

CHS UPDATE



Volume I—Issue 2

RAMADAN KAREEM!

Greetings to everyone for the blessed month of Ramadan. God's blessings and prayers of health and happiness to all of you at this special time.

NEW MINISTER OF HEALTH

The faculty and staff of the College of Health Sciences are honored and privileged to extend their sincere congratulations to Dr. Khalil Hassan on his recent appointment as the Minister of Health. We wish him all the best in his new role and offer our full support. We were also honored by his visit to the Dean where they exchanged views and ideas on how to further the College Strategic Directions.

SHURA NEWS

We are proud that His Majesty, the King Shaikh Hamad Bin Isa Al-Khalifa has appointed the former Minister of Health, H.E., Dr. Faisal Al-Mousawi as the Chairperson of the Shura Council and Dr. Fakhriya Dairi as a new member of the Council. Dr. Fakhriya is one of the six women appointed to serve on the Council. We are certain that the wise chairmanship of Dr. Mousawi and the dedicated contributions of Dr. Fakhriya and the rest of the Council will support the partnership with the elected Parliament to shape the future of Bahrain.

SOMALIA FELLOWS VISIT CHS



The College welcomes six WHO Fellows from Somalia to Bahrain. The fellows are here to learn about the functioning of a Health Sciences Institute in order to facilitate the process of establishing the Institute of Health Sciences in Hargeisa in Somalia, which is expected to open in January 2003. The WHO selected the College as a training site for this Fellowship because they consider the CHS to be a role model in health professions education in the EMRO region. Mrs. Batool Al-Muhandis, Dean and a team developed an extensive training program for their two-week visit. The Fellows' program started with a meeting with the Academic Council. They will be meeting later with Division faculty who will contribute to their training program. Their visit is from 16 - 27 November 2002.

CHALLENGE

You never know what you can do until you try.

EDITORIAL

The College of Health Sciences is going through a dynamic stage where there are many cross-functional activities in progress. These activities are taking place at all levels in the College from strategic to operational. These major activities include: finalizing the organizational chart, academic cadre, preparing generic BSN program, arranging programs for WHO fellows and visitors, planning for opening the auditorium, establishing CHS policy and quality committees, and participating in many national and international meetings. In the midst of this, we highly appreciate that you are still finding time to write articles to maintain your CHS Update. And **remember** by contributing to this newsletter you are marketing your major contributions to further the development of the College of Health Sciences. **DON'T FORGET THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER!**

The CHS Newsletter and Publicity Committee

CHS JOINS THE SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION OF ARAB NURSING COLLEGES

The Dean of the CHS, Mrs. Batool Al Muhandis, received an invitation from the Secretary General Dr. Ahlam Al-Hamdan and the Dean of the College of Nursing at Al-Zaitoonah University in Jordan to attend the Fourth Annual Assembly of the Scientific Association of Arab Nursing Colleges. The meeting was held at the University of Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates from 29 - 31 October 2002. Twenty deans attended from different Colleges of Nursing in the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

The Scientific Association of Arab Nursing Colleges was established in 1998 and is part of the mother association of Arab League of Universities which was established 1964. The aim of the Association is to network, collaborate, and support nursing higher education in the region. Mrs. Batool presented a proposal requesting full membership. The Association welcomed the request and was highly impressed by the quality of Nursing Education in Bahrain. The Dean is expecting the Association's reply in December 2002.

CONTRIBUTIONS

We thank everyone for their contributions to the second edition of the CHS Update. We apologize to anyone whose article had to be held over till the next issue due to lack of space. **Don't forget**, the deadline for the December CHS Update is 4 December 2002. Submit your news **NOW!** We will accept handwritten or typewritten articles, but it would be helpful if you can give us your articles on a disk. Try to keep the articles as brief as possible. We reserve the right to edit articles to fit the space. We received a lot of positive feedback on the first issue of the CHS Update. With everyone's help, we will succeed!

ANEW COLLEGE ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

The first College of Health Sciences formal organization structure was developed in April 1980. Based on an official request from the Directorate of Personnel in 1986, the Civil Service Bureau carried out a comprehensive review to determine the optimum organization structure to enable the College to meet the future health needs for qualified Nursing and Allied Health manpower. Since that time the whole organization chart has not been reviewed, but there have been continuous demands to modify the chart and add new cosmetic alterations, that have few limitations.

The chart was unable to support and adapt to the rapidly changing health environments and the need for competent health personnel. It also lacked control over financial and Human Resources functions, and this in turn created staff frustration and dissatisfaction. These justifiable reasons were the drive for pursuing change to draw up our new CHS organization structure.

By mid 2000, the College had drawn up a strategic plan for 2001-2003. Based on that, the time was right to review and change the College directions. The new strategic directions integrate clear targeted objectives and action plans, one of which was to have a new organization structure by the first quarter of year 2003, with an ultimate direction that calls for future decentralization, including Financial and Human Resources Control and Management.

A highly committed Faculty Council and representatives from the Directorate of Personnel started the first phase of drawing up a new organization chart. The proposal has three main sections: firstly, reflection on the existing CHS organization structure; secondly, presentation of the proposed new CHS organization structure; and lastly, a brief description of the processes the College adopted to develop the new CHS organization structure.

The new College organization chart will facilitate the implementation of the main College of Health Sciences functions which includes:

- implementing Academic Programs for human resources production in Nursing and Allied Health.
- facilitating institutional development and advancement.
- supporting student welfare.
- integrating a solid operational Administration and Management.

Mrs. Batool Al-Muhandis leads the project, and the Faculty Council in their last meeting in October 2002 reviewed the proposal and added some further amendments. The proposal will be forwarded to the MOH in December 2002.

WORLD SIGHT DAY CELEBRATED

CHS participated in the World Sight Day celebrations at the Bahrain Mall on 10 October, held to help create greater awareness in the community about eye care and the increasing problem of global blindness. It was held under the patronage of Dr. Faisal Al-Mousawi and was organized by the MOH and the National Committee for the Prevention of Blindness, as well as the Lions Clubs of Bahrain and Riffa. CHS students helped give free eye tests and color vision tests to the public, were involved in helping with the drawing competition for children, and gave talks about preventable eye diseases and injury and general eye care, with the aid of pictures and brochures. The main goal of the event was to raise awareness of the International Initiative - Vision 2020.



UAE OFFICIALS VISIT CHS

On 29 October 2002, two visitors from the UAE visited the CHS - Dr. Durre Chowdhury, manager of the Primary Health Care Division of Health Affairs, and Ms. Aisha Hassan Al-Samsi, manager of the Quality Department, both from the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. The purpose of the visit was to become familiar with the Primary Health Care services available in Bahrain, and to get information about the programs offered at the Nursing Division, and more specifically the Post-Basic Community Health Nursing Program. During the visit, they met Dr. Amal Akleh, Associate Dean, Dr. Mouza Al-Suwaileh, Chairperson of the Nursing Division and the Director of WHO Collaborating Center for Nursing Development, as well as Mrs. Nadia Adbahi, Acting Head of the Post-Basic Community Health Nursing Program. The main issues discussed in the meeting were on how to enhance collaboration between the UAE and the Kingdom of Bahrain in terms of training health professionals and exchange of experiences between the two countries.

THE ACADEMIC CADRE

In April 2001 a Committee was formed by the College to review the current academic cadre and formulate a policy for promotion and rotation. Dr. Mouza Al-Suwaileh chairs this cross-functional Committee. After reviewing the current cadre and several other Universities' cadres and policies, the Committee established a proposal for a new cadre. This Proposed Academic Cadre was presented to the Faculty Council in July 2002 and on Monday, 4th November 2002. After a lengthy discussion, the Council, with minor corrections, supported the Academic Scale. The final draft of the cadre proposal is expected to be ready by the end of December 2002. The proposed Academic Cadre is characterized by being flat, does not link position to grade and allows rotation.

WORLD DIABETES DAY CELEBRATION



World Diabetes Day is celebrated to raise public awareness of the causes, symptoms, treatment and complications associated with Diabetes, since the incidence is on the increase. The theme this year was "Diabetes and the eyes: Don't lose sight of the risks". It was celebrated on 29 – 30 October 2000 at the CHS under the patronage of the former Minister of Health, H.E. Dr. Faisal Al-Mousawi. The chief guest was Shaikh Dr. Moh'd Al-Khalifa, President of the Bahrain Diabetic Society. The first day included a seminar facilitated by Dr. Mohinder Singh. Speakers were Dr. Taki Khalaf, Dr. Nabeel Al-Shirawi, Dr. Ebtisam Al-Alawi, and Mrs. Kawther Al-Taitoon.

The second day's activities included messages from the Dean and Shaikh Dr. Moh'd Al-Khalifa. Dr. Aziz Hamza, Undersecretary, MOH and Dr. Moh'd presented awards to people and organizations that supported diabetes awareness. There was also a Pharmaceutical Exhibition and Health Education Fair that included eye screening, blood sugar monitoring and health instructions.

SUCCESS

The toughest part of getting to the top of the ladder is getting through the crowds at the bottom.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

In line with the Ministry of Health strategic goals and objectives, 'quality' is an issue that is attracting lots of attention and concern at the Ministry of Health. The Associate Dean is the College of Health Sciences representative on the main Quality Team at the Ministry of Health.

The CHS Quality Committee, chaired by Dr. Mouza Suwaileh, met several times to draw the action plan for the purpose of implementing a quality improvement system. The Committee has a representative from the Quality Department at the Bahrain Defence Force - Major Sumaya Hussain. A major function of the Committee will be to assist faculty and staff to adopt quality principles in their duties under the logo 'the job right, from the first time, every time'. A series of workshops on quality are being developed. The focus of the workshops will be to bring awareness to all faculty and staff about quality improvements.

This Committee is also responsible for the 'Quality Education' area, which covers several academic issues, including accreditation and conventional and E-learning

LEADERSHIP

Real leaders are ordinary people with extraordinary determination.

DIVISION/DEPARTMENT NEWS

Educational Development Center

Established in 1978, the EDC has become a valuable resource for CHS and the MOH. The EDC is available to help all CHS faculty and MOH staff in solving any educational or media development problems. Please contact the EDC if you need help in preparing classes, presentations or any forms of media, on Ext. 6682. You are also welcome to use our facilities, i.e. computers, printers or media production area.

The English Department

The English Department of the College of Health Sciences does not exist exclusively for the College. It runs long courses for students at the College and short courses for staff from the Ministry of Health. The long courses, which run from September to July, are a part of both the first year (currently 127 students) and BSc courses (currently 21) and have been offered for many years; but the short courses are a more recent development.

The short courses have been offered since February 2000 and range from Basic English Skills to preparation for English examinations required by English-medium universities, both TOEFL (the American Test of English as a Foreign Language) and IELTS (the International English Language Testing System, common to Britain and Australia). These are all 32-hour courses; and by the end of November, a total of 358 students will have attended, including 70 for TOEFL and 15 for IELTS preparation.

In addition to the courses for the College and the Ministry of Health, a special course in Medical Terminology is currently being conducted for lab technicians from the Ministry of Education.

Ahmed Al-Farsi Library

The Library provides state-of-the-art services to its patrons, especially in the field of periodicals. It continues to subscribe to its annual periodical subscription, both print and electronic with a total of **1,060 full text journal titles**, as follows:

- Swets subscription (print journals) - 112 titles
- ProQuest Database (electronic journals) - 834 titles
- MD-Consult Database (electronic journals and E-books) - 114 titles

The library has also ordered 250 books from local vendors. The Library would like to ensure its patrons that the target to digitize its services is ongoing and that the Library will soon enable the web users to get access to its collection through the CHS homepage.

OPINION

Your mind is like a parachute. It works best when it is open.

ITO NEWS

After being affiliated with the American Heart Association (AHA) as an International Training Organization (ITO), the College of Health Sciences held the first BLS Instructor course on 10 October 2002. Amina Matoog, ITO coordinator, stated that a total of 17 health professionals working in SMC, who have successfully passed a BLS provider course, participated in the course. Among these, 15 were certified as instructors. Two CHS faculty participated in the course - Eman Tawash and Moatza Eliwa.



In addition to obtaining an average of 92% in the written exam and demonstrating successful presentation skills and hands-on practice, the new instructors will need to be monitored twice during actual teaching of BLS by the instructor trainers. CHS is also planning to give an instructor course for Advanced Cardiopulmonary Life Support (ACLS) on the 12th of December 2002. Contact Ms. Amina on Ext. 5219 for further details.

FACULTY/STAFF NEWS

Mariam Ali has been appointed as Head of the Psychiatric Nursing Program. We wish her all the best in her new endeavor.

Dr. Fakhriya Dairi gave a lecture on Sexuality and Family Planning - "What are STD, different types of family planning, preparation for sexual health and family planning" for Tawjihi boys and some faculty at the Shaikh Abdul Aziz Secondary School on 30 October 2002. Dr. Fakhriya Dairi also gives counseling and health advice for women on Maternal and Child Health Care and Child Development every week from 9:30 to 9:45 am on Bahrain Radio.

Moh'd Ghali Mubarak attended a conference in Cologne, Germany from 16 - 21 September organized by the European Association for Health and Information Libraries. During the conference, he also participated in two workshops: "Finding Biomedical and Health Care Information on the Web" and "Effective Medline Search Strategies for Clinical Queries".

Mrs. Fatima Murtada attended the First National Conference for Nursing and Midwifery in the Republic of Yemen from 4 - 7 October 2002. The themes of the conference were: regulation of practicing nursing profession and midwifery, updating the scientific channels regarding nursing colleges, institutes and nursing schools; developing nursing care in the hospital; and the strategy for nursing improvement. Fatima presented a paper on "History of Nursing Education in Bahrain from 1959-2002." She received a certificate and a trophy for her participation and presentation.

ATTITUDE

*Develop a sense of urgency in all things that you do.
Speed is everything.*

COMMITTEE NEWS

Newsletter and Publicity Committee

Since the Broad Aims of this Committee are:

- to improve the communication and exchange of information, internally and externally and
- to enhance CHS marketing,

we are ready to publicize and promote the College, faculty and staff in every way possible. We are here to serve you and are ready to implement any suggestions or ideas you have related to our goals.

Our next major project will be to compile the first **CHS Annual Report 2002**. We need everyone's help to obtain all the information that needs to be included. Please send us a list and a brief description of all your research, publications, presentations or workshops given, conferences attended, awards or degrees received, etc. during 2002. The end of the year will soon be upon us. Forward your information to Elizabeth Popovich, Chairperson of the Newsletter and Publicity Committee as soon as possible, indicating it is for the Annual Report.

Auditorium Management Policy Committee

Chaired by the Associate Dean, with cross-functional representation from the different divisions and departments, the Auditorium Management Policy Committee has started laying down policies and procedures. Faculty and staff members have highlighted the detailed sub-components of the management policy and selected the area they wish to write policies and procedures for. The opening of the auditorium will take place in early January.

Staff Welfare Committee

- The Committee arranged a lecture on 11 November 2002 for the College faculty and staff regarding the allowance systems followed by CSB for all government employees. Mr. Adel Jabar, the head of allowance department at CSB, presented this lecture. More than 25 faculty and staff attended the presentation. All participants praised the lecture and requested the Committee to organize more lectures related to staff welfare.
- The Staff Welfare Committee and the Student Welfare Committee organized a "Ghabghah Ramadaniya" and "Gergaon" evening on 13 November 2002 at CHS. Activities included selling Gergaon, face painting, henna, traditional music, Fraysah, and selling food and drinks. Many faculty, staff, students and family members attended this activity and had lots of fun.

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