, we go out together in a group for BBQ outside, see the waterfalls, and see green mountains."

-Amanullah Ghulamullah, IT Instructor