Second Issue Dedication

"Mentoring is a brain to pick, an ear to listen, and a push in the right direction." (John F. Kennedy) and Dr. Nasser has it all... your wisdom is appreciated and your big heart will be always remembered.

People behind the Scene

PMU Readers and Writers Club
Newsletter Editorial Board
Students Affairs/ Campus File

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University Honors & Awards | Dean’s List

On the Open Day of Spring 2010, and in the presence of proud mothers & family members, the university honored outstanding students of the three colleges’ Dean’s Lists:

- The College of Business Dean’s List included 78 students.
- The College of Computer Science & Engineering Dean’s List included 38 students.
- The College of Engineering Dean’s List included 15 students.

The Office of the Registrar issues a dean’s list of honor students at the end of each semester. To be placed on the dean’s list, a student must:
• Have a registered and completed a minimum of 15 hours in the semester.
• Have at least a semester 3.5 GPA.
• Be in a good academic standing.
• Rank in the top ten percent of students in his or her college.
• Have no failing grades in any of his/her courses during that semester.
• Have no incomplete grades.
• Have no disciplinary action against him/her.
On April 20, 2010, a new chapter in the history of the female campus at Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University was written by Salma, Maryam, Haneen and Fatima.

Congratulations ladies, for writing this important chapter, a chapter in which Saudi women have proven to be active leaders. Your courage, outspokenness, critical thinking, and charisma will be remembered for years to come. You illustrate the spirit of inspiring young women with great dreams... with the knowledge to turn those dreams into objectives... and mostly with a strong faith in themselves and their capabilities.

The Election Interviews

**STUDENT COUNCIL**

**FATMA AL-NAIMI**

Q: What made you want to run for Student Council President?
A: My friends entrusted me with the “change” mission, they believed I was capable to run for this position and to “be the change”, so I decided to take our voice further, to make it heard, to represent our female students.

Q: Did the elections run as smoothly as you hoped?
A: Yes, I started preparing during the break; so I had plenty of time to get ready. It was an enjoyable and nice experience.

**MARIAM AL-BINALI**

Q: What made you want to run for Student Council President?
A: I was interested in helping improve the educational environment at PMU and particularly the female campus. I wanted the student’s voice to be heard.

Q: How do you describe the experience?
A: It was enjoyable and fun. I gained new friends and went through a totally new experience. I felt more involved in the university. Also, it was nice having elections at PMU. We had only seen elections on TV so it was nice to have it here at our university.

Q: Would you run for the elections again?
A: Yes, I would, because I want to be in Student Council and help my fellow students.

Q: Did you able to express all of your ideas and hopes for the future of PMU during the given time in the debates?
A: No, actually I only answered the questions by giving realistic possibilities and outcomes. I did not promise anything imaginary or unachievable. In the end, everything is tied up with administrative constraints.

Q: Would you run for the elections again?
A: Yes I would, because I want to be in Student Council and help my fellow students.

Q: Did the elections run as smoothly as you hoped?
A: Yes, I started preparing during the break; so I had plenty of time to get ready. It was an enjoyable and nice experience.

**HANEEN AL-QAHTANI**

Q: What made you want to run for Student Council President?
A: What really motivated me to run was the trust that all my friends put in me. They believed in me and encouraged me to go through with the experience. With this motivation, I felt very excited to use my abilities and skills to serve and improve my university.

Q: How do you describe the experience?
A: It was more than great! From the day that I applied for Student Council President until the day of the final result, I had a wonderful, useful, and memorable experience. Building my campaign taught me a lot about teamwork, time management, and creativity. The speech and the debate in front of the evaluation committee and all the students increased my self-confidence and my communication skills.

Q: Would you run for the elections again?
A: Sure, without a doubt! It was an amazing experience...

Q: Were you able to express all of your ideas and hopes for the future of PMU during the given time in the debates?
A: Yes, I felt that I had the chance to sum up all my points and objectives. The debate was open after getting the position. Although I did not get the position, which was entrusted to another great student, I will still work on my program and do whatever I can to always improve PMU, the place I belong to.

Q: Did the elections run as smoothly as you hoped?
A: Yes. My competitors were aware of the healthy, useful competition and we had fair, smooth elections.

**SALIMA AL-DOSSARY**

Q: What made you want to run for Student Council President?
A: I wanted to run for Student Council President so I could make a difference on campus. Being around the Student Council for the past year has really opened my eyes to some of the issues that needed to be fixed and addressed. Also, I think that the Student Council is a good place for me because, I like to bring change. I actually would enjoy a career in politics. I enjoy planning events, I am outgoing and sociable and I like to attend efficient meetings.

Q: How do you describe the experience?
A: The elections provided me with an opportunity to gain practical experience in management and leadership skills within the university. The relationship between me and the rest of council was merely a leadership role. Not only does the president have to make sure that everything is running smoothly but they also have to be able to help others fix problems that they may be struggling with. Also the president position has given me the ability to represent the entire student body when talking to faculty, staff, and any other officials he or she may communicate with. To the faculty and staff, the president is simply the voice of the students and I played that role for a few days as an intern. Also, when it comes to promoting better relations within the student body, I believe people just need to take the time to get to know everyone, so I made a great relationship with huge numbers of students and most of them become my friends.

Q: Would you run for the elections again?
A: It depends as I may not be here next semester. I will be graduating soon.

Q: Were you able to express all of your ideas and hopes for the future of PMU during the given time in the debates?
A: Yes I was able to express all of my ideas.
Q: Did the elections run as smoothly as you hoped?
A: Yes, I am very happy and proud of the way the elections ran. Regardless of whether I take a presidential role in the student council or not, I will still serve as a volunteer student at Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University in developing and implementing policies, programs, and curriculum activities in a manner that promotes the educational development of each student and the development of the university.

Hence, I still see myself as being capable to contribute greatly to the university. So, at the end, I still contribute in whichever way possible to benefit the student body. After all, with or without a position, our main objective is still the same. Most importantly, I think we should appeal to the hearts of the students and not just their minds. So this is my goal and I would give my very best to achieve this objective and, hopefully, now we have a great student council. Congratulations to Fattima Al-Naimi and her cabinet. They really deserved this responsibility.

DALAL AL-AUJAN  
(Business)

Q: What made you want to run for the position of representative of the College of Business?
A: Ms. Rania suggested it to me; her consideration of me meant so much. I was asked to include recommendation letters from some of my teachers.

Q: What changes would you like to see in the College of Business?
A: We need to have a president for the year groups to be in charge of the society and to have more involvement in extracurricular activities.

Q: What made you want to run for the position of representative of the College of IT?
A: To be honest, ever since I entered the university, most of the events were held by the Business students and all the exhibitions and open days were held by the Interior Design department. I really felt that the IT College needed to get involved somehow. I hoped to have a chance to encourage other IT students to get more involved in extracurricular activities if I was a representative. The idea of becoming a college rep came to me after Ms. Rania told me about the elections.

Q: Would you run again if you had the chance to?
A: Yes, I would.

Q: What changes would you like to see in the College of IT?
A: I would like to see better course timings and unified break hours so we can have activities during them.

KAZKHAN ANSARY  
(Business)

Q: How do you describe the experience?
A: I got to have a taste of what really happens in elections.

Q: What made you want to run for the position of representative of the College of IT?
A: I can handle the job. The Business Club gives you the ability to represent everyone, even though it is on a smaller scale. Becoming a college representative will help you get a bigger representation of people.

Q: Would you run again if you had the chance to?
A: Sure, I would run for president of the student government.

Q: What changes would you like to see in the College of IT?
A: I would like to see more instructions. Also, I think that the university should expose us to the aspects we learn in class so we can relate to them in real life.

NOOR FELEMBAN  
(Business)

Q: How do you describe the experience?
A: It was very nice. I really enjoyed it.

Q: What made you want to run for the position of representative of the College of IT?
A: To be honest, ever since I entered the university, most of the events were held by the Business students and all the exhibitions and open days were held by the Interior Design department. I really felt that the IT College needed to get involved somehow. I hoped to have a chance to encourage other IT students to get more involved in extracurricular activities if I was a representative. The idea of becoming a college rep came to me after Ms. Rania told me about the elections.

Q: Would you run again if you had the chance to?
A: Yes, I would.

Q: What changes would you like to see in the College of IT?
A: I would like to see better course timings and unified break hours so we can have activities during them.

ASMA RAGHEB  
(Business)

Q: Do you think that there were adequate advertisements for each candidate?
A: Yes, but they were not very organized.

Q: Where the goals of the nominee the same as yours?
A: No because their goals were not clear.

Q: Did you find the debate useful?
A: Yes. It helped showcase each candidate’s personality and what they wanted to achieve.

Q: Given the success of the past elections, would you run for future elections?
A: Maybe. I have not seen any changes for the 2 years that I have been here which disheartens me from running.

ZEENATH AL-KASIM  
(Business)

Q: Do you think that there were adequate advertisements for each candidate?
A: No because some were distributed unfairly across the buildings and the others had more advertisements than the others.

Q: Where the goals of the nominee the same as yours?
A: No because some goals seemed unrealistic.

Q: Did you find the debate useful?
A: Yes. I could see their communication skills but it was hard to see their personality.

Q: Given the success of the past elections, would you run for future elections?
A: No. I am not interested.

DINA AHMED  
(Business)

Q: Do you think that there were adequate advertisements for each candidate?
A: No. There were not enough advertisements. What little advertisements were up did not suit them and they did not express their goals.

Q: Where the goals of the nominee the same as yours?
A: No. I could not see their communication skills but it was hard to see their personality.

FATMAH AL-ZAYER  
(Business)

Q: Do you think that there were adequate advertisements for each candidate?
A: No. Most of them only had their names on paper. Some had listed goals but they were not clear.

Q: Where the goals of the nominee the same as yours?
A: No. I am more into academics at university as they are more important than having fun.
Q: Did you find the debate useful?  
A: I did not attend.

Q: Given the success of the past elections, would you run for future elections?  
A: No, I do not have the time. Also, the students have little power.

ZAINA AL-SOWAIGH
Q: Do you think that there were adequate advertisements for each candidate?  
A: I think that there were enough advertisements for the Student Council nominees but not the college representatives.

Impress that will Never be Forgotten
The Islamic Studies Project

Nowadays, the world keeps changing very fast and the challenges that we have to face are becoming more and more difficult. As college students, we are expected to do something about these changes, to improve ourselves, to use our abilities and to learn how to implement our Islamic values in social, academic or practical life.

On May 24, 2010, PMU setup an exhibition called “Impress that will never be forgotten” in the female campus. The main aim of this exhibition was to show the students how to apply their Islamic concepts taken in Islamic studies courses in their practical lives. The project has many purposes that will benefit PMU students. As an example, the exhibition gave the students the opportunity to employ what they learned in their courses in a real work as well as improving their thinking and look for serving their community. In addition to this, students were exposed to activities sharpening their abilities in effective group working and leadership. Also, one of the important purposes was to demonstrate to the students how to build effective relationships among them and their instructors.

Finally, as an appreciation we, PMU students, would like to thank everyone who worked in this project especially Dr. Huda AlMahmood for her faithful efforts in making this beneficial exhibition for the students.

Leadership Seminar:
Dr. Zahra’s Visit to PMU

The Student Affairs Department of PMU organizes the Distinguished International Speakers Series every now and then. Well-known personalities are invited to present on certain topics. The foremost purpose of this is to enhance students’ success in their careers and inform them on various issues, which they may encounter in their professional life. A recent guest invited was Dr. Zahra Khattab.

Dr. Zahra Khattab holds a doctorate degree in Chemical Engineering and is a Registered Professional Engineer in Texas. She was a lecturer for two years at the Chemical Engineering Department of the University of Houston and her post-doctoral assignments was at Imperial College of London. She has over 23 years experience in oil and gas industry in different areas. She has participated in many projects and has won awards as well. Currently, she is the Manager for Technology Deployment in Shell International E&P, the Netherlands.

Dr. Zahra Khattab gave a remarkable speech on leadership and management. She spoke about the qualities of leaders and managers and the characteristics that distinguish them. In addition, she spoke about various challenges that women face in their professional life and ways to overcome them. She gave examples from her personal life, sharing valuable experiences that she has had.

Her stories were very interesting and captivating. Throughout the speech, she spoke vigorously motivating and inspiring her audience.

Towards the end, a short session for questions and answers was held. On the whole, it was an immense pleasure to have Dr. Zahra Khattab as a guest speaker and listen to her wonderful speech.

My Experience
By Fatima AlSowaih

I ran in this year’s Student Council election at PMU to be more involved in the university’s activities. As a student, I understand the needs and hardships that come with being a university student. I wanted to be the leader of the students because this would have given me the opportunity to address their needs and solve their problems. The election was a new experience for me; I learned a lot despite the fact that I lost. I have developed my leadership and public speaking skills as well as new negotiation and problem-solving techniques. I am glad that the election went smoothly and that it was a success. I will participate again and run for Student Council President next year.

My Darling Mother
By Hamza AlSowaih

Having a mother like you while growing up was the greatest gift and biggest advantage anyone could ever have given me. It is because of the confidence and values that you instilled in me that made me who I am today. Thank you for shaping me into a person who I like and am proud to be. Thank you letting us believe that we could be whoever we wanted to be, do whatever we wanted to do, there were no limitations except our drive, ambition and creativity.

If there was a textbook on how to be the perfect mother, it would have you as the role model.
Out & About in the Kingdom

Janadriya to Spread Joy Throughout Year

JEDDAH: Prince Miteb bin Abdul- lah, deputy commander of the National Guard for offensive affairs, has favored the idea of keeping the Janadriya heritage village, 45 km north of Riyadh, open throughout the year to attract tourists from within and outside the Kingdom.

Speaking to reporters after launching a huge 77,000-cubic-meter hot air balloon carrying pictures of Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah, Prince Miteb said the Supreme Organizing Committee of the National Heritage and Culture Festival has already discussed the topic.

He, however, said the matter required further studies by the committee and specialized companies in order to open Janadriya to visitors during the holidays. He suggested that commercial companies could manage the village to boost domestic tourism. At present it is open only for the two-week festival.

Prince Miteb said the launch to Janadriya was opened by King Abdullah on March 17, as well as to highlight the king’s humanitarian message and his call for Interfaith Dialogue to promote world peace. "This balloon was donated by the United Arab Emirates to King Abdullah."

He said the next Janadriya festival would be open to all countries to participate, adding that the participation of non-Arab countries would help Saudis know the culture and traditions of people in those countries. He, however, pointed out that Janadriya’s next editions would witness folklore displays from Arab countries.

Speaking about the balloon, which has been launched for the first time as part of the festival, he said it would visit several countries such as Poland, Italy, France and South Africa. The balloon — 50-meter long and 35-meter wide — will fly at an altitude of more than 10,000 feet and will be commanded by Abdul Aziz Al-Mansour and five cosmonauts. The green balloon will fly over 38 countries during a yearlong journey.

By Fais Alkhalaji & Naama Alyahya
Desert Rose

Student Societies, Clubs & Activities

On a breezy Wednesday evening the Milky Way Club celebrated the first "Star Gazing Night"...

Students and faculty, members of the club, gathered outdoor and spent an educational and fun time gazing the stars on a clear sky. The weather was favorable and everyone enjoyed the event that involved Astronomy lectures, an activity of naming the stars which became clear through the university two telescopes, a campfire, and a barbecue.

Thanks to the Milky Way club for organizing this wonderful event and for allowing all of us to enjoy the activity.

The Best Lecture Note-Taker, Preparatory Year...

Spring Semester 2010

For those Prep Year readers, you may still recall the "Perfume lecture" which was a sequel to the Science Course Taster Lecture, held in the Lecture Hall on the morning of June 2nd, 2010.

The afternoon of the power failure on the previous day may have caused a 15-hour delay to the start of the lecture, but the spirit of the audience (faculty members and students) was not dampened.

History, Chemistry, and Definition, Perfume Industry and Biology relating to perfume were the focus of the lecture.

The students in attendance were totally engaged and at the same time busy taking notes of what they could understand from the lecture. An award would be presented to the best lecture note-taker in the Prep Year.

Here are the results:

**Winner:** Maryam Al-Mutairi, 2009/2010
**First Runner-Up:** Fatimah Al-Sakran, 2009/2010
**Second Runner-Up:** Fouad Al-Asmari, 2009/2010

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Welcome to the End-of-Course Visionary Taster Lecture

**Topical:** How Much Do You Know About Perfume?

**Guest-of-Honor:** Ms. Elizabeth Okello
**Speaker:** Ms. Joan Kosch
**MC:** Ms. Mallika Sairy
**Adjudicator:** Ms. Heather Finkler
**Event Organizer:** Ms. Wai Si El Hassan

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Seminar Objectives

- Ways to VALUE
  - VALUE
  - ACCEPT
  - LOVE
  - UNDERSTAND
  - EXPRESS

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Costume Pageant!

The long-awaited Costume Pageant finally came upon us.

What a fab start to the week!

The Atrium in the Female College Building was elegantly decorated with party balloons and silky ribbons of all sorts of amusing colors.

As you entered the hallway, a waft of sweet-smelling popcorn came drifting through the air. Shyly-spooky machines filled with different kinds of appealing bright colors. At the end of the corridor, a panel of 4 judges was sitting at the table discussing the winning criteria.

Heavy bands from the amplifier were pounding rhythmically and participants were prancing their walk to the beats. Thirteen participants of all ages dressed up in their self-styled costumes. We had a young prince dressed in vibrant red and golden colors, a young Dutch girl dressed in a satin purple dress, a caretaker dressed in a bright orange jumpsuit with a brown cardboard box in her hand, a little girl dressed in a Chinese red cherry blossom cheongsam, an Einstein look-alike mad scientist complete with a grey mustache-dressed in a white lab coat, and last but not least, a vampire covered in blood.

Who’s the winner, you might ask. Honestly it wasn’t an easy decision to make. After a long discussion, the star prize went to the - Minimaddness Scientist! Everybody was cheering and we heard big applause that seemed to never end. The Atrium was filled with audiences on the ground floor and the first floor. All the participants were congratulating each other for the brilliant show they’d put on! Wow! What a show!

Ms. Ronnie Alderon
Adviser

Mrs. Wai Si El Hassan
Co-Adviser & Author

Maryam Al-Mutairi
Chair, Female Drama Club
Fun Facts:
- If you yelled for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days you would produce enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.
- Banging your head against a wall uses 150 calories an hour.
- Human hair and fingernails continue to grow after death.
- Termites eat wood twice as fast when listening to heavy metal music.
- A rhinoceros horn is made of compacted hair.
- Donald Duck comics were banned in Finland because he doesn’t wear pants.
- If you keep a goldfish in the dark room, it will eventually turn white.
- Right-handed people live, on average, nine years longer than left-handed people do.
- Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our noses and ears never stop growing.
- Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.

Puzzles:
- If there are three oranges and you take away two, how many will you have?
  You will have one.
- My life is often a volume of grief, your help is needed to turn a new leaf. Still is my spine and my body is pale, but I’m always ready to tell a tale. What am I?
  A book.
- I am a box that holds keys without locks, yet they can unlock your deepest sense. What am I?
  Piano.
- What asks no question but demands an answer?
  A_doubtful.
PMU Story

You voiced your opinion!!
The Cafeteria Food is of Poor Quality

By Mariano Allibali

Student Food Committee

How many times have you missed your breakfast to rush to the university? How many times have you felt hungry during classes and needed a good snack? And how many times did you have to eat in the university Cafeteria?

The majority of us, female students, voted that the quality of the food in PMU Female Cafeteria is poor. We female students need good nutrition to have energy, to be healthy and more productive. But with the current food services many of us suffer from bad nutrition and health problems.

BREAKFAST IS NOW SERVED!!!

Enjoy your early meal... We enjoyed a great sense of achievement

What we need from everyone on campus: please clear your table when you're done, this will give the cafeteria team more time to serve you better!!!

Better Food: We Owe it to Mariam

By Nadia Alalbi

My name is Mariano Al-Binali and I am a second year student at PMU. The reason I ran in the recent election for student council president is that I wanted to be more involved in university activities and try to improve the PMU environment for all female students. Just as the other female students here, I also share their hardships. The long breaks due to scheduling problems and the lack of a place to relax and release the stress of exams, quizzes and exams are some of the most important reasons. We sit on the floor and in the corridors, play games to try to enjoy our friends and waste our time. I’d like the PMU administration to provide us with places to relax like TV lounges so we can sit, have fun and have discussions about what we are learning about.

Students also suffer from poor nutrition because of the food quality, fatty cheese cake, croissants, cupcakes, bad coffee, deep fried foods and not enough vegetable or vegetarian choices. It would have been nice if a student survey had been presented asking us what food we wanted. I am proposing that a student food committee be formed that will help us provide with better food service.

Another problem is the annoying and ongoing issue with the audio-video in the lecture hall. We often listen to male guest speakers from the lecture hall but the audio devices don’t work properly and we miss the opportunity to hear useful information. Also, we need more planned, chaperoned outings after the long semesters and the workloads that we have.

PMU administration could plan these trips both inside and outside the country. Inside the country we could go to such places as beach trips and local areas of interest such as Masdar in Salalah. However, students also need to gain cultural experience by visiting other countries such as the pyramids in Egypt or Petra in Jordan, or even the Louvre museum in Paris.

My wish is that the voice of each and every student is heard. These are some of the reasons that I wanted to become student council president. Even though I did not win I have gained a lot of experience, leadership skills, and made a lot of new friends.

PMU Student

Being part of PMU student affairs is a huge responsibility but, at the same time, it is exciting. This semester, I have nominated myself to be the PRESIDENT of the Student Council. With the choice of my cabinet, it did not cross my mind that I would win. I was really surprised when the result was announced and I was officially declared President of PMU Student Council.

My program was designed with students and instructors in mind. It included the following goals:

1. Making the students voices heard to the administration.

2. Making the female campus a more comfortable place for students and instructors.

With the help of God and the support of students and Student Affairs, I will strive to make a difference in the female campus. Actions speak louder than words.

Thanks to all the people who believed in me and supported me. Special thanks to my cabinet: Ebdswam, Nada, Shireen, Meshali, Waddah and Uijan, who were always there for me when I needed them.

White Lies

By Farooq Al-Masri

“A white lie never hurts anyone.”

Unknown.

I’m pretty sure that everyone has heard this saying before. It means that it is not a bad thing to lie to a person if your intention is to keep them happy, or to keep them from getting hurt. For example, if someone asked you “do you like my dress?” and you thought it was horrible, you would say “no” and hurt their feelings? Or would you just say a “white lie”? and everything would be all right? Put yourself in this person’s shoes. Would you want to be lied to? Considering a white lie an innocent lie is wrong. While, like any other lie, can hurt a person’s feelings if discovered. That is, there’s no color for lying - a lie is a lie.

PMU Student

Who Is Going to Write My Recommendation Letters?

By Nada Felemban

Last week, I went to the Student Affairs Office to nominate myself to be the representative of the IT College. There they asked me to submit my resume and transcript of record as well as two recommendation letters. When I left, I stopped for a while to think about which of the instructors who have taught me at PMU I should ask to write the letters for me. A question rushed to mind. Where are they now? Since entering PMU in 2008, several inspiring, talented and highly qualified instructors have taught me. However, by the end of each semester, I see many of my professors collecting their belongings, saying goodbyes, and leaving behind them deserted offices. Nowadays, whenever I take a course with an excellent professor, I keep thinking: Will I see this instructor next semester? Will I ever be able to enroll in any of his or her classes again? Will I see his or her name if I log into Banner Services? Or will I find a list of TAs under the instructor’s column? Why are the professors leaving me constantly?! Am I going to find any of my current instructors after two years? Who is going to write my recommendation letters when I apply for my master’s degree after graduation? These are questions that I must live with and understand that stresses that I must bear.

What is the solution?

A Token of Appreciation

By Aliha Kass

During the last couple of years of PMU’s hard struggle to establish itself on a solid ground, several personalities and authoritative figures of the university have given exceptional dedication and contribution in providing the best for the students. In addition to undertaking strategies and decisions to look into our timely requests, queries and complaints, they have played a vital role in providing us with highly qualified instructors, well-equipped labs, libraries, academic software and technological support thus, establishing the perfect, most comfortable educational environment for us students at PMU.

While most of us may overlook the noteworthy amount of improvement and positive difference that PMU has undergone, it is needless to say that the ones responsible have earned a great amount of appreciation. Therefore, we the students of Prince Mohammad bin Fahd University, take this opportunity to express our most earned and sincere gratitude to the Associate Chair of College of Computer Engineering and Sciences; Dr. Wessa Zelalovic, of the Department of Interior Design; Dr. Janan Alkhud, of the Department of Mathematic and Natural Sciences; Dr. Handoor Abdulla Al Salem, of the Associate Chair of the Pediatric Program; Mrs. Elizabeth Alkaf, of the English Language, We simply cannot thank you enough for the great job you have done and the time and effort you have put into putting PMU to the stage it is at now, enabling us to have a memorable college experience and most importantly, facilitating the kind of educational environment that truly assists us in building ourselves as leaders of tomorrow!
It's a Gimme Gimme Gimme World
By Nalea Alkhayfa

There was a time when values and morals played an important role in our society. There was a time when we believed the best in everyone and were quick to rid ourselves of that small voice in the back of our minds. There was a time when honesty and fairness prevailed.

Where has that time gone? What has made us change?

Wealth. Status. Want. We are always going for bigger, faster, better, and always the latest.

Our society has taken a sharp turn down the path of materialism. Why is that? There are many reasons. We feel better when we have stuff to show off. We feel worthy when we are up to date with fashion and electronics. We feel proud to say we have 3 of this and 10 of that, and all already have 3 of those.

While it is nice to fit in and feel accepted in a community, there is a limit to everything. There is a line that, once crossed, is the point of no return. When we are exposed the bigger, faster, better, and smaller varieties of life, it is nearly impossible to revert to a time before that and live the same way.

While there is nothing wrong with enjoying life, we should not live our lives. We must take everything into consideration. Will this item make me act differently? Will I look down on other people who are less fortunate? Will it change me as a person?

Benefits make a man a slave. -Proverb

Dear Auntie,

I like my major, but it is too hard. What should I do?

Confused

Dear Confused,

I am not sure I understand your problem. If you have already asked about all the other majors, and you are 95% sure you prefer the one you have, then you must be brave and strong enough to go out there and try it! Your family and friends can help if you ask them. Maybe you need a weekend tutor for a couple of hours—in fact, maybe someone who speaks Arabic can help you understand your subjects more easily. Try for at least one full year before you decide to change majors. Maybe you can succeed! Good luck! -Auntie

Fashion squad
From Day to Night. These outfits are a mix of highstreet buys with designer investments that will take you from shopping around the city to a nice evening event.

The Message from Water
By Fathema AlIbaid AlIbadi

Did you ever think that water can hear you? Water has a very important message for all of us. It tells us to take a much deeper look at ourselves and think about what we say and what we hear. In his book The Message from Water, Dr. Emano, a Japanese researcher, shows that the quality of our life is directly connected to the quality of our water, because our bodies have more than 70% water. That is, our thoughts and words we say and hear affect the water in our bodies, as the pictures below demonstrate. This is the case, why not express our thoughts in words that give everyone a chance to live a healthy life!

What’s more important? What other people think of you, or your own opinion of yourself?
### Academic Calendar

**Fall 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 - 26 Sep, 2010</td>
<td>Sat - Sun</td>
<td>Registration confirmation for preregistered students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 - 22 Sep, 2010</td>
<td>Sat - Fri</td>
<td>Registration and orientation for new students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Sep, 2010</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Sep - 06 Oct, 2010</td>
<td>Mon - Wed</td>
<td>Late registration and Add/Drop period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Nov, 2010</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Last day of classes before Eid Al-Adha holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 - 21 Nov, 2010</td>
<td>Sat - Sun</td>
<td>Eid Al-Adha Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Nov, 2010</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Classes resume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Dec, 2010</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Last day for withdrawing courses with grade of “W”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 - 29 Dec, 2010</td>
<td>Sat - Wed</td>
<td>Early registration for the spring semester 2010/2011 through Banner Self Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Jan, 2011</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Last Day for withdrawing courses with a grade of “WP/WR” / last day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Jan - 01 Feb, 2011</td>
<td>Sat - Tue</td>
<td>Final exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05 - 09 Feb, 2011</td>
<td>Sat - Wed</td>
<td>Mid-year break for faculty &amp; students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Important Dates

- **Last day for withdrawing courses with a grade of “W”**
  - 15 Dec 2010

Classes dropped before this date will show on your record as “W.”

This is preferable to having “F” or “I” on your transcript—and doesn’t affect your GPA.

- **Late registration and Add/Drop period**
  - 27 Sept - 06 Oct 2010

If you drop classes before the cut off date, it doesn’t show on your transcript as a “W” or “I.”

If you drop your class within this period then you will not be charged for that class.

- **Early registration for spring semester**
  - 25 - 29 Dec 2010

You can go online through Banner Self Service or come into our office to register. This means that you won’t miss out on a class you really want to take because it has closed.

### Tips from the Office of the Registrar

- Always check your PMU e-mail.
- Remember to take advantage of any changes in your course details.

### Your Grade ...

**27 Sep - 06 Oct 2010**

Add & Drop Week

- Withdraw from your registered class during this period and you will have:
  - Grade: None
  - Financial Charges: None

- Withdraw from your registered class during this period and you will have:
  - Grade: W
  - Financial Charges: Full

### Your Choice ...

**Jan 19, 2011**

Withdrawal with “WP” or “WR”

- Withdrawal from a registered course during this period should be signed by your instructor, who will decide your grade.

- Grade: W or F (depending on the discretion of the instructor)
- Financial Charges: Full

- Withdrawal from an administrative withdrawal.

### True Academic Horror Stories – Aged 18 and above

- **Are you aware of your academic standing??**
  - Can you imagine the upset and horror of receiving an e-mail to let you know that you have been dismissed from your university?

- **Could this happen to you??**
  - A student was 15 minutes late for class and received her first academic warning letter. She wanted to know why?

  This was the 3rd time that she had been more than 10 minutes late, in effect she had missed 3 of her classes and is the reason why she was issued with her first warning letter.

  She then became sick and was in hospital for several days and was absent from all her classes. She was away from the university for 3 weeks to recover, and actually missed some of her final exams.

  Unfortunately she never checked her PMU e-mail account, thinking that it cannot happen. She missed her following warning e-mails, and the opportunity to be able to solve her problem easily.

  What happened was that she missed her final exams, her grade was a “F” for the exams she wasn’t able to attend, and a “W” for the classes she had missed.

  Her GPA fell below the required 2.0 or above and she was not only dismissed from the university, but she also lost her scholarship.

  This happened because she had not checked her PMU email, and she did not complete an official withdrawal from her classes to explain her absence once she returned to PMU.
The Student Council Experience

The Student Council provides students with opportunities to gain practical experience in management and leadership skills within the university. Being part of the Student Council offers you the chance to voice student concerns and provide a balanced student life on campus.

Rules and Regulations

- The Student Council shall stand for the spirit of the University and the campus rules and regulations.
- The Student Council serves for an annual term.
- Student Council members receiving academic warning during the term of their service shall be automatically dismissed from the Council.

Societies, Clubs & Activities

Campus Life Activities & Events

Our goal is to provide activities and programs that complement the academic mission and provide leadership, social, cultural, and intellectual opportunities for all students.

Calendars, rules and regulations are available at www.pams.edu.ae and in the Student Affairs offices.

All societies, clubs, activities and events aim at developing the following six competencies:
- Communication
- Technological Competence
- Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
- Teamwork
- Leadership
- Professional Competence

The Point System: A System of Rewards

Each activity or function will allow a certain number of points determined at the time the activity/event is announced.

Accumulated points can be redeemed with prizes, trips (outside or inside the KSA), or any other reward offered by the university.

The Official Transcript

The official Campus Life Transcript will be part of the student’s portfolio which will add assets to your profile and enrich your CV.

Career Services 2010

Overview of Career Services
- Assist students with transition from education to work
- Work with graduates who need assistance in job transitions
- Provide students with on-campus part-time jobs

Job Opportunities!!
- On/Off Campus Student Employment
- For a Part-time Job application go to: www.pams.edu.ae | Student Affairs | Career Services
- Print and fill out your application | Hand it in to the Career Services Office.

Services and Strategies
- Placement and Job Search Assistance (Resume writing, interviewing preparation, job listings)
- Employer Relations
- Job Fair
- On/Off Campus Interviews
- Cooperative and Internship Programs
- Career Counseling and Advising
- Assessment
- Assessment and Career Counseling
- On/Off Campus Student Employment
- Library of Career Resources

Career Worksheets & Tests Offered
- Personality Tests
- Career Exploration Worksheets
- Career Planning
- and many more to come...

Out of Classroom!! In to the workplace...

Female Student Intern Report

An internship is a work-related learning experience for individuals who wish to develop hands-on work experience in a certain occupational field. PMU internships are 3-credit hour courses required for graduation. They may be six weeks up to the entire summer and may be paid or unpaid, depending on the employing institution.

An internship is an excellent way to determine if the industry and the profession is the best career option to pursue. Interns gain practical work experience in a field that they intend to pursue in the near future. Internships help individuals to combine theory with practical work experience. Also, the development of strong teamwork skills balanced with the exercise of individual responsibility, the opportunity to experiment with jobs that match academic, personal, and professional interests, and the chance to develop industry-specific abilities help develop professional work habits, provide an understanding of corporate cultures, give an opportunity to analyze international business settings, and offers platforms to compare differences in work styles.

During this summer semester, PMU had sent students for internships in foreign countries like the United States of America, United Arab Emirates, UAE and Lebanon. Internships that are taken internationally offer the privilege to observe differences in businesses, and how that differs from the way they are conducted in their home country.

In the summer of 2010 PMU had 115 female interns. The College of Business counted 66 female interns from all four departments: Business Administration, Management Information System, Finance and Accounting. Business interns have performed their internship either inside or outside of Saudi Arabia.

Some of the companies that cooperated with PMU in the internship program are Aramco, Nestle, Sheraton Hotels, Al-Faisaliya sprit, Saudi Hollandi Bank, Alinma Bank, Audi Bank, SABB, Saudi Fransi Bank, Al Riyadh Bank, Saudi Investment Bank, FFA Real Estate, SECICO, Holsuitron, Chamber of Commerce, Azizian, PMU Accounting and Budgeting Department, Baker Hughes, Al Olayan Holding, Ernst & Young, Project Management and Control, the Saudi Human Resources Development Fund, Monarch Tower Company, and last but not least Information Management Technologies.

The College of Engineering counted in summer 2010, 29 female interns from the Department of Interior Design. Some of the major organizations and offices PMU female students performed their internships at are: Aramco, Chalilm, Alifawati, VADO, Al ha Hani Interior, Al Hakati, Requa AMKHali, Nasma & Partners, A.A.M. Interior, Saad Al Ashour, A-A-Designers, Design Plus, Trust Consultants, Abdul Hadi and Al Meskia Consulting and Design Engineers.

Last but not least the College of Information Technology counted 22 female interns from the three IT Departments: Computer Engineering, Computer Science, and Information Technology. Our IT interns have performed their internships inside and outside of Saudi Arabia. The major internship companies dealing with Aramco in IT internships are currently: Aramco, Schlumberger, VIVA, Al turbines Bank for Islamic Microfinance, Alfalah Establishment, and UTM.
Health Care & Counseling

The Department of Health Care and Counseling would like to warmly welcome all new and returning students! Each new semester brings a batch of new students who often feel overloaded with information and still feel that they need so much more advice to have a smooth academic start.

The Department of Health Care and Counseling will take this journey with you from the beginning to the end. We will offer an open-door policy for each of you and will endeavour to support your journey with relevant informative advice and planned events.

"TO SUCCEED IN LIFE WE ALL NEED TO BREAK FREE FROM OUR SHELLS!"

From,
Ms. Patricia
Ms. Melanie
Ms. Hiba
(Student counselors)
Ms. Josephine
(Nurse)

Role Play
Arwa Feels
LOST!

MAHA

ARWA

By Ms. Melanie Daniels & Ms. Patricia Baker

Hi, Maha,
I am glad to finally see a friendly face here at PMU.

Hi, Maha,
I am glad you decided to join us at PMU.
I will take you to meet many of our friends from the school days...
I am so thrilled with all the friends around now.

OHH! Arwa,
I understand how you feel.
I was once new here myself & was too shy to ask.
I will help you by introducing you to some more friendly faces at PMU.

In addition to my old & my newer friends, you should definitely meet the great staff of the Department of Health Care & Counseling.
Last semester I was able to knock on the door of the counselors who always either helped me or accompanied me to someone who could.

You can be assured to get the right information & advice about building your confidence, esteem, assertiveness, personal problems & on ways to prepare for your academic journey & the terrible exam week...

Not easy though... Maha... being new here at PMU is making me feel lost. There is so much to learn & I do not know who will help me.
Yes, I will tell you a few of the most important things I remember from all the advice & events given by the counselors.

1. "Break free from your shyness... aren't we all in all shyness before we uncover our talent..."
2. "A little bit of anxiety is good as it will alert you to danger, but if it interferes with your daily life then you need to know how to manage it..."
3. "Plan, Plan, Plan. decide on a daily study time & stick to it, decide on a quiet place to study & decide what to study first; you won't believe the great sense of achievement when you feel that you took your own life in charge...
4. "Do not leave today's work until tomorrow as you will only regret it..."
5. "Assertive people use the 'I' statement a lot. I do not agree, I do agree, I believe this to be the case or I believe this is not the case...Isn't that amazing?"

And...

Oh so you're not totally lost, you already know Nurse Josephine... Well, she helped me a lot when I was taken to the clinic after I stumbled off the stairs with my first stack of books... that was more embarrassing than painful honesty...

I really believe that all the advice I was given last semester from the counseling team has made me a better person, a better student, and believe it or not... a better daughter. Everyone noticed how I changed, & how my hopes grew better. Most importantly, I think I discovered great things about myself...

If you remember to charge your blackberry... I can't believe it, just like the old days... I have to run now! My class starts in 5...

Roll on fall semester 2010! I will definitely participate in all the planned events on campus!!!

Hey! Please keep me posted & we can attend together.

OOGH, punctuality too? I hope that's not contagious... it sure is hereditary!!!

I am not offended!!! Byyyyyyyyyyyyyy!!!

WOW... take a break Michael! Big words and philosophical attitude are no good for you! And you're nearly out of breath... keep it up and we may need to visit the nurse... I think her name was... Josephine!
Financial Aid

Financial Aid Advice: IF I ONLY Knew!

by Ms. Taha Shater

Having trouble raising the money you need to pay for your tuition? Want to apply for financial aid? Worried about renewing your scholarship?

Below we have answered some frequently asked questions to help you find a solution to your financial problems.

Is there a way to apply for financial aid at PMU?

Sure, PMU offers several financial aid programs, opportunities for its students.

I graduated this year for High School and I just received my PMU acceptance letter, can I apply for a scholarship?

If your cumulative High School GPA is above 85% and your Aptitude Exam (Quadrat) Score is above 65% you can apply for the Ministry of Higher Education Scholarship Program.

I am an undergraduate student at PMU, can I apply for a scholarship?

All Saudi students with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00/4.00 are eligible for the Ministry of Higher Education Scholarship Program.

When can we apply for the MOHE (Ministry of Higher Education) Scholarship?

Application period is between 1/9/1431H until 15/10/1431H.

My scholarship application was rejected; can I withdraw from PMU and receive the 1st installment?

Unfortunately, scholarship results are announced by the Ministry of Higher Education after the Drop and Add period at PMU. After this period, students can withdraw from the university but will be accountable for the whole semester and are not entitled to refund the 1st installment.

Do I have to be enrolled full time (12 credit hours) to receive financial aid?

All financial aid programs at PMU require that you are enrolled full time (12 credit hours) to receive payment.

* For more information, please contact the Financial Aid Office at: Room Number: G010 | Tel: 03 849 8823 | E-mail: rzabbagh@pmu.edu.sa

Student Poll

Do Instructors Use Blackboard Effectively?

By Nour Felixban

Core & Humanities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core &amp; Humanities</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics &amp; Natural Science</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Information Technology</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Business</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparatory Program</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Does PMU offer financial aid for Non-Saudis?

Yes, PMU Scholarship Program for International Students provides scholarships granted on merit basis for highly talented international students looking for their bachelor degree at PMU.

I was granted the Ministry of Higher Education Scholarship; will it be renewed for me next year?

Ministry of Higher Education Scholarship Program is designed for five years. Scholarships are renewed on yearly basis depending on the renewal criteria that a student should maintain.

What are the scholarship renewal criteria?

To renew their scholarships every academic year, students should:
1. Enroll full time student (minimum 12 credit hours every semester)
2. Achieve good academic progress towards the bachelor degree.

I may be absent during the next semester, what happens to my scholarship?

Scholars who withdraw from PMU, postpone a semester, or stop attending classes should expect to repay all or a portion of the scholarship funds. Moreover, the scholarship will not be renewed.