



Library Newsletter

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Let us hear from you.

If you have any comments, reviews or articles that you may want to be featured in future issues, feel free to send them to the editor:

library@psu.edu.sa

From the Director's Desk

Greetings: The central library has been going through a lot of changes these past few months. We added several classic books nearly 230 of them from Wordsworth Classics. Most major writers from Jane Austen to Fyodor Dostoevsky to Edgar Allan Poe are included with good introductory commentaries. We made several additions to the collection buying selections given us by faculty and also by attending the recent Book Expo we have newer books in computing, business, and English instruction. We received several copies of Saudi Computer Journals from Mr. Shehzad Ghani. We also added several new reference books.

We were successful in adding around 40 new journals to our holdings with selection coming from each department. The newly added

journals are beginning to trickle in so come by and read them. Encourage your students to do some research on those you selected. A few professors have been checking them out on a one day loan usually on Wednesday to do some professional development.

In terms of automation we have been in long negotiations with Advanced Arabian Systems for a SirsiDynix Symphony system which has gone through the three traditional offers and



Dr. Frank Bruno presents the latest developments in the library during the Internal Review.

is now in the hands of our senior administration for procurement. We have separated the bid in two packages. The first is the system, equipment, hardware and support and the second, is the databases for general studies, business (turn to page 3)

Library Instruction Program for OYP students initialized

by Benj Requero

The Central Library has recently conducted a 2-day instruction program to the OYP students as part of its library awareness campaign.

It was held on 26-27th of

February at the Reading Area of the Central Library.

The library instruction program aims to teach students basic knowledge on how to do simple research, how to easily locate books

using Library of Congress' classification system and how to use an online public access catalog (OPAC). Students were also given a library tour for them to be familiar (turn to page 4)

Library Staff Profile

ماهي افضل الاشياء في المكتبة : تعاون الطلاب
واعضاء هيئة التدريس وادارة الجامعة مع المكتبة
المركزية

ماهي اسوء الاشياء في المكتبة : عدم وجود نظام آلي
خاص بالمكتبات

الاسئلة الاكثر شيوعا : مشاكل الحاسب الآلي والصحف
اليومية والكتب الدراسية

ماهو الكتاب المفضل : الكتاب الذي يتماشى مع
تخصصات الجامعة

الهويات الخاصة : القراءة والاطلاع وتقنيات الحاسب
الآلي

بوزارة التربية والتعليم بالمملكة
العربية السعودية في لقاء خدمات
المعلومات في المكتبة الرقمية

الخبرات العملية قبل جامعة الامير سلطان :
عملت بالمكتبة الطبية لمستشفى الملك فيصل
التخصصي في قسم الدوريات.

عدد سنوات العمل بجامعة الامير سلطان :
خمس سنوات

الجزء الافضل في كونك امين مكتبة : مساعدة
الباحثين في الحصول على المعلومات

التحديات الرئيسية في العمل : عدم تكافؤ
تزويد اوعية المعلومات مع عدد موظفين قسم
الفهرسة والتصنيف مما يؤدي لى تاخير اوعية
المعلومات في عملية الفهرسة والتصنيف
وخروجها على الارفف للمستفيدين



Sam Ibrahim, the
library staff of the
month

المنصب : رئيس قسم المجموعة العربية
متخرج من : جامعة النيلين كلية الآداب قسم
المكتبات ونظم المعلومات (الخرطوم -
السودان)

المؤهلات الدراسية : 1/ بكالوريوس
المكتبات مع مرتبة الشرف الثانية القسم
الاول

2/ دبلوم في علوم
الحاسب الآلي والانترنت والبحث عن
المعلومات في قواعد البيانات العالمية
والمحلية بتقدير عام جيد جدا من معهد
المدى لعلوم الكمبيوتر السودان

شهادة 3/

مشاركة من مركز المصادر التربوية

From the Arabic Section

by Samawal Ibrahim

وأعضاء هيئة التدريس ، علما بان هذه
المجموعات قيد العمل الفني لها من
فهرسة وتصنيف وسوف توضع في الرف
الخاص بالكتب الجديدة عما قريب

يعلن قسم اللغة العربية بالمكتبة المركزية
عن وصول مجموعة جديدة من الكتب في
مجال المحاسبة والتحليل الإحصائي
المحوسب والرياضيات بالإضافة إلى
قواعد اللغة العربية كما أيضا قدم قام
القسم بزيارة معرض الكتب الدولي الذي
أقيم بمدينة الرياض في منطقة ارض
المعارض وتم شراء بعض الكتب في مجال
الإدارة والتكنولوجيا ومعظم الكتب عبارة
عن كتب مترجمة ، أملين أن تكون إضافة
هذه المجموعات ذات فائدة علمية
لمستفيدي المكتبة المركزية من الطلاب

"Two forces are successfully

influencing the education of a

cultivated man: art and science. Both

are united in the book."

—Maksim Gorky (1868-1936),

Russian author and founder of

socialist realism

PSU Librarians attend Riyadh International Book Fair

by Lennard Plandor

This year's PSU delegates
were headed by Dr. Frank
Alan Bruno, Mr. Samawal
Ibrahim and Mr. Lennard
Plandor. Every year, the
international book fair in
Riyadh is an exciting event
for many students, teachers,
and book enthusiasts and



Riyadh International Book Fair

The Riyadh Book Fair's promo-
tional poster.

they gather around to witness
vast exhibit of academic and
recreational books right in the
city center of Riyadh. This year's
book fair was held on March 2-
11. Among the books exhibited
were English and Arabic litera-
ture books and medical
books. Publishers from Japan,

Germany, China also displayed their book
collections. The book fair gave us the op-
portunity to buy books for the general
interest of the PSU academic community.
Most of the books acquired by the Central
Library were bilingual story books, devel-
opmental books, strategic planning books
and some Arabic computer books.

Library Patron of the Month

Name : Adel Khatib

Year/ Course : Junior, Marketing

Research interest: Sports, history and geography

Special interests: Geography (reading about popular cities and countries)

Favorite book : Building strong brands by David Aaker

Favorite website : www.marketingplan.com



Khatib takes a pause from his daily academic routine.

Best thing(s) about the library: The nice treatment of the library staff

Worst thing(s) about the library: computers!!!

Comments/ suggestions about the library: increase the number of books and newspapers

Quotable quotes: "Hitting two birds

with one stone"

Poetry Club Schedule

April 7th - Seamus Heaney

April 28th - Dr. Frederick Highland - A writer's life, Q & A session

May 12th - The 7 Mualaaqaat of Arabian poetry

May 26th - William Wordsworth

Meetings are held in the 2nd floor of the Central Library

From the Director's Desk...from page 2

(AACSB), and computing/ information technology (ABET). The first package will be implemented by the late fall and the second package will be implemented by early 2009. We are still in discussion with the faculties of the various departments on the right database selection.

We recently went through the self-study process which didn't have a lot of surprise in what we need to do in the library. As we approach the next year we are hoping to add a couple more librarians to our staff to handle reference and electronic services.

Our major efforts will be the conversion of our library to electronic format and implementing a new library automation system which should keep us busy for the next several months.

We hope you find our newsletter of value and let us know what we can do to improve our support of your courses and research.

With kind regards—Dr. Frank Alan Bruno, Director of the Central Library

"Our major efforts will be the conversion of our library to electronic format and implementing of a new library automation system"

Riyadh Schools visit the Central Library

by Abdullah Smaeel

وعيهم بأهمية المكتبة مما يشجعهم لاستخدام المكتبات بشكل عام والمكتبة الجامعية بشكل خاص والاستفادة من خدماتها في حياتهم الجامعية المقبلة والذي سينعكس إيجاباً على مستقبلهم التعليمي والثقافي بإذن الله .

كما تم التنسيق لزيارات مماثلة في المستقبل القريب انشاء الله

أمين مكتبة / قسم الإعارة وخدمة المستفيدين

الطلاب في جولاتهم كل من مدير النشاط الطلابي الدكتور عبدالقادر الخطيب ومشرف خدمات الطلاب الأستاذ عبدالعزيز الخشلان.

وقد استعرض أمين المكتبة الأستاذ عبدالله اسماعيل أهم أهداف المكتبة الجامعية بشكل عام وماهي القوانين والأنظمة المتبعة داخل المكتبة بالإضافة إلى أهم الخدمات التي توفرها المكتبة لمستفيديها وألقى الضوء على بعض الخطط المستقبلية التي سترتقي بخدمات المكتبة للأفضل آمليين استفادة الطلاب الزائرين وزيادة



Mr. Abdullah welcomes the visiting students in the lib

في إطار الجهود المشتركة بين المكتبة المركزية وعمادة شئون الطلاب وخدمة المجتمع بالجامعة استقبلت المكتبة الشهر الماضي جموعاً طلابية من عشر مدارس من مدارس مدينة الرياض للمرحلة الثانوية كذا واستقبلت أيضاً جمعا من جامعة طيبة بالمدينة المنورة ضم مجموعة من الطلاب وأعضاء هيئة التدريس وقد كان برفقة

Library Instruction...continued from page 1

with the different sections of the library.

About 50 students attended the program requested by Mr. Geoff Holland of the English Department.

There was also an open forum in the last part of the program where students are given the chance to ask questions or give comments or suggestions.

The library is accepting requests from individuals or groups who want to partake in a library instruction pro-

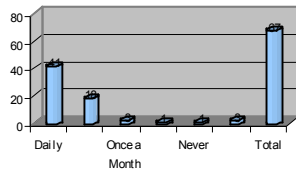
gram sessions. Interested parties may contact the library by IP phone 1700 or thru email : library@psu.edu.sa



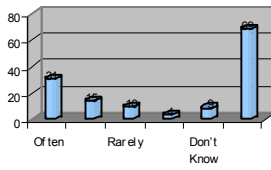
Dr. Bruno gives a welcome remark to the PSU students while Mr. Holland and Mr. Plandor listens

Library Survey Results

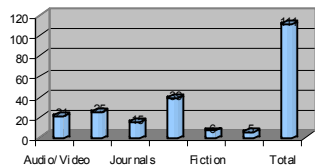
Approximately how often do you visit the library?



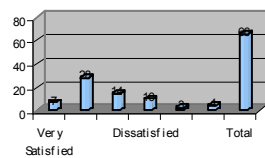
How often is the reference librarian able to fully answer your questions?



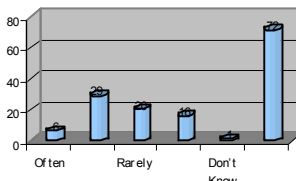
What type of materials do you mainly visit the library to obtain?



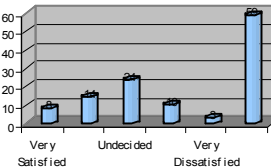
Overall, how satisfied are you with the services provided by the reference librarian?



How often do you request assistance from the reference librarian?

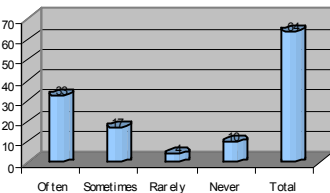


How satisfied are you with the length of time it takes to receive requested materials from other libraries?

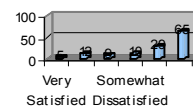


The following are the results of library survey done by the Central Library in chart format. Complete details of the survey including the questionnaire may be viewed in the library or send requests to library@psu.edu.sa to get a copy.

How often do you visit the library to use a computer to access the internet?



How satisfied are you with the availability of computers for use to access the internet?



An interview with Dr. Frederick Highland

It was a fine Sunday morning of April when the Central Library had a chance to interview Dr. Frederick Highland. He happens to be an Assistant Professor of Communications at Prince Sultan University and as well as author of 3 novels, one of which is *Night Falls on Damascus*. Below is the full transcript of the interview:

1. When did you realize that you have the gift of writing?

FH: I think it was when I was 11 years old and I read a novel about Napoleon. I decided: "You know I can write a novel." So that's what I did. From then on, I kept on writing.

2. Can you name at least 3 of your favorite novelists?

FH: There're so many writers that I admire but I would say that among the top three, one would be Eric Ambler, who is really the Father of the Suspense Novel/ Modern Spy Novel. He wrote such books as "The Mask of Demetrios." I'm also fond of John Buchan, a Scottish novelist at the beginning of the 20th century. He wrote "39 Steps" and other mystery suspense novels. Among the modern writers, I am really fond of Martin Cruz-Smith, his series of mystery novels star a Russian detective. *Gorky Park* is his most famous.

3. Are they the ones who influenced your writing?

FH: To some extent, I have to say Eric Ambler because he really is the Father of Modern Spy Novel and that's the genre I'm writing in.

4. What's the most treasured book in your personal library aside from the novels that you have written?

FH: Well, if I were on a deserted island and there's only one book to choose, I would choose *E.B. Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase & Fables*. It is a collection of all sorts of wonderful information and stories and that would give me plenty of materials to write.



Dr. Frederick Highland smiles as he answers questions during the interview

5. Whenever you experience writer's block, how do you deal with it?

FH: I have a little technique that I've learned and that is to never finish a chapter on a particular day but to stop before I finish a chapter. That way the next day, I can continue on and I don't have to stare at a blank page. Every time I just keep writing and then I pause just before the end and then the next day I can pick up where I left off.

6. Do you have any special rituals before you sit down and write?

FH: I have a little mantra that I say every time before I begin writing and it goes like this: **Clarity, concentration, perseverance, gracefully**. I think those are the four concepts to keep in mind as a writer. I say that every time before I begin writing and off I go.

7. Why is your book entitled *Night Falls on Damascus*? Did you use any symbolism for the title or the story in general?

FH: Actually, *Night Falls on Damascus* has a history of its own. Originally I wrote the book in 1999 and it was entitled


"*The Street Called Straight*." I sent it in to an agent in New York, she liked the manuscript well enough but she said nobody would understand that title. I went through literally hundreds of titles before I fixed on *Night Falls on Damascus* which my agent

and my editor rated as a good one. The title is effective because it creates a sense of mystery.

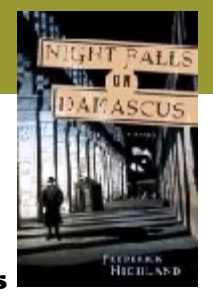
8. When did you come up with the story?

FH: Since 1999, it has gone through

(continued on the next page)



**Available
for Lending**



Night Falls on Damascus
A novel by Frederick Highland tells the story of a French Syrian police inspector, Nikolai Faroun, caught up in a complex murder investigation of a beautiful and controversial woman from a prominent Damascus family.
(Publisher's Weekly, c2006)

An interview...from page 5

many revisions and didn't get published until 2006. You can see it's been a long period of time and I actually spent three years of solid writing.

9. What is the story all about?

FH: Well I think the best way to describe the book is to open the inside cover. You will find a little description there that says it best. (see poster on page 5)

10. How does it differ from your two previous novels?

FH: *Night Falls On Damascus* is my first full fledged historical mystery and it differs from the other books in that way.

11. Who is your favorite character in the novel?

FH: My favorite character would have to be the hero, Nikolai Faroun. I was compelled to tell his story because he's Lebanese by birth but he is working for the French in Syria in the 1930s. The French had occupied Syria, the Syrians did not like the French and Faroun doesn't like the French even though he works for them and the Syrians do not like Faroun as he works for the French. Now he is a man between two worlds and that's what intrigued me about him.

12. What message do you want to convey to your readers?

FH: My concern in fiction writing is always—Do I have a good story here? If I have one, then readers will be carried along with it and all sorts of ideas can be conveyed along the way.

13. Among the 3 novels that you have written, which is your personal favorite?

FH: I like all of them. The *Mystery Box* because it is experimental and plays with images and words; *Ghost Eater* because it is a river journey in a rich locale; *Night Falls on Damascus* because I loved creating and solving a puzzle.

14. Aside from being a successful writer/ novelist and university lecturer, I learned that you were also a tropical agriculturalist and merchant seaman. Is there anything else that you want to accomplish in this lifetime?

FH: There is quote from EM Forster that goes something like this: "You have to be willing to give up the life you have planned in order to have the life that is waiting for you." I think that means my next role will find me, but in the meantime I'll keep telling stories.

15. Any advice/ tips you want to share with aspiring writers?

FH: Explore, travel inwardly and outwardly, see something of the world. Study human nature. Then write.

16. Any parting words to your readers and followers?

FH: All will be revealed just before I make my exit.

For more information about Dr. Frederick Highland, log

on to www.frederickhighland.com

"Explore, travel inwardly and outwardly, see something of the world. Study human nature. Then write."

Chickens in Libraries (from IFLA.org)

A chicken walks into the library. It goes up to the circulation desk and says: "book, bok, bok, boook". The librarian hands the chicken a book. It tucks it under his wing and runs out. A while later, the chicken runs back in, throws the first book into the return bin and goes back to the librarian saying: "book, bok, bok, bok, boook". Again the librarian gives it a book, and the chicken runs out. The librarian shakes her head.

Within a few minutes, the chicken is back, returns the book and starts all over again: "boook, book, bok bok boook". The librarian gives him yet a third book, but this time as the chicken is running out the door, she follows it.

The chicken runs down the street, through the park and down to the riverbank. There, sitting on a lily pad is a big, green frog. The chicken holds up the book and shows it to the frog, saying: "Book, bok, bok, boook". The frog blinks, and croaks: "read-it, read-it, read-it".

Library Directory

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IP Phone Ext. 2365

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IP Phone Ext. 2365

Mr. Abdullah Mohamed Ali Smaeel
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asmaeel@lib.psu.edu.sa
IP Phone Ext. 2390

Mr. Samwal Mohammed Ibrahim
Librarian—Arabic Collection
smibrahim@lib.psu.edu.sa
IP Phone Ext. 2366

New Acquisitions - Arabic Collection

- أساسيات 3ds MAX / ترجمة
MAXscript
وتعريب الشيبب،
عبدالرحمن علي . - ط 1،
سوريا : شعاع للنشر
والعلوم، 2008. رقم
التصنيف 001.6425 ش ع
ا.
- نظم المعلومات الادارية /
مكليود، رايموند، شيل،
جيورج ؛ تعريب سرور،
سرور علي ابراهيم . - ط
1، الرياض : دار المريخ،
2006. رقم التصنيف
658.403 م ر ن.
- الاخوان السعوديون في
عقدين 1328هـ - 1349هـ
، 1910م - 1930م /
حبيب، جون س. ؛ ترجمة
حسن، صبري محمد ؛
مراجعة الماجد، عبدالله . -
ط 1، الرياض : دار
المريخ، 1998. رقم
التصنيف 953.105 ح ج ا.
- مبادئ علم الاحصاء
وتطبيقاتها باستخدام اكسيل
2007 / عبدربه، ابراهيم
علي ابراهيم، محمود،
مصطفى ماجد . - ط 1.
الاسكندرية : دار
- قاموس دار العلم التكنولوجي
للمعلومات والاتصالات :
قاموس انكليزي عربي مزود
بمسرد عربي انكليزي /
العلاق، بشير . - ط 1،
بيروت : دار العلم للملايين،
2006. رقم التصنيف
301.16 ع ب ق.
- مقدمة في نظم المعلومات
الحاسبية / الخطيب، صبحي
محمود الخطيب، العتر، عمرو
عباس . - ط 1، الاسكندرية :
دار المطبوعات الجامعية،
2008. رقم التصنيف 657
خ ص م
- التحليل الاحصائي باستخدام
اكسيل اكس بي / عبدربه،
ابراهيم علي ابراهيم، محمود،
مصطفى ماجد . - ط 1،
الاسكندرية : دار المطبوعات
الجامعية، 2008. رقم
التصنيف 519.50285 ت
- مبادئ علم الاحصاء
وتطبيقاتها باستخدام اكسيل
2007 / عبدربه، ابراهيم
علي ابراهيم، محمود،
مصطفى ماجد . - ط 1.
الاسكندرية : دار
- الشعر العربي القديم :
دراسة نقدية تحليلية لظاهرة
الاعتراب / كاميليا
عبدالفتاح . - ط 1.
الاسكندرية : دار
المطبوعات الجامعية،
2008. رقم التصنيف
811.008 ع ك ش
- مقدمة في نظم المعلومات
الحاسبية / الخطيب، صبحي
محمود الخطيب، العتر، عمرو
عباس . - ط 1، الاسكندرية :
دار المطبوعات الجامعية،
2008. رقم التصنيف 657
خ ص م
- قواعد اللغة العربية
المسيرة / التواتي، خالد ؛
تدقيق فاخوري محمود . -
ط 1، سوريا : شعاع للنشر
والعلوم، 2008. رقم
التصنيف 418.24 ت خ ا.



New Acquisitions - English Collection

1. Basic finance : an introduction to financial institutions, investment and management / Herbert B. Mayo. -9th ed.- Australia : Thomson Learning, c2007.
2. Introducing organizational behavior and management / David Knights and Willmott, Hugh. - Australia : Thomson Learning, c2007.
3. Internet marketing & e-commerce / Ward Hanson and Kirthi Kalyanam. - Australia : Thomson Learning, c2007.
4. Computer graphics using OpenGL / F.S. Hill Jr. and Stephen Kelley. -3rd ed.- New Jersey : Pearson Education, c2007.
5. Principles of marketing / Philip Kotler and Gary Armstrong. -12th ed.- New Jersey : Pearson Education, c2008.
6. Digital design / M. Morris Mano and Michael D. Ciletti. -4th ed.-New Jersey : Prentice Hall, c2007.
7. Process-based strategic planning / Rudolf Grunig and Richard Kuhn. - 4th ed.- Berlin : Springer, c2006.
8. Life lines / Peter Viney. -[Riyadh] : Ray Publishing, c2007. (English-Arabic short story)
9. Marashi's pocket medical dictionary : English -Arabic / Dr. Mohammad Oussama Marashi. - Beirut : Librarie du Liban Publisher, c2003.
10. Brave new world / Aldous Huxley. - [Riyadh] : Ray Publishing, c1999. (English-Arabic short story)
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