



NEWSLETTER

Foundation
Program
March 2024



Dhofar
University
Vision for the Future...





WELCOME

The FP is in the midst of a new term, with fresh energy and hope, seeking new experiences, anticipating the challenges awaiting us, along with the holy month of Ramadan. It's a time to reflect, an opportunity to look back and move forward, while striving to thrive, balancing each role, adding a pinch of that extra something that we can do with selfless commitment, passion, and passing on the peace and tranquillity in every word or deed, taking an extra step to be and see the change. A time to inspire each other, with that extra word of kindness and empathy to lift, and a concrete gesture of support. Above all, it's a time of self-restraint, discipline, and order - not just doing things the way we want, but, with care, knitting together buds that have started withering in our classrooms, touching lives, and turning dried lands into pools of water, creating oases amidst the desert and the parched ground into flowing springs. Let's aspire to go the extra mile in this beautiful season and get ready to see the change.

"Step out of the history that is holding you back. Step into the new story you are willing to create." - Oprah Winfrey

Editorial Staff

Editorial Team

Erica Bailey

Merin John

Steven Sampliner

News & Events



Check out our activities!



Best Faculty Awards

27 February 2024



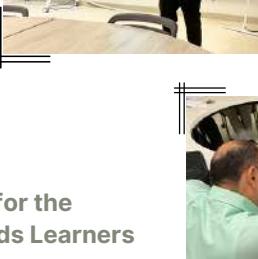
CUP Training

13-14 December 2023



Workshop: Innovations for the Inclusion of Special Needs Learners

01 February 2024

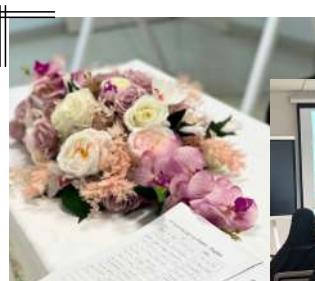


PD Workshop
02 November 2023



Outstanding Student Celebration

27 December 2023



Project-Based Learning Competition
16 November 2023



March 2024

Upcoming Events

○ **17 March**

Start of FP Term III - Summer

○ **10-13 April**

Eid al Fitr (tentative)

○ **16 April**

DU Job Fair

○ **25 April**

IT Training Day

○ **30 May**

Last day of DU classes - Spring

○ **6 June**

Last day of FP classes - Term III

○ **17-20 June**

Eid al Adha (tentative)

○ **30 June**

First day of DU classes - Summer

○ **1 September**

Start of FP Term I - Fall

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COMMUNITY SERVICE

The FP Community Service Committee is working more actively these days. They're all about making connections and working towards strengthening community engagement with our local community and other universities. Dr. Moosa Ahmed Ali Sulaiman, the FP Director, emphasizes that real community service creates a meaningful impact within the community and fulfils its mission of support. To add, FP collaborates with the Community Service and Continuing Education Centre at the university and is positive about making a real impression.

Annual Walkathon for Oman Cancer Association 12

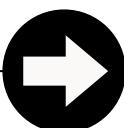
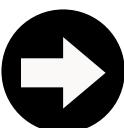
The committee's first event was the World Cancer Day Walkathon, held on 16th February at Dhofar University. This event was conducted in partnership with CSCE and the Oman Cancer Association for a noble cause. People from all over the region came together to raise awareness about cancer and its impact on the society. This event was a huge success.



Foundation Program



LOOKING AHEAD



Giving Back

And get this – the FP Community Service Committee has even more cool stuff coming in the pipeline for term three and beyond, focusing on building cordial relationships with local schools and higher educational institutions, hosting workshops for teachers, and organizing reading days. They're dedicated to giving back and making a difference! Don't forget to check out what they come up with next!



Orphanage Visit

One upcoming activity is visiting an orphanage and donating needed items, which can make a huge difference in the lives of children by providing items that they need and spending time with them to show them that they are not alone.

Reading Day

Through this initiative, we hope to organize a Reading Day for local schools where volunteers will read stories to students and engage them in activities aimed at promoting reading. We also plan to donate books to schools that need resources to promote reading.

ELT Day

The primary goals of this day are to share successful classroom practices, generate ideas aimed at the overall improvement of education, and share our skills with the community of professionals across the region.

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Pursuing a PhD



Getting Ahead

The Foundation Program supports faculty members as they develop their professional studies. Take a moment to read about two members of the FP who are actively pursuing PhDs now!

Fatima Barham - Senior Executive Secretary

Area of Study: Business Administration

To gain comprehensive training in business theories, research methods, and advanced statistical analyses.

What Motivated You:

My passion for the subject, to boost my career prospects, and to enhance my skills and knowledge by doing my doctoral and post-doctoral research in my specialization.

Most Rewarding Part So Far:

Preparing a study proposal. I have finished choosing the research topic, as well as choosing supervisors from inside and outside the Sultanate of Oman. This is considered one of the most difficult stages of a PhD, as it takes a long time.

Naef Ghanim Al Muati - IT Instructor

Area of Study: E-learning

The area of study for this research revolves around the optimization of E-learning systems.

What Motivated You:

The motivation to pursue a PhD stems from a deep-seated passion for advancing knowledge in a specific field and contributing to the broader academic community. I wanted to understand complex phenomena, engage in critical thinking, and develop advanced research skills. It's also a chance for personal and professional growth.

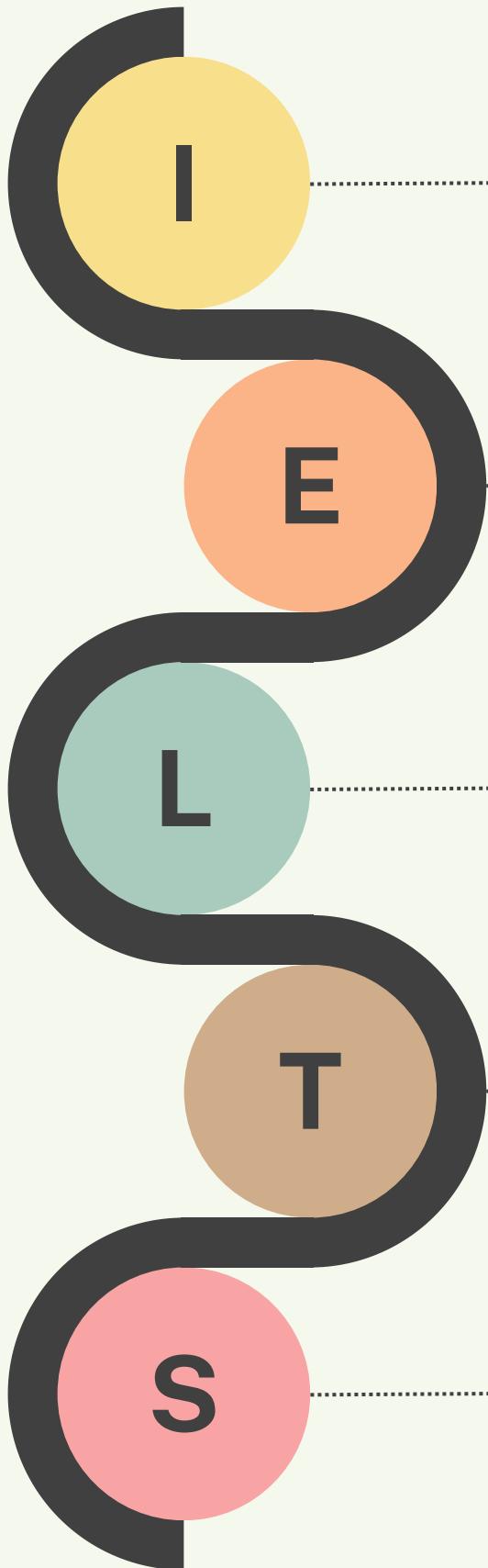
Most Rewarding Part So Far:

One of the most rewarding aspects of the PhD journey is the continual process of intellectual discovery and the ability to contribute original insights to the academic community. Furthermore, the opportunity to collaborate with mentors, fellow researchers, and contribute to conferences and publications adds to an overall sense of achievement.



IELTS

TEACHER TRAINING COURSE



IELTS CERTIFICATION

Training was provided by British Council in two 30-hour sessions for teachers looking to improve their IELTS teaching skills. Teachers shared their feedback of the program and its benefits:

-OZLEM ISLER

"Studying with colleagues helped us engage in meaningful discussions, exchange ideas in depth, and foster mutual learning by creating a stronger sense of community."

-EBAA REFAIE

"I thoroughly enjoyed the Zoom room discussions and demo classes, which offered me invaluable opportunities to absorb insights from my colleagues' experiences and innovative ideas."

-MILLIE PAULOSE

"The IELTS cohort has enhanced my expertise in teaching and preparing students for the exam, equipping me with valuable techniques and resources for effective instruction."

-THANGADURAI

"Thanks to the FP Management! It enhanced my understanding and approach towards IELTS exam and teaching techniques, boosting my confidence with a professional touch."



Empowering



LEARNING

01



The rationale

In Foundation Program, we have students from diverse educational backgrounds and their language abilities are affected accordingly. While most students are ready to start their learning journey, others struggle because they need more support to improve their English proficiency to catch up with their peers.

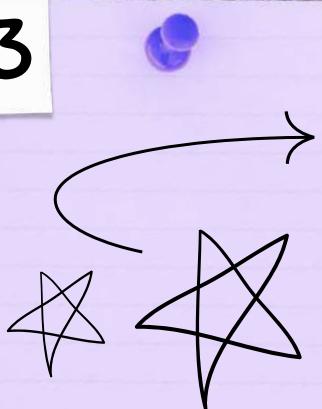
The process

For this reason, with the approval and guidance of FP Director, Dr. Moosa Ahmed Ali Sulaiman, Dr. Ramadevi and Ozlem Isler crafted a program in Level 1, Section 1 (Term 2) that met the students where they are while ensuring that the program is in alignment with the course's learning outcomes.

02



03



The outcome

We wanted this personalized journey to not only improve their confidence, but also sharpen their communicative skills. It is also proof for students that with time, a tailored method, and commitment to hard work, they can have genuine learning opportunities and become more empowered to embrace education.

