

# Using technologies to upgrade teaching

AGU team presents result of research on smart IT innovation management in higher education

● Researchers and students take part in virtual conference

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A research team from Arabian Gulf University (AGU) College of Graduate Studies has presented a new research entitled “Smart Information Technology Innovation Management in Higher Education” at a virtual conference in Athens.

The conference was entitled “Continuity, Innovation and Change Management in a Post Covid World: Technology, Politics and Society.”

Researchers from Arab countries, East Asia, Europe and the US participated in the conference as well as a number of graduate students who took part to enrich the dialogue and made recommendations for the application of new technologies in the



Participants discuss various topics remotely

field of education globally.

Professor Rustum Mamlouk, Prof Dr Tayseer Jarada, Dr Salman Riyadh, Dr Abdulaziz Salama, Dr Tayseer Al Khozali, Professor Dr Al Ajab Ismaeel, and Prof Musbah Tabasum took part in the research presented at the conference by Dr Mamlouk.

As part of the presentation, Dr Mamlouk highlighted that the higher education institutes were quick to adopt new technologies in the digital age often

even before their educational value is proven.

He said that higher education institutes have experimented with smart technological development such as the use of smart boards, computer networks and laptops for many years until some technologies became an essential part of the higher education institutes.

He said that this has led to the replacement of traditional educational technologies such

as filmstrip projectors and 16m movie projectors with more advanced and cost-effective technologies such as interactive whiteboards, Google tools, content management systems as well as the Mega Open Online Course (MOOC).

Dr Mamlouk explained that the use of modern smart information for smart technology in teacher and learning plays a major role in the development of the educational process such

as easing access to information and its interactivity.

He said examples such as the ease of spreading scientific materials and resources regardless – at school or university – which has often led to the decrease in the dropout rate among school and university studies because the courses are available online.

He highlighted that this enhances the experience by enriching the scientific levels while new technology allows the students to take part

in joint projects in the education process requiring academic cooperation on the university level and enables the teacher to diversify the methods used.

“The implementation of medical simulations at AGU using smart high-resolution models (high intelligence technology)

has provided final-year students at the college of medicine and medical sciences the opportunity to work in a safe environment with the option to repeat errors and clinical skills until they reach the level of competence,” said Dr Mamlouk during the conference.

“It also allows students to commit errors and learn from them without any adverse consequences while also providing a variety of clinical trials for rare or difficult cases that are to access in the hospital without burdening the hospital.

“Information debriefing, such as using new methods of teaching using high-tech smart technology, provides the implementation of the clinical scenario as a way to enhance the long-term memory of the student.



## New Millennium School launches new website



Dr Pillai is delighted to see the new school website

● It provides a comprehensive overview, aims and values, useful information and resources for pupils

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The New Millennium School has announced the launch of its new school website.

It was officially launched by School Chairman Dr Ravi Pillai on 19 April during a virtual meeting.

Having acted rapidly upon the practical suggestions from many of the existing parents, the new website provides a comprehensive overview, aims

and values, useful information and resources for pupils.

The updated website features a new navigation menu and updated content so that the required information can be sought in the blink of an eye. Some of the new features incorporated in redesigned school website are a Streamline Design, Photo Gallery, Drop Down Menus, Finding School Information and many more.

Dr Pillai and Managing Director Geetha Pillai congratulated and extended their warm wishes to School Principal Arun Kumar Sharma, staff, parents and students during the launch of the new ‘digital front door’ which will be more conducive to engaging with the parents and school community.

## Court approves 60-year-old woman's plea to correct age

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The High Administrative Court has approved the request of a 60-year-old Bahraini woman to rectify her age.

The woman resorted to legal action as she approached the High Administrative Court to reduce her age by seven months.

DT has learnt that the wom-

an decided to file a lawsuit, citing that the error to add extra seven months to her age caused her enormous damages.

The woman went on to get witnesses supporting her claims to testify before the court. The woman reportedly didn't have a birth certificate issued for her, as a result, her birthday was assigned on January 1.

## Enhancing safety of navigation at sea

● Transportation Ministry grants yacht captains grace period to obtain proper training certificate in navigational skills

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The Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications' Ports and Maritime Affairs announced that a grace period not exceeding six months starting from 19 April will be

granted to captains of yachts of 36 feet or more in overall length for the requirement of holding proper training certificate in navigational skills.

Maritime Affairs Assistant Undersecretary Yousif Essa Bubshait said: “As part of the new requirement specified in the Ministerial Resolution No. (2) for the year 2021 regarding the registration and safety conditions and the requirements for obtaining a navigation license for small vessels whose gross tonnage is less than one hundred and fifty tons, we are fully committed to ensuring that all



Assistant Undersecretary Bubshait

captains of the specified yachts hold the proper training certificate in navigation skills and with

the overall aim of enhancing the safety of navigation at sea.”

“To ensure that yacht captains have adequate time to obtain the required training certification, the Maritime Affairs is granting a grace period not exceeding six months whereby after this period, captains will be required to provide proof of training in order to issue or renew their navigation licence,” he added.

The approved training for yacht captains consists of basic navigational skills such as basic nautical and navigational skills and knowledge, charting, as well as safety measures at sea.

## Parked cars damaged as old building collapses



Parts of an old dilapidated building in Naim collapsed, causing damage to cars parked next to it. Relevant authorities took the necessary measures for the safety of people. The Municipality of Al Asimah advised the property owners of the need to conduct a restoration of the building, which was originally a hotel during the 50s, and secure the surroundings. The owners submitted a request to the executive body in the Capital Municipality to restore the building. They also sent a request to the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) to have it classified as an antique property and obtain approval for its restoration. The Capital Municipality called on all real estate owners to cooperate and take the necessary measures to correct and maintain the conditions of their dilapidated properties to avoid potential dangers.

## Jail term reduced for man who robs sand and stones

● Down to one year from three years in prison

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The Cassation Court, Bahrain's highest court, reduced the jail term issued against a Bahraini man convicted of robbing sand and stones from a land plot before selling them for more than BD500,000.

He was earlier given three years in prison, but the Cassation Court reduced it to one year. The man was held guilty of dishonesty and fraud.

The defendant is said to have leased the land and signed an agreement to build a project on it.

However, he reportedly fenced it and extracted all the sand and stones from it and sold them for an amount above half a million Bahraini dinars.