



RESEARCH

Quarterly Newsletter
June 2011



Office of the Vice President for Research

Strengthening the foundations of research at KU

June 2011 Highlights

Events, Activities, Happenings...

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Faculty	Unfunded Research Publications
Faculty A	11
Faculty B	11
Faculty C	11
Faculty D	11
Faculty E	11
Faculty F	11
Faculty G	11
Faculty H	11
Faculty I	11
Faculty J	11
Faculty K	11
Faculty L	11
Faculty M	11
Faculty N	11
Faculty O	11
Faculty P	11
Faculty Q	11
Faculty R	11
Faculty S	11
Faculty T	11
Faculty U	11
Faculty V	11
Faculty W	11
Faculty X	11
Faculty Y	11
Faculty Z	11
Total	201

Unfunded Research
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RIG Session
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Faculty Visits
(Arts, Business Administration, Education, Law, Sharia and Social Sciences)
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Workshop
Scientific Writing & Publishing...
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K u w a i t U n i v e r s i t y

Working towards building a solid foundation of research at Kuwait University..!

It is nearly three months ago that I had the honor of assuming the responsibilities of Kuwait University's research sector, as Vice President for Research, with a commitment to carry forward the mission of developing institutional research towards new levels of growth, qualitative improvements and scientific recognition. This mission entails sustenance of established programs to facilitate faculties in pursuing their respective research goals and priorities in an environment that energizes their research performance, and nurtures their innovative, inventive and creative powers. In this endeavor, the Office of Vice President for Research (OVPR) would continue to facilitate researchers in implementing their research objectives, through procedures and processes that are compliant, and enhance mutual bonds of confidence, as a team, for developing an aptitude of high quality research to generate outputs of scientific significance and impact.

As we proceed, it would be our prerogative to review and refine procedures that ease research implementation,

boost faculties research participation and performance, and accord recognition to outstanding research accomplishments through the provision of awards, incentives, and rewards. We anticipate faculties encouraging response in addressing priorities and issues of national, regional and global relevance, alongside our efforts in developing areas of research strengths, building partnerships, and enhancing indigenous R & D capabilities through collaborations and alliances.

Our focus would also be on developing KU scientific journals, raising the quality and content of published research through joint coordination of chief editors of various journals, to evolve a strategy for elevating the international stature of KU journals. Increased ▶



Prof. Hasan Al-Sanad

RA takes preliminary step towards exploring the dimensions of unfunded research activity at KU

During March 2011, the Research Administration took a preliminary step towards exploring the dimensions of unfunded research activity at Kuwait University, by inviting faculties to provide empirical information on faculty members unfunded research. This move was transpired by the compelling need to present a complete and comprehensive outlook of institutional research, where unfunded research could effectively complement faculties research performance alongside the established system of funded research.

This purpose required assembling factual data on the extent of faculty members participation and performance both in funded and

Efforts aimed at generating facts & figures on institutional research

unfunded research activity by way of projects and publications, to generate explicit facts and figures on institutional research. While, statistics on funded research has always been readily available through RA's database system, KURA, the parallel channel of unfunded research has virtually remained unaccounted for, an unmeasured domain, crucially affecting exact presentation of KU

research. RA's efforts are precisely aimed at bridging this information gap, by gathering first-hand information on unfunded research directly from the faculties, for which communications have been sent to all faculties.

Already this initiative has begun generating a favorable response, with data-inflow from several faculties and departments. So far, RA has received vital information approximating two years (2009/10, 2010/11) of unfunded research activity, resulting in the generation of 337 published papers (Table 1). While, unfunded research data has been received from ten faculties and 47 departments, RA is awaiting response (Contd. P.3... ▶)

collaboration is also envisaged between the Academic Publication Council, Center for Gulf & Arabian Peninsula Studies, and Center for Strategic & Futuristic Studies, as well as the Authorship, Translation & Publication Committee, for addressing emerging regional challenges and concerns.

While our immediate focus would remain on overseeing the implementation and effectiveness of current programs, priorities and developmental goals, we are open to assimilate new ideas of potential significance for advancing research. We are already enhancing our contacts and interaction with the faculties through personalized visits, to strengthen connectivity and coordination, and soliciting views and ideas that could expedite scientific development. A new initiative has also been taken to explore and unveil the enormous unfunded research activity going on across faculties that has remained unmeasured, affecting a complete and comprehensive outlook of KU research based on effective combining of the twin domains of funded and unfunded research. A session on Research Initiation Grants (RIG) has also been recently held for orienting new faculty members, joining various faculties and departments, to enormous opportunities and facilities available for pursuing scientific research at KU, and how they can take advantage of RIG grants

to initiate their research participation. Our Office of External Research Collaboration has been energized with the appointment of Dr. Obaid Al-Otaibi, and the process of contacts and communication for scientific collaboration with external institutions has been initiated. The efforts of our Patents Office has effectively culminated in achieving three US registered patents, two granted to Dr. Tareq Abduljalil Albahri, and one to Dr. Ozgur Sinanoglu, for their respective inventions. While, a two-day workshop on principles of Scientific Writing and Publishing was successfully organized for the benefit of faculty members.

At this juncture, we are streamlining research procedures to facilitate researchers, and exploring new avenues and possibilities of growth. Our progress ahead would, therefore, lay the grounds for our future strategy, geared to elevating Kuwait University's standing among the league of distinguished universities on the strength of its scientific accomplishments, caliber and recognition. It is with this ultimate purpose, that I look forward to faculties active involvement in research, so that together we could build a solid foundation of research at Kuwait University at par with global standards.

Prof. Hasan Al-Sanad
Vice President for Research

► *Unfunded research activity...(From P.2)*

from other faculties, which is bound to further boost these figures. The currently available statistics, however, provide advanced indications of a parallel stream of research activity flourishing across faculties, with published output exhibiting measurable quality standards, a fact that is being given due recognition by RA with unfunded research productivity being an equal competitor for incentive rewards, instituted by RA. Since April 2010, as many as 29 recipients have been nominated for the incentive rewards based on high quality published research from unfunded projects, which is a significant attribution to high quality expectations from faculties. Presently, RA is standing at the threshold of a significant breakthrough in mapping the entire ramifications of scientific research activity at Kuwait University,

which would effectively combine the twin domains of funded and unfunded research, for an integrated outlook on KU research. This would hopefully, open new channels for scientific advancement at Kuwait University, and effectively

Faculty Responses on Unfunded Research	
Faculty	Unfunded Research Publications
Allied Health Sciences (4)	21
Arts (5)	5
Business Administration (6)*	1
Dentistry (5)	-
Education (4)*	7
Engineering and Petroleum(8)*	71
Law (4)*	5
Medicine (14)	152
Pharmacy (4)	26
Science (6)**	9
Sharia (4)*	-
Social Sciences (5)*	-
Women (5)*	40
Tentative Total	337

* Data awaited from Concerned Faculty /Department(s)

** Response received from Computer Science Department.

lay the basis for envisioning new strategies towards elevating the status of KU research to international standards of credibility.

Six projects provide the framework of Government approved Plan for developing KU Research Sector

RA records measureable progress in implementing phased activities towards accomplishing the *developmental goals* earmarked for academic year 2010/11

The development of KU's research sector, as integrated within the broad framework of Government approved plan, provided the basis for a planned strategy for developing institutional research over the next four years (2010/11 - 2013/14), with immediate priorities outlined for 2010/11. These priorities critically focused on six-major programs, with clearly defined activity spheres that required the accomplishment of the following goals (a to f):

RA eyes rapid and sustained development to put institutional research sector firmly on the path to progress..!

in the overall government approved plan. Although, it is still early for any

grant for boosting its equipment assets by acquiring "high vacuum evaporation coating system" for semiconductor lab, as well as "Automatic Force Microscope" with scanning microwave microscopy option for nanotechnology research. The faculty of Science also acquired "Single Crystal X-Ray Crystallography System," and "Monochromatic XPS" instrument for advanced research in nanophysics, under the RA's General Facility umbrella.

- a. *Developing distinguished researchers database at Kuwait University.*
- b. *Enhancing & developing research infrastructure at Kuwait University.*
- c. *Encouraging priority research projects.*
- d. *Building research alliances/partnership and cooperation with universities and research centers nationally and internationally.*
- e. *Investing research outputs and overseeing their marketing.*
- f. *Developing KU scientific (APC) journals.*

These defined goals set the momentum for RA in overseeing the phased implementation of an activity schedule that would put the institutional research sector firmly on the path to progress.

The onset of the academic year 2010/11 thus critically involved RA in committing its resources and facilities for rapid and sustained development in the projected areas, so that requirements of outlined goals could essentially be met, as specified

substantial gains to be enlisted half-way through the current academic year 2010/11, since the start of the implementation process in October 2010, RA did make tangible advances and progress on several fronts, especially in infrastructural enhancement by rendering steady and sustained support to faculties in meeting their resource development through General Facility projects.

Consequently, the faculty of Engineering & Petroleum availed this

RA also endeavored to promote the pursuit of high quality research across faculties through its well established system of research support, with reassuring progress observed in advancing the spectrum of Priority Research projects, Graduate students research projects, and Research Initiation Grants (RIG). The continuous availability of funds for the sustenance of projects in these categories was assured by RA as a commitment to meet the developmental goals, with the grant awards providing an encouraging outlook registering 10 Priority projects, 53 Graduate projects and 23 RIG projects that were actively being pursued and ongoing by April 2011.

On the partnership front, RA continued to pursue the policy of collaboration with external institutions and sectors for enhancing its R & D potential and capabilities through alliances and linkages, for furthering the sustenance (**Contd. P.25...▶**)

Patent registration requests reach 46 by April 2011

Two KU faculty researchers recently granted US Registered Patents for their inventions

In a breakthrough news, the Patent Office at RA recently announced the grant of *three US Registered Patents* to Kuwait University faculty members, two of which were granted to *Dr. Tareq Abduljalil Albahri* from the Faculty of Engineering & Petroleum, and one to *Dr. Ozgur Sinanoglu*, formerly from the Faculty of Science. The patents rights achieved by these inventors, prevents all others from *making, using, or selling* these inventions throughout US, including their *importation*, as per the terms communicated by United States Patent and Trademark Office. Dr. Tareq was granted the first Patent for his invention concerning "*High Speed Flatbed Scanner Comp-rising Digital Image-Capture Module with Two-Dimensional Optical Image Photo-Sensor or Digital Camera*" (Patent No.: US 7,843,611 B2, dated Nov. 30, 2010), and the second for having invented the "*Anti Security System for Manhole Covers*" (Patent No: US 7,889,079 B2, dated Feb. 15, 2011). Dr Ozgur's invention concerns "*Circuit for Boosting Encoding Capabilities of Test Stimulus Decompressors*" (Patent No: US 7,930,607 B2, dated April 19, 2011).

These inventions critically reflect on the quality of research at Kuwait University, demonstrating as to how the faculties *innovative and original research* could lead to scientific discoveries of international significance and utility value. It is largely in this context that the activities and services rendered by the Patent Office

assume significance, when, in response to researchers needs, the Office of the Vice President for Research, instituted a system and mechanism for safeguarding the researchers *intellectual property rights, inventions*



Dr. Tareq Abduljalil Al-Bahri



Dr. Ozgur Sinanoglu

Researchers increasingly seeking the Patents protective cover for safeguarding their intellectual property, inventions and discoveries

and *discoveries* through the legitimate process of patents registration.

These facilities were provided with the establishment of the Patent Office within OVRP nearly six years ago, in response to the University Decree No. 886, dated April 30, 2005, opening the door for faculties to submit applications for requisite processing concerning the registration of their patentable discoveries.

The patent's office started functioning in May 2005, and its earliest applicants were two requests for patents' registration, received from the Faculties of *Pharmacy* and *Business Administration*, respectively. The office developed

specific guidelines, procedures and legislative framework for streamlining unified services and review process to facilitate researchers in safeguarding their *intellectual property rights* and products of research through a standardized system. These guidelines, procedures and legalities concerning researchers rights and obligations were documented as articles, with RA releasing an updated guide on *Intellectual Property Rights and Patents Registration by-laws* in 2009, presenting explicit information to researchers on matters concerning the registration of their inventions and intellectual property.

The Patent Office has continued receiving applications since its establishment, with 19 applications received in 2006, which increased to 34 in 2007/08, 44 in 2009/10, and 46 up to April 2011. These figures signify the faculties increased interest and vitality in protecting their intellectual property through valid registration of their scientific inventions. The patent applications and requests received by the office are subjected to initial processing that includes primary research and technical checks. **(Contd. P.29... ▶)**

Special Orientation Session on RIG Grants held on April 27, 2011

RA introduces new Kuwaiti faculty members to prevailing scientific environment at KU, and opportunities for pursuing research through the Research Support system

The Research Administration organized a special orientation session on Research Initiation Grants (RIG), on April 27, 2011, for introducing new Kuwaiti faculty members, joining various faculties and departments at the Assistant Professor level, to the prevailing scientific environment at Kuwait University and opportunities for pursuing scientific research through the RA's Research Support System. The session organized by the Vice President for Research, Prof. Hasan Al-Sanad, involved visual presentations by the Assts. Vice Presidents, Prof. Haitham Lababidi, Prof. Nejib Smaoui, and Dr. Obaid Al-Otaibi, outlining the research programs, grants process, funding support and facilities available for pursuing research under nine distinct categories, including the Research Initiation Grants (RIG). The RIG grants were specifically aimed at new Kuwaiti faculty members, to facilitate their entry into KU research programs as active participants, and using these grants as a stepping stone towards more advanced and comprehensive research in basic, applied and humanities sciences.

The session outlined the research review, refereeing, and reporting process associated with the projects awarded to faculty members, along with provision of advanced equipment, technology and infrastructural resources facilitating project implementation. Information was also provided on collaborative research with external institutions and private sector, and facilities for registering research inventions, marketing of research outputs and protecting researchers intellectual property rights through the Patent Office, while matters concerning

technology transfer and research awareness were overseen by the Research Services Unit. The RIG orientation session was attended by 26 new Kuwaiti faculty members, who acquired first



▲ *RIG session in progress...*

Research Initiation Grants proving an effective platform for advanced, more comprehensive research

hand information on KU's research policy, programs, financial, purchase and processing regulations governing research awards. In addition, specific conditions and guidelines concerning RIG grants were explained, including eligibility criteria, project duration, budgetary limitations, and mandatory submission of final report on project completion.

The participants were also informed about the requirement of submitting RIG proposals on special application forms, available on OVPR/RA websites (<http://www.ovpr.kuniv.edu>) and (<http://www.ovpr.kuniv.edu/research>), and their queries were addressed during an interactive question-answer phase that followed the session.

In retrospect, RA instituted RIG grants nearly eight years ago, in 2003/04. Since then, a total of 217 new Kuwaiti faculty members have availed this facility through approved projects. Of these, 152 projects have been successfully completed, 23 projects have been approved and ongoing, 37 projects have been terminated due to non-submission of project final report, and 5 additional projects have been cancelled. Of the successfully completed projects, 77 researchers have moved on to participate in mainstream research by applying for grants under other categories as PIs, and 23 researchers have joined other research projects as CoIs. This is a significant development, demonstrating how RA's RIG grants are providing an effective platform to new faculty members for participating in KU research activity, and using this initial grant for pursuing more comprehensive and advanced research. This indeed is the fundamental objective that RA's is aiming to achieve through the provision of its RIG grants category.

The RIG orientation session was held at the Conference hall, Office of KU Secretary General, Khalidiya, at 12.30 pm. □

RA invites faculties to avail General Facility Grants to develop infrastructure for high quality research

RA initiates and accomplishes Faculty Visits to six colleges, generating wide-ranging responses on research procedures and activity



▲ Law



▲ Business Administration



▲ Sharia

Continuing its policy of direct communication with the faculties to listen, improve and enhance institutional research, the Research Administration initiated the faculty visits activity, covering six faculties within a short span of two months, from April 4 through May 17, 2011. The scheduled visits were accomplished to the faculties of Education (April 4), Business Administration (April 11), Sharia & Islamic Studies (April 18), Law (April 25), Arts (May 2) and Social Sciences (May 17), generating wide-ranging responses, ideas and concerns on issues of direct relevance

and significance to respective faculties, critically reflecting on the level of their research participation and performance.

The humanities faculties welcomed and appreciated RA's initiative of personalized visits, creating a receptive environment of interaction, confidence-building, and sharing of views as a strategy to develop KU research sector. The individualized visits led to faculty-RA interac-

tion largely centering on discussions concerning research-related matters, grant procedures, issues that affected project implementation, suggestions that required consideration and ideas that could bolster research activity. The meetings provided a unique op-



RA Executive Panel

Visits aimed at creating a receptive environment of interaction, communication and confidence-building as a strategy to address issues and advance institutional research

portunity to researchers to voice their opinions and concerns as regards research matters, and the problems they encountered in implementing projects.

Invariably, the biggest bottleneck encountered by researchers appeared to be administrative and financial dealings concerning research, which delayed timely execution of projects. In fact, this area appeared to be the biggest cause of concern among most faculties, and despite RA's ef-

forts to address this issue, the problem has continued to persist. The faculties were informed that administrative and financial aspects of research was an area beyond RA's jurisdiction due to Ministry of Finance mandatory regulations, however, RA was alert to this issue, and reassured faculties that steps were being explored for appropriate researcher-friendly possibilities to resolve and smoothen the bottlenecks in close coordination with concerned administrative and financial affairs.

Several faculties surprisingly exhibited lack of information on current rules & regulations governing grant awards, despite RA's efforts to promote awareness of research support rules and regulations by organizing an exclusive workshop as early as April 19, 2009, to disperse latest information on research support system, carrying a feature in OVPR Research Bulletin of July 2009, and posting the e-manual on RA's website for researchers individualized access through the portal facility during March 2011. **(Contd. P.23...▶)**

71.4% of published papers in ranked journals a reassuring trend

RA analyzes 11 years of published research from funded projects reflecting on prevailing quality standards in KU research

In a first initiative of its kind, the Research Administration (RA) analyzed 11 years (2000-2010) of available data on published papers generated from funded research, to provide analytical insights into prevailing quality standards in faculty publications at Kuwait University (KU). Essentially, the objective was to determine how far the quality factor dominated the faculties choice of journals for publishing their research results, and whether any quality improvements could be observed in faculty research over the last 11 years for predicting quality trends in KU research.

The analysis was based on requisite information on faculty publications gathered from RA's centralized database (KURA) that maintains authentic information on research projects and publications. Our analysis was focused on faculties research papers from funded projects, published in various scientific journals. These were viewed by examining the specific journals' standing vis-a-vis the Journal Citations Report (JCR), an internationally recognized standard and determinant of quality for scientific disciplines. However, such a defining standard for arts and humanities disciplines is currently unavailable that could appropriately reflect on research quality in humanities streams. In addition, there does exist a

parallel range of prestigious journals in several scientific streams, which could equally competitively be used as meaningful quality indicators for

Table1. 11 Years of Published Research by Faculty, Year & Impact Factor (2000 - 2010)

Faculty	IF*	CALENDAR YEAR										Total	
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009		2010
Allied Health Sciences @	Q1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	1	1	2	10 (20.4%)
	Q2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	2	5	12 (24.5%)
	Q3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	7 (14.3%)
	Q4	2	1	2	3	1	-	1	2	3	-	1	16 (32.6%)
	NIF	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	4 (8.2%)
T**	3	3	2	4	1	1	6	6	8	5	10	49 (100%)	
Arts @	Q1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 (1.4%)
	Q4	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 (5.4%)
	NIF	11	10	22	3	4	4	4	4	4	1	2	69 (93.2%)
T**	13	12	22	3	5	4	4	4	4	1	2	74 (100%)	
Business Administration @	Q1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q3	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	4 (5.7%)
	Q4	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3 (4.3%)
	NIF	11	7	11	8	4	7	4	5	3	1	2	63 (90.0%)
T**	12	8	12	8	4	8	6	5	3	2	2	70 (100%)	
Dentistry @	Q1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	1	-	6 (12.0%)
	Q2	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	4	-	1	-	8 (16.0%)
	Q3	-	-	-	1	1	5	2	1	1	3	4	18 (36.0%)
	Q4	-	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	-	-	-	10 (20.0%)
	NIF	-	-	1	1	-	1	3	-	-	2	-	8 (16.0%)
T**	-	1	2	5	3	9	11	7	1	7	4	50 (100%)	
Education @	Q1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1 (2.8%)
	Q3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NIF	4	5	9	3	2	5	3	2	1	-	1	35 (97.2%)
T**	4	5	9	3	2	5	4	2	1	-	1	36 (100%)	
Eng. & Petroleum @	Q1	3	11	4	5	7	3	8	5	7	6	2	61 (20.9%)
	Q2	10	10	11	12	5	4	8	4	3	5	3	75 (25.7%)
	Q3	6	3	4	2	4	4	3	3	7	4	1	41 (14.0%)
	Q4	5	3	7	5	9	8	6	1	6	4	2	56 (19.2%)
	NIF	4	3	4	1	9	10	8	9	7	1	3	59 (20.2%)
T**	28	30	30	25	34	29	33	22	30	20	11	292 (100%)	
Law @	Q1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NIF	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 (100%)
T**	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 (100%)	

Statistics provide *first glimpses* of faculty research published in journals with impact factor

► published research. The current analysis of KU published research is based on the widely applied JCR quality index. In statistical terms, the faculties productivity over 11 years resulted in the generation of 1912 published papers from funded projects. Of these, 1365 (71.4%) papers were published in journals with ranking status varying between Q1 & Q4 journals, i.e. those

Analysis unveils a 'changing climate' in favor of quality in faculty research

Faculty	IF*	CALENDAR YEAR											Total	
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010		
Medicine	Q1	13	13	14	8	4	4	5	2	1	5	-	69	(15.1%)
	Q2	16	13	14	14	13	11	8	10	7	9	4	119	(26.1%)
	Q3	11	9	20	12	6	21	4	12	8	15	14	132	(29.0%)
	Q4	8	18	9	11	10	5	5	9	9	3	3	90	(19.7%)
@	NIF	7	4	2	3	8	6	4	1	1	4	6	46	(10.1%)
	T**	55	57	59	48	41	47	26	34	26	36	27	456	(100%)
Pharmacy	Q1	1	2	1	5	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	13	(19.4%)
	Q2	4	3	5	1	1	3	4	2	1	4	2	30	(44.8%)
	Q3	1	1	1	1	-	1	3	-	2	-	1	11	(16.4%)
	Q4	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	8	(11.9%)
@	NIF	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	1	-	5	(7.5%)
	T**	8	8	7	7	3	6	7	2	8	8	3	67	(100%)
Science	Q1	5	14	8	10	12	12	7	10	10	16	4	108	(16.3%)
	Q2	7	17	16	8	9	16	12	15	21	14	12	147	(22.2%)
	Q3	21	17	11	12	12	10	14	24	23	15	18	177	(26.7%)
	Q4	11	14	11	6	6	6	12	8	7	6	2	89	(13.5%)
@	NIF	9	21	14	11	14	17	18	6	12	5	14	141	(21.3%)
	T**	53	83	60	47	53	61	63	63	73	56	50	662	(100%)
Sharia	Q1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
@	NIF	10	8	14	6	1	4	1	4	2	-	1	51	(100%)
	T**	10	8	14	6	1	4	1	4	2	-	1	51	(100%)
Social Sciences	Q1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	(1.2%)
	Q2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	(1.2%)
	Q3	-	-	5	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	8	(9.4%)
	Q4	-	-	-	4	4	5	4	-	1	2	-	20	(23.5%)
@	NIF	2	1	5	5	8	5	13	6	5	1	4	55	(64.7%)
	T**	2	1	10	10	14	10	19	6	6	3	4	85	(100%)
Women	Q1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	(18.7%)
	Q2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Q3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	(12.5%)
	Q4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	4	(25.0%)
@	NIF	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	2	7	(43.8%)	
	T**	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	2	4	16	(100%)	
PG		-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Grand Total		189	216	228	168	161	184	180	159	168	140	119	1912	

Q1: Top 1 - 25% of the journals with impact factor ranked in accordance to the JCR in the discipline of the candidate.
 Q2: Top 26 - 50% of the journals with impact factor ranked in accordance to the JCR in the discipline of the candidate.
 Q3: Top 51 - 75% of the journals with impact factor ranked in accordance to the JCR in the discipline of the candidate.
 Q4: Top 76 - 100% of the journals with impact factor ranked in accordance to the JCR in the discipline of the candidate.

* IF - Impact Factor

@ NIF - No Impact Factor Publications

** T - Total (Including refereed papers with no impact, and unrefereed publications).

*** PG - Postgraduate Studies

journals whose standing ranged from *highly rated journals* to those with *medium* or *low* ranking status. In addition, 547 (28.6%) papers were published in refereed journals that had no impact factor, or were unrefereed journals, or appeared as other publications (*books, chapters in books or reports, etc.*). Examining the faculty-wise distribution of published research (Table 1), Science faculty had the highest published output with 662 (34.6%) papers, followed by Medicine with 456 (23.9%) papers, Engineering & Petroleum with 292 (15.3%) papers, Social Sciences 85 (4.5%) papers, Arts 74 (3.9%) papers, Business Administration 70 (3.7%), Pharmacy 67 (3.5%), Sharia 51 (2.7%), Dentistry 50 (2.6%), Allied Health Sciences 49 (2.5%), Education 36 (1.9%), Women's College 16 (0.8%), and Law 2 (0.1%) papers. By and large, most faculties had their publications figuring on the JCR quality index.

The published papers were further analyzed in the context of international standing of the journals, to determine a publication's impact. Consequently, *four parameters* were evolved as (Contd. P.17... ►)

Periodic holding of such workshops recommended for specific needs of sciences and humanities

RA organizes a two-day workshop on Scientific Writing & Publishing

Scientific research and publications being the mainstream of academic advancement, the Research Administration recently organized a two-day workshop dedicated to the principles of scientific writing and publishing with an eye on journals of international repute and standing. This purpose defined the scope of workshop sessions, meant specifically for junior and senior faculty members of Kuwait University, held consecutively on March 30 and 31, 2011, with the Office of Vice President for Research taking the initiative to sensitize faculties to the norms and ethics of high quality publications for elevating the standard of research at Kuwait University.

The effort also signified legitimate compliance to external panel's suggestions, for reaping benefits from expertise and experiences of reputable journals editors' in spurring the process of high quality research at Kuwait University. Consequently, the Scientific Writing & Publishing workshop was held in cooperation with Macmillan Scientific Communications, an exclusive partner of Nature Publishing Group, and was presided by the Vice President for Research, Prof. Hasan Al-Sanad, amidst the distinguished presence of Prof. Abdulatif Al-Bader, President, Kuwait University, and elite gathering of Assts. Vice Presidents, faculty Deans, Vice Deans, professors, academic and research community.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Al-Sanad, welcomed the participants, highlighting the significance of



Broad-based and diversified expertise could spur high quality research

research and value of such events as key imperatives for boosting capabilities, confidence, creativity and climate for high quality research and advancement. The workshops attracted wide participation from faculties, with the first-day event, specifically tailored to the needs of Junior faculty or newly appointed academic staff. This session was largely an introductory series, providing the essential basis and outlook of the process of preparing manuscripts for publication, from getting ready, preparing, progressing and accomplishing scientific papers of acceptable quality, for high ranking journals.

The session's key speaker Dr. Dan Csonotos, Science Editor & Project Manager for Nature Publishing Group, enlightened the participants on the complete publication cycle, involving elements of style and presentation, structural requirements of constructing an appropriate research paper, while cautioning on avoidable pitfalls and unethical susceptibilities, to generate a well-presented thought-process leading

to valid justifications, results and conclusions, and then moving on to selecting the target journal and preparing the manuscript for standard refereeing/review and eventual journal acceptance.

The Second-day session was primarily aimed at seasoned and senior faculty members with substantial accredited research. The key speakers at this session, apart from Dr. Dan Csonotos, included Dr. Nick Campbell, Managing Editor, Nature, who focused on research substance and quality with an appropriate journal in mind. Dwelling at length on a journal's impact factor, he explained the mechanism of research review, revisions, resubmissions and publishing in Nature. Both sessions were well attended, and concluded with an interesting questions/answers round.

At the logistics and scientific levels, the workshop sessions evoked significant response from the faculties, with pre-sessions registration inflow of 90 and 99 registrants, in **(Contd. P.30... ▶)**

Document unveils core information on dominant themes being researched across faculties

RA Carries forward its Annual Sponsored Research Series with the Generation of 2008/09 Edition

Carrying forward its annual documentation of faculty research in published format as Sponsored Research, the Research Administration generated the latest edition of the document, consolidating vital statistics on all ongoing and completed research across faculties during the academic year 2008/09.

Being eighteenth in the series that RA has continued to maintain over two decades of faculty research, this document provides critical insights into broad areas of faculties research interests over periods, phases and time-scales, to reflect on dominant and latest trends broadly prevailing in institutional research, especially in the context of priorities, relevancy and multi-disciplinary efforts. In this process, the latest edition of Sponsored Research profiles wide-ranging and diversified areas currently being researched, exhibiting the faculties heightened interest in pursuing areas of developmental, national and strategic needs. Such priorities are vigorously being promoted by RA to induce relevancy in faculty research, so that institutional research could be geared to finding solutions to problems that confront mankind.

This purpose brings together faculties diverse efforts as core information on dominant themes of research, providing the legitimate substance for a total of 443 projects that were actively being pursued by faculties and graduate students, critically reflecting on the level of faculties cumulative research participation and performance



*Sustained efforts towards
Creating a long-lasting
repository of
institutional
research in an
annual continuum*

during 2008/09. Of the total awards, 316 (71.3%) were ongoing projects, and an additional 127 (28.7%) were completed projects. In terms of faculty and graduate students research, there were 384 (86.7%) faculty projects, and an additional 59 (13.3%) were graduate students grants.

The document aggregates vital information on all newly awarded projects, alongside those continuing from previous year(s) as active projects, in various stages of progress or completion during the year 2008/09, with RA's KURA database providing the source information on faculty research projects. Within the document, the projects are listed by respective faculties and departments, and arranged under specific grant categories, such as Research Initiation Grants (RIG), General Faculty Grants, National/Priority

grants, External grants and Graduate Research grants.

Overall, the entire research activity is organized under three distinct data-sets, pertaining to KU grants, external grants and graduate students grants, defining the framework for scoping the document into three major sections -- Section -I focusing on all KU supported projects awarded to various faculties and departments, Section - II consolidating jointly funded grants in partnership with external institutions, and Section - III presenting graduate students grants.

Statistically, the backbone of RA's research support system crucially rests on KU's funding support that was responsible for sustaining an overwhelming 414 (93.7%) projects during 2008/09, while an additional 29 (6.3%) projects were supported by external grants. Though external participation was relatively small, it denoted a significant contribution in the sustenance of collaborative research, which RA is endeavoring to enhance through appropriate policy, inter-active and supportive measures.

RA's increased emphasis on building alliances is a significant step in this direction so that collaborative research could address those complex issues that need appropriate answers through original, high quality scientific endeavors, whose impact hopefully would become increasingly apparent in the years ahead. Analyzing the available data in terms of faculty-wise comparisons, the **(Contd. P.31...▶)**

Stimulus package a reassuring mechanism for faculties to target high-ranking journals for publishing research results

RA enlists steady growth in research rewards recipients with 47 beneficiaries approved until March 2011

RA's stimulus package continued to show visible gains in the sphere of research publications, with several more researchers joining the excellence ranks by winning the research reward incentives, as per the latest recipients list up to March 2011. The package, instituted last year by RA, has already identified 47 beneficiaries of research reward incentives for meritorious scientific accomplishments from funded and unfunded research, and for scoring excellence in project final report. The winners of the incentive rewards were spread across several faculties, and included Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Engineering & Petroleum, Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, Social sciences and Women's colleges. The steadily growing number of rewards beneficiaries is apparently reinforcing

the virtue of RA's stimulus package as a reassuring motivation in diverting faculties attention towards

Incentives earmarked for distinguished outputs from funded & unfunded research, and for achieving excellence in project final report

the quality factor in their research endeavors. Publishing scientific outputs in high ranking journals is, therefore, emerging as a quality benchmark for researchers to self-assess the significance of their research, encouraging them to opt

for journals which figure high on respective journals' overall ranking status.

For RA, quality index is defining new parameters of rating faculty research for its meritorious standard, and is increasingly proving to be the fundamental driving force in enhancing the quality and impact of faculty research to international standards of credibility. For all practical purposes, RA's quality-boosting mission is slowly but steadily recording an upswing with many more researchers achieving scientific recognition on grounds of their published research in high ranking journals with an impact factor, rated as per the Journal Citation Report (JCR), in

Winners of Incentive Rewards for *Funded* Research

Faculty of Engineering & Petroleum

2011

1. **Al-Awadhi, E:** "Cooling process of water in a horizontal circular enclosure subjected to non-uniform boundary conditions." *Journal of Energy*, January 2011, 36(1), pp. 586-594 (Journal of Energy is listed 3rd out of 49 in Thermodynamics category).
2. **Rahal, K; Rumaih, H:** "Tests on reinforced concrete beams strengthened in shear using near surface mounted CFRP and steel bars." *Journal of Engineering Structures*, 2011, 33, pp. 53-62 (Journal of Engineering Structures is listed 23rd out of 106 in Civil Engineering category).

2010

1. **Ali, S; Al-Rashed O:** *Opportunities for faster carbon dioxide removal: A kinetic study on the blending of methyl monoethanolamine and morpholine with 2-amino-2 methyl-1 -propanol.* *Journal of Separation and Purification Technology*, 2010, Vol. 74 (1): pp.64-72 (Separation and Purification Technology Journal is listed 10th out of 126 in Chemical Engineering).
2. **Almusallam, A:** "Effect of interfacial curvature on the adsorption of copolymer stabilized nanoparticles of different copolymer compositions: A Brownian dynamics study." *Journal of Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics*, 2010, 12, pp. 12198-12207 (Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics Journal is listed 3rd out of 33 in Physics, Atomic Molecular & Chemical category).

Faculty of Medicine

2010

1. **Ezeamuzie, C; Shihab, PK:** "Interactions between Theophylline and Salbutamol on Cytokine release in human monocytes." *Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics*, 2010, Vol. 334, pp. 302-309. (Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental therapeutics is listed 37th out of 237 in Pharmacology and Pharmacy category).

their respective scientific fields. As a result, a whole new perspective is beginning to emerge in RA's efforts to bring about qualitative improvements in faculty research through refining regulatory and assessment procedures, improving services and facilities, encouraging collaborative ventures and global connectivity, offering incentives and rewards, and providing a congenial climate for scientific innovation and creativity. While the net impact of these measures could logically be assessable over a period of time, the quality factor in research is assuming

significance, as evidenced by frequent announcement of new research reward recipients, identified on the basis of their distinguished research, which is a reassuring signal in setting the future directions and quality expectations in institutional research towards elevated standards of international credibility.

Presently, RA's incentives package is accessible to researchers through their high quality research, included in top 25% of highly rated journals, whether generated from funded or unfunded projects. Incentives have

also been instituted for project final report that scores excellent rating. RA started implementing the research rewards incentives from April 1, 2010, and since then, until March 2011, 47 research rewards incentives beneficiaries have been approved by RA, which include 24 recipients for distinguished research from unfunded research, and 14 from funded research. In addition, nine rewards have been approved for Principal Investigators (PIs) who achieved excellence in their respective projects final reports. The research reward beneficiaries under respective categories are listed below:

Faculty of Science

2011

- Moghadam, AR; Kokaj, J; Bumajdad, A:** "The role of MS and MIS devices in characterization of electrodeposited ZnO:Ga films." Journal of the Electrochemical Society, 2011, 158 (2) H 103 – H106. (Journal of the Electrochemical Society is listed 1st out of 17 in Material Science, Coatings & Films category).
- Zaher, A; Abu-Rezq, A:** "A robust hybrid technique of signature verification using intelligent encoding of spatiotemporal data." International Journal of Innovative Computing, Information and Control, 2011, 7 (4) April 2011. (International Journal of Innovative Computing, Information and Control is listed 3rd out of 59 in Automation and Control Systems category).
- Al-Awadhi, N; Ibrahim, YA; John, E; Parveen, A:** "Pyrolysis of 3-hydroxy-2-arylhydrazonoalkanoic acid derivatives." Journal of Tetrahedron, 2011, 67: 1298-1307. (Journal of Tetrahedron is listed 13th out of 57 in Organic Chemistry category).

2010

- Sinanoglu, O; Karaata, M; Al-Bdaiwi, B:** "An inherently stabilizing algorithm for node-to-node routing over all shortest node-disjoint paths in hypercube networks." IEEE Transactions on Computers. July 2010, Vol. 59, No. (7): pp.995-999 (IEEE Transactions on Computers Journal is listed 32nd out of 229, in Electrical and Electronics Engineering subject category).
- Moghadam, R:** "Optoelectronic properties of p-n and p-i-n heterojunction devices prepared by electrodeposition of n-ZnO on p-Si." Journal of Applied Physics, 2010, 108, 094502. (Journal of Applied Physics is listed 24th out of 108 in the Applied Physics category).
- Ibrahim, Y; Al-Azemi, T:** "Sequential Staudinger Ketene-Imine Cycloaddition, RCM Approach to Highly Rigid Macrocyclic Bisazetidines." Journal of Organic Chemistry, 2010, 75, pp. 4508-4513. (Journal of Organic Chemistry is listed 8th out of 57, in Organic Chemistry category).
- Katrib, A; Al-Kharafi, F; Al-Kandari, H:** "Hydroisomerization of n-octane on molybdenum based catalyst." Journal of Applied Catalysis A: General, 2010, 383, pp. 141-148, (Journal of Applied catalysis is listed 18th out of 181, in Environmental Sciences category).
- El-Dusouqui, O; Al-Awadhi, N; Al-Azemi, T:** "Gas-phase pyrolysis of benzimidazole derivatives: Novel route to condense heterocycles." Journal of Tetrahedron, 2010, Vol. 66: pp.4243-4250, (Journal of Applied catalysis is listed 13th out of 57 in Organic Chemistry category).

Faculty for Women

2010

- Al-Dallal, J; Briand, L:** "An object-oriented high-level design-based class cohesion metric." Journal of Information and Software Technology, 2010, Vol. 52: pp. 1346-1361. (Information and Software Technology Journal is listed 19th out of 93 in the Computer Science, Software Engineering category).

(Contd. P.14...▶▶)

Winners of Incentive Rewards for *Unfunded* Research ...(From P.13)

Faculty of Dentistry

2010

1. **Al-Khabbaz, A; Al-Shammari, KF; Al-Saleh, NA:** "Knowledge about the association between periodontal diseases and diabetes mellitus: Contrasting dentists and physicians." *Journal of Periodontology*, 2010, Vol. 82 (3). (*Journal of Periodontology* is listed 14th out of 64 in Oral Surgery and Medical Dentistry category).

Faculty of Engineering & Petroleum

2011

1. **Al-Yaqout, S; El-Sharkawy, A:** "Optimal film shape for two-dimensional slider bearings lubricated with couple stress fluids." *Journal of Tribology International*. 2011, Vol. 44, pp. 336-342. (*Journal of Tribology International* is ranked 15th out of 116 in Mechanical Engineering category).
2. **Assi, C; Faisal, M; Al-Azemi, H:** "Optimal flexible spectrum access in wireless networks with software defined radios." *IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications*. January 2011, Vol. 10(1). (*IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications Journal* is ranked 12th out of 77 in Telecommunications category).
3. **Assi, C; El-Najjar, J; Al-Azemi, H:** "On the interplay between spatial reuse and network coding in wireless networks." *IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications*. February 2011, Vol. 10(2). (*IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications Journal* is ranked 12th out of 77 in Telecommunications category).
4. **Lababidi, H; Chedadeb, D; Riazi, MR; Al-Qattan, A; Al-Adwani, H:** "Prediction of product quality for catalytic hydrocracking of vacuum gas oil." *Journal of Fuel*, 2011, 90: pp. 719-727. (*Fuel Journal* is listed 14th out of 71 in the Energy and Fuels category).

2010

1. **Ghannam, M; Abouelsaood, A; Alomar, A; Poortmans, J:** "Analysis of thin film silicon solar cells with plasma textured front surface and multi-layer porous silicon back reflector", *Solar Energy Materials & Solar Cells* Vol. 94 (2010) 850-856 (*Solar Energy Materials & Solar Cells Journal* is ranked 7th out of 67 in Energy & Fuels subject category).
2. **Nashawi, I S; Malallah, A; Al-Bisharah, M:** "Forecasting world crude oil production using multicyclic Hubbert model", *Energy & Fuels* Vol. 24 (2010) No.3, 1788-1800 (*Energy & Fuels Journal* is ranked 15th out of 67 in Energy & Fuels subject category).
3. **Al-Rifai, M; Hassan, F; Soliman, HM:** "Fault-tolerant stabilization for time-delayed power systems," *International Journal of Innovative Computing, Information & Control*. July 2010, Vol. 6 (7). (*International Journal of Innovative Computing, Information & Control* is ranked 3rd out of 59 in Automation & Control Systems category).
4. **AlMutairi, N; Zribi, M:** "On the sliding mode control of a ball on a beam system." *Journal of Nonlinear Dynamics*, 2010; 59: pp. 221-238 (*Nonlinear Dynamics Journal* is ranked 17th out of 115 in Mechanical Engineering category).
5. **Al-Rifai, M; Zribi, M; Rayan, M; Krishnan, R:** "Speed control of switched reluctance motors taking into account mutual inductances and magnetic saturation effects." *Journal of Energy Conversion and Management*. July 2010; 51(6): 1287-1297. (*Energy Conversion and Management Journal* is ranked 15th out of 123 in Mechanics category).
6. **Hassan, MF; Zribi, M; Tawfik, M:** "State estimation of constrained nonlinear discrete-time dynamical systems." *International Journal of Innovative Computing, Information and Control*, 2010, Vol. 6 (10): pp. 4449-4470. (*International Journal of Innovative Computing, Information and Control* is ranked 3rd out of 59 in Automation and Control Systems category).
7. **Rahal, K:** "Post-cracking shear modulus of reinforced concrete membrane elements." *Journal of Engineering Structures*, 2010, Vol. 32: pp. 218-225. (*Engineering Structures Journal* is ranked 23rd out of 106 in Civil Engineering category).
8. **Ghannam, M; Alomar, A; Poortmans, J; Mertens, R:** "Interpretation of macropore shape transformation in crystalline silicon upon high temperature processing." *Journal of Applied Physics*, 2010, Vol. 108: 074902. (*Journal of Applied Physics* is ranked 24th out of 108 in Applied Physics category).
9. **Salman, A; Ahmad, I; Omran, M; Mohammad, M:** "Frequency assignment problem in satellite communications using differential evolution." *Journal of Computers & Operations Research*, 2010, 37: pp. 2152-2163. (*Computers & Operations Research Journal* is listed 19th out of 95 in Computer Science Interdisciplinary Applications category).

- 10. Mahmoud, SF:** "Wireless transmission in tunnels with non-circular cross section." IEEE Transactions on Antennas and Propagation, Feb. 2010, Vol. 58 (2). (IEEE Transactions on Antennas and Propagation is listed 10th out of 77 in Telecommunications category).

Faculty of Medicine

2011

- 1. Mojiminiyi, O; Diejomaoh, M; Al-Azemi, M:** "Computational Methods are significant determinants of the associations and definitions of insulin resistance using the homeostasis model assessment in women of reproductive age." Journal of Clinical Chemistry, 2011, 57: 2. (Journal of Clinical Chemistry is listed 1st out of 29 in Medical laboratory Technology category).

2010

- 1. Alasfar, F; Liu, R; Sabnis, A; Chand, B:** "Reduction of circular stapler-related wound infection in patients undergoing laparoscopic Roux-en-Y gastric bypass, Cleveland clinic technique." Journal of Obesity Surgery, Feb. 2010, 20(2): pp 168-72. (Journal of Obesity surgery is listed 22nd out of 148 in Surgery category).
- 2. Ezeamuzie, C; Shihab, PK:** "Interactions between Theophylline and Salbutamol on Cytokine release in human monocytes." Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, 2010, Vol. 334, pp. 302-309. (Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental therapeutics is listed 37th out of 237 in Pharmacology and Pharmacy category).

Faculty of Science

2010

- 1. Soroush, H:** "Solving a stochastic single machine problem with initial idle time and quadratic objective." Journal of Computers and operations research, 37(2010): pp. 1328-1347. (Journal of Computers and operations research is listed 8th out of 33 in Engineering, Industrial subject category).
- 2. Manaa, H; Al-Mulla, A; Al-Jamal, N; Al-Dallal S; Al-Alawi, S:** "Optical limiting in hydrogenated amorphous silicon-selenium thin films", Thin Solid Films, Vol. 518 (2010) 3933-3937 (Thin Solid Films Journal is ranked 2nd out of 16 international Journals in the category: Materials Science, Coatings and Films).
- 3. Smaoui, N.; El-Kadri, A.; Zribi, M:** "Nonlinear boundary control of the unforced generalized Korteweg-de Vries-Burgers equation." Journal of Nonlinear Dynamics. 2010; 60: pp. 561-574 (Nonlinear Dynamics Journal is ranked 17th out of 115 in Mechanical Engineering category).

Faculty of Social Sciences

2011

- 1. Abdeen, MM; Abdelghaffar, AA:** "Syn-and-post-accretionary structures in the Neoproterozoic Central Allaqi-Heiani suture zone, Southeastern Egypt." The Journal of Precambrian Research 2011, 185: pp. 95-108. (The journal of Precambrian Research is ranked 9th out of 155 in the Multidisciplinary Geosciences category).

Faculty for Women

2011

- 1. Abdul Salam, H; Skillicorn, DB; Martin, P:** "Classification using streaming random Forest." IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and data engineering, Jan. 2011, Vol. 23 (1). (IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering is listed 24th out of 103 in the Artificial Intelligence Computer Science category).

2011

- 1. Ahmed, F; Khan, MR; Akhtaruzzaman, M; Karim, R; Williams, G; Torlesse, H; Hill, ID; Dalmiya, N; Banu, CP; Nahar, B:** "Long-term intermittent multiple micronutrient supplementation enhances hemoglobin and micronutrient status more than iron-folic acid supplementation in Bangladeshi rural adolescent girls with nutritional anemia." The Journal of Nutrition, October 2010. (Nutrition Journal is ranked 8th out of 66 in the Nutrition & Dietetics category).

Winners of Incentive Rewards for Achieving Excellence in Final Report

Faculty of Allied Health Sciences

2010

- 1. Dashti, A.:** "Molecular Biology Evidence for the Origin "Factor V Leiden Mutation" in Arabs in Kuwait." Final report of Project NM01/06. (Contd. P.25... ▶)

A joint KU/KNPC team to set appropriate mechanism for the submission of proposals

RA receives six-member KNPC delegation, carrying forward the collaborative process with a consensus on joint research in areas of modeling, simulation & control, and catalysis

In continuation of the collaborative process in the spheres of research and technology, a six-member delegation from Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) visited the Office of Vice President for Research (OVPR) on May 23, 2011, where they attended a meeting with the Vice President for Research, Prof. Hasan Al-Sanad, and his Assts. Vice President, Prof. Haitham Lababidi and Dr. Obaid Al-Otaibi. The KNPC delegates included Mr. Ahmad S. Al-Jemaz, Deputy Managing Director, Shuaiba Refinery, Dr Suad Al-Radwan, Technical Coordinator, Center for Research & Technology, Mr. Khaled Al-Mushaileh, Corporate Planning Manager, Mr. Waleed Al-Ghawas, Ag. Manager Technical Services (Shuaiba), Eng. Rashed Al-Fadhli, Team Leader Process Engineering (MAA), Eng. Ahmad Al-Baghli, AG. Team Leader process Engineering (MAB). Also present at the meeting were Prof. Taher Al-Sahhaf, Dean, Engineering & Petroleum faculty, Prof. Nadia Shuaib, Dean, Science faculty, and Prof. Nabil Al-Loughani, Dean, College of Graduate Studies.

Prof. Hasan welcomed the delegates, and underlined the importance of emerging collaboration between Kuwait University (KU) and KNPC, in view of the potential significance of research to both sides, laying the framework for genuine sharing of expertise and resources in advancing research under the collaborative umbrella. The meeting reviewed the

KU to organize an 'Open Day' for KNPC team to visit its general facility labs, resources and infrastructural assets

progress on issues discussed in the earlier meeting, held on Dec. 6, 2010, in a broader perspective, and focused their attention on critical areas of direct significance to both sides. These included *Modeling, Simulation & Control*, and *Catalysis*, where KU harbors significant expertise and capabilities, together with advanced infrastructural facilities. Since these areas were equally significant to KNPC, it was suggested that a technical team from KU and KNPC be formed to study the specific research needs of modeling and simulation, develop the concept, and generate requisite proposal.

Emphasis was also on pursuing research in the area of *catalysis*, specifically for *NOx reduction in burners*, which was equally significant and had ample scope for preparing another project proposal. Energy management was also cited as an area of potential significance, and it was suggested that KNPC identifies additional areas where KU could offer its expertise and help, especially in view of its infrastructural assets,



▲ Meeting in progress at RA with visitings KNPC delegation

an outlook of which could be provided to KNPC team through a presentation, by organizing an 'open day' for taking the team on a tour of KU general facilities at the Engineering and Science faculties in the foreseeable future.

Considering that the collaborative process would require an acceptable mechanism for project submission and review, the matter of procedural implications was discussed, so that an effective system could be in place for handling the requirements of joint research. It was suggested that a joint KU/KNPC team could develop an appropriate mechanism, which could be acceptable to both sides. Both parties also talked about preparing an MOU to be signed between KU and KNPC as a binding agreement for collaboration. As regards postgraduate studies, it was noted (Contd. P.31...▶)

Quality/Impact of Published Research...(From P.9)

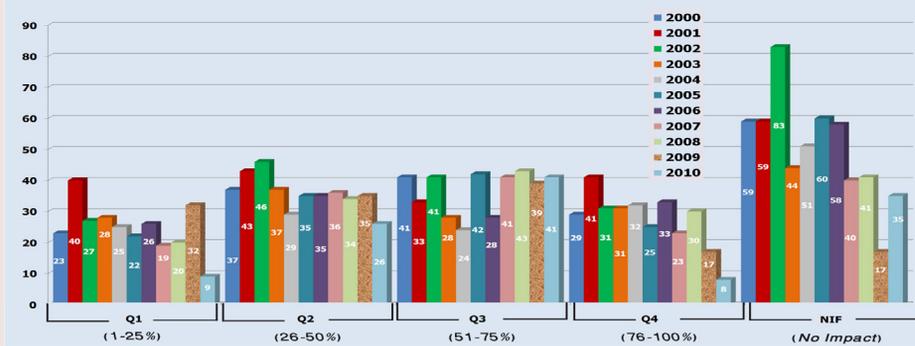
key determinants of quality, with Q1 indicative of top 1-25% of the highly rated journals, Q2 denoting those journals whose standing varied between high to medium (26-50%) range, Q3 for journals with (51-75%) medium to low ranking, and Q4 for journals with low (76-100%) ranking. Faculty publications appearing in any of the Q1 to Q4 journal categories reflected quality levels of published papers and their impact. In addition, several published papers could not appropriately be classified under any of these categories, due to their inclusion in unrefereed journals or those journals that did not figure on JCR ranking index. Focusing on Q1 - Q4 criteria (Table 2), the analysis showed 271 (14.2%) of the faculty publications appearing in top 1-25% of the journals with distinguished impact, followed by 393 (20.5%) publications in Q2 journals of ranking status varying between 26-50%, additional 401 (21%) papers were published in Q3 or medium range journals of 51-75% ranking, and 300 (15.7%) papers figured in Q4 or the lowest ranked journals of 76-100% impact. Combining the Q1 - Q2 quality factor, as many as 664 (34.7%) published papers were included in top 1-50% of the journals with significant impact, and 701 (36.7%) publications appeared in Q3-Q4 category of medium to low ranking (51-100%) journals.

Overall, the quality papers (Q1-Q4) with differing ranking levels amounted to 71.4% of the published output from KU funded research over the last 11 years. By comparison, the percentage of other refereed and non-refereed papers was 28.6% of faculties additional published output from funded research, which indicated that the journals of 'no impact' were gradually losing ground in faculties' preferences, signaling a changing climate in faculty research. This further showed an increasing consciousness emerging among faculties to target top-ranking journals to be the journals of choice for publishing their research outputs. This indeed is a significant

Table 2. 11 Years of Faculty Published Papers by Year & Impact / No Impact Factor (2000 - 2010)

Impact Factor	CALENDAR YEAR											Total	
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010		
Q1	%	12.2	18.5	12.0	16.7	15.5	12.0	14.4	11.9	11.9	22.9	7.5	14.2
	N	(23)	(40)	(27)	(28)	(25)	(22)	(26)	(19)	(20)	(32)	(9)	(271)
Q2	%	19.6	20.0	20.1	22.0	18.0	19.0	19.5	22.6	20.2	25.0	21.9	20.5
	N	(37)	(43)	(46)	(37)	(29)	(35)	(35)	(36)	(34)	(35)	(26)	(393)
Q3	%	21.7	15.2	18.0	16.7	15.0	22.8	15.6	25.8	25.6	27.9	34.5	21
	N	(41)	(33)	(41)	(28)	(24)	(42)	(28)	(41)	(43)	(39)	(41)	(401)
Q4	%	15.3	19.0	13.5	18.4	19.9	13.6	18.3	14.5	17.9	12.1	6.7	15.7
	N	(29)	(41)	(31)	(31)	(32)	(25)	(33)	(23)	(30)	(17)	(8)	(300)
NIF*	%	31.2	27.3	36.4	26.2	31.6	32.6	32.2	25.2	24.4	12.1	29.4	28.6
	N	(59)	(59)	(83)	(44)	(51)	(60)	(58)	(40)	(41)	(17)	(35)	(547)
Total	N	189	216	228	168	161	184	180	159	168	140	119	1912

Q1: Top 1 - 25% of the journals with impact factor ranked in accordance to the JCR in the discipline of the candidate.
 Q2: Top 26 - 50% of the journals with impact factor ranked in accordance to the JCR in the discipline of the candidate.
 Q3: Top 51 - 75% of the journals with impact factor ranked in accordance to the JCR in the discipline of the candidate.
 Q4: Top 76 - 100% of the journals with impact factor ranked in accordance to the JCR in the discipline of the candidate.
 *NIF - No Impact Factor



development in faculty research over the years, especially with figures for published research in top ranking journals 1365 (71.4%) by far superseding the number of publications (547, 28.6%) appearing in journals of "no impact." Since, quality is the ultimate objective,

RA's current policy of encouraging quality in faculty research is gaining momentum, with flexible procedures and incentives aimed at motivating researchers to aim at achieving scientific outputs of international credibility and impact. In this process, RA's current strategy is to be a facilitator for faculties to accomplish high quality research and selecting reputable journals to publish their research outputs. The recent research rewards-incentives package is one such key measure instituted by RA towards elevating the quality of research at KU. RA is also exploring the parallel avenue of unfunded research activity at KU, to determine the actual dimensions of institutional research

activity, with unfunded research being an area virtually remaining unmeasured. The need for this is all the more imperative for providing a complete and extensive view of scientific research at Kuwait University that includes both funded and unfunded domains.

This move critically reflects RA's intent and seriousness in measuring the overall quality of research at KU, and to facilitate researchers in raising the standard of their research input and outputs to international levels of credibility and competitiveness. How far the faculties divert their respective interests in firming the foundation of high quality research at KU hopefully, would be visible in the coming years. For RA it is a mission of extraordinary significance in setting directions in institutional research, and encouraging faculties to develop a natural instinct and aptitude of quality in their research endeavors through their continuous and sustained research performance, centered on achieving scientific distinction. □

RA publications dynamically relaying vital information on KU's scientific advancement for global outreach

OVPR publications an effective via media for uninterrupted transmission of strategic information on institutional research developments

Keeping the scientific community informed and updated on current research policy, programs & priorities remains the prime objective

With the onset of the academic year 2010/2011, the Research Administration rigorously carried forward its publications agenda to meet the pre-defined schedule and line-up of documents that had already entered the stage of advanced production at the time of the release of RA's Annual Report 2009/10 in September 2010, with the documents' production-timing set for the current academic year. This agenda had an inherent vibrancy for the inclusion of serial and new documents, reports, bulletins and manuals based on emerging and future requirements for RA's interim and long-term needs, notwithstanding the time, phases and periods, as the year progresses. The purpose as usual, remained an uninterrupted transmission and flow of strategic research information to keep the faculty scientific community duly informed and updated on latest procedural and policy measures, priorities and programs, including the developmental measures, rewards and awards to encourage faculties in pursuing high quality research, while incorporating the virtues of originality, innovation and creativity in their research endeavors to achieve distinguished results that are scientifically rated as outstanding.

RA's recent thrust in creating a receptive environment for quality endeavors is a distinct measure in



Publications domain a vibrant sphere of intense activity to cater to RA's interim and long-term needs

this direction, where the Research Administration is placing its general facilities provision at the disposal of faculties to acquire enhanced infrastructural resources for complex, advanced and innovative research. Consequently, the establishment of SAF (Science Analytical Facilities) at the Faculty of Science, RCF (Research Core Facilities) at the Health Sciences Center, and ESF (Engineering Scientific Facilities) at the Engineering & Petroleum faculty, are already transforming the research landscape at Kuwait University, through the creation of world-class facilities for clinical, experimental and analytical studies that can boost indigenous capabilities to internationally compatible standards. Several of these resources have already been documented as source publications

to provide first hand reference and descriptive account of the equipment and technology muscle available at various core labs, for the information and benefit of the researchers, while newly acquired facilities are awaiting appropriate documentation, for requisite updates

In addition, RA's production sphere integrated key elements of the grants activity to carry forward the sponsored research series with the documentation of year 2008/09 active and accomplished research by faculties, marking eighteenth year of uninterrupted awards data assembled by the research administration as an annual record of faculty research. This document has already been prepared and earmarked for release. RA also prepared a much larger and special edition of the OVPR Research Newsletter, released in September 2010, presenting a dynamic outlook of KU research sector's accomplishments over the last five years, in addition to newly proposed programs, research rewards recipients, partnerships, grants activity and publications released. A compact

version of newsletter, holding nine previously released issues, from 2006 onwards, was also generated as a handy document to profile integrated view of research sector's developments over the last four years. Measures were also taken to transform the second 2010 edition of the Research Support Rules & Regulations Manual, both English and Arabic versions, into the electronic format, to facilitate online access through the research portal. In addition, the January 2011 edition of the research newsletter is rapidly progressing, as also the nineteenth edition of the Sponsored Research series, aggregating faculty research activity during the academic year 2009/10. Efforts are also aimed at generating the latest policy, programs and profile of the OVPR, together with its integral components of Research Administration (RA), Academic Publication Council (APC), Center for Gulf & Arabian Peninsula Studies (CGAPS) and Center for Strategic & Futuristic Studies (CSFS), as an informative guide in e-format to be released as compact mini CD, as also to accommodate newer demands that surface as unscheduled publications within the pre-defined sphere of publications earmarked for 2010/11.

The overriding purpose, however, would remain extensive dispersal of strategic research information in the form and manner that transmits RA's message, mission, and priorities to the target community. Apart from the extensive domain of RA publications, the periodic generation of scientific journals, documents, magazines, translated material, reports, books and brochures by OVPR's other integral offices, APC, CGAPS and CSFS, are regularly contributing to OVPR's information and reference assets, as source material distributed extensively at the

national, regional and international levels to promote KU's scientific studies and accomplishments. For the readers benefit, an attempt has been made here to profile the most recent publications and releases of all the four OVPR's components (RA, APC, CGAPS, CSFS), since the onset of the current academic year (2010/11).

I. Research Administration (RA) publications

• OVPR Research Newsletter, Volume 11. No. 2-

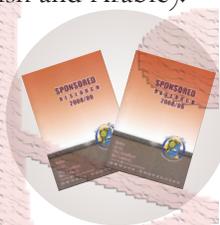
September 2010 Issue -- Released in September 2010, Vol. II. No. 2 issue of the OVPR newsletter was a special edition with a much larger content, scope and coverage, presenting strategic outlook of research sector's accomplishments over the last five years (2005/06 – 2009/10), within the framework of RA's goals, as outlined in the KU's developmental plan up to the year 2025. The proposed establishment of three major programs, Research Chair, Postdoctoral Fellowship, and Endowment Chair at KU were announced, as well as conceptual framework developed for introducing Research Fellowship for undergraduate students in coordination with the deanery of students affairs. The Bulletin also announced the winners of the distinguished and young best researchers awards, graduate students project prize winners, as well as listed recipients of research rewards incentives. News on KU-Boeing collaborative moves for establishing renewable energy center at the Sabah Al-Salem University City at Shadadiya, KU researchers visit to Korean institutions for research collaboration and technology exchange, and a high level KU delegation visiting Qatar University and Research Foundation for scientific coordination, were the

significant highlights included in the bulletin, in addition to expected proposal on KU Research Park at the new campus site at Shadadiya, following the presentation by the Angle delegate. The second edition of the Rules & Regulations manual was released, as also the RA's Annual report for the academic year 2009/10.

The bulletin also listed joint projects in collaboration with external institutions, provided statistical outlook on faculty research activity during the academic year 2009/10, and aggregated vital information on OVPR publications released during the period June to August 2010. The special edition of the newsletter was effectively spread over 72 pages, providing critical insights into the flourishing domain of institutional research strategy, programs and activity, outlining key initiatives and summarizing accomplishments, reflecting the research sector's prevailing dynamism towards uplifting institutional research to internationally compatible standards. For readers information, the September 2010 edition of the OVPR Research Newsletter has been widely circulated, with hard copies available on request, and electronic copy accessible through the OVPR website (<http://www.ovpr.kuniv.edu>). Published (in English and Arabic).

• Sponsored Research 2008/09--

RA's Sponsored Research 2008/09 is eighteenth in the series of annual documentation of faculty research activity during the academic cycle September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2009, aggregating vital data on all ongoing and accomplished research by faculties, and funding source. The document was prepared, published and earmarked for release, providing analytical (Contd. P.20...▶)



OVPR Publications Released...(From.... P.19)

perspective on a total of 443 projects, awarded to faculty researchers (385) and graduate students (58), of which, 128 projects were completed. In terms of funding source, KU was responsible for supporting 414 projects, and external support was claimed by additional 29 projects. Collectively, all grant awards have been organized into three major sections, with Section – I confined to KU sponsored research activity, inclusive of projects granted under various grant categories, Section – II consolidating jointly awarded grants in coordination with external institutions, while Section – III aggregating graduate students awards, pursuing Master’s and doctoral level research. The projects, listed by faculties/ departments, are identifiable by the assigned grant number, with the title reflecting broad trends in faculty research across faculties during 2008/09.

The document also provides vital statistics on faculty research in the form of tables and graphs, appended to the document, as also the researchers index facilitating cross-referencing of active research by individual researchers. Packed with critical information on dynamics of faculty research, Sponsored Research 2008/09 carries forward annual documentation of grants activity, as a vital reference resource, released as critical data asset, annual periodicity of which continues to be maintained by the Research Administration. The document has already been printed, and was released during February/March 2011, access to which is available on OVPR’s website. Published (in English).

• **e-Manual on Research Support Rules & Regulations, 2010** (Second Edition) --

Although, printed version of the updated second edition of the Research Support Rules & Regulations was released in September 2010, its electronic version is now ready for researchers access through the research portal facility. Prepared in e-format, the manual facilitates online browsing of the entire 56 articles, that provide the latest and most current information on grant support procedures and processes, in conformity to new policy reformations, requirements, and guidelines, as well as inclusion of new articles on research rewards and incentives, outlined in the new additional chapter 13 incorporated in the manual, with descriptive account of the eligibility and entitlements of incentives for funded and unfunded research, and for excellent rating in project final report, as specified under Articles 52, 53, 54, 55 and 56 of the manual.

The e-manual structures the entire research support regulatory framework for visual, browsing and online search through clickable access, whether by chapters or by specific articles, based on researchers needs and requirements. Providing an integrated and exhaustive view of the entire procedural implications of the research support system, the e-manual is essentially intended for technology-savvy researchers, to be well informed of dominant procedures that govern and regulate various aspects of the research support process. The e-manual has been prepared in bilingual Arabic/



English formats, and is lined up for release online through the portal facility, for researchers access. Prepared (in English and Arabic).

• **Integrated Edition of OVPR Research Newsletter**

(packaging nine Bulletins –2006/07 to 2009/10) -- Released in September 2010, the integrated edition of the OVPR Research Newsletter, packages nine issues into a single document, providing an exhaustive overview of the research sector’s growth, expansion and development during the period 2006/07 to 2009/10. Presenting an integrated view of the faculty research activity, the document unfolds the prevailing scientific vibrancy in institutional research, creating an unprecedented reservoir of vital information, assembled as analytical reports, features, announcements, agreements, events, and news coverage on aspects of research policy, priorities, partnerships, with consistent and sustained movement towards spreading research culture and improving research quality to attain scientific distinction and visibility, all finding appropriate placement in various editions of the newsletters. The newsletter itself underwent significant transformations in its scope and coverage, registering an exponential growth from a mere 12-page edition in Sept. 2006, to a voluminous 72-page extensive volume in Sept. 2010, to accommodate monumental research information, generated through OVPR’s intense programs, initiatives, developments and long-lasting commitments, collectively providing the backbone of the institutional research process, which is periodically relayed to the wider world through the newsletter’s



platform. The integrated issue of the newsletter was intended as a handy reference for an insight into diverse activities that dominated the research sector's mission and priorities during the last four years, September 2006 through October 2010, with a specially designed cover highlighting its integrated identity, holding together nine issues bound as a single document, and released by OVPR in October 2010. Published (in English and Arabic).

II Academic Publication Council (APC) publications

The Academic Publications Council (APC) has been equally prolific in the production and generation of several scientific journals, the latest editions of which are as follows:

A. Journals released (Latest 2010/11 Issues up to April 2011).

- **Journal of Social Sciences**, Vol. 38, No. 2, 2010 Issue
- **Gulf & Arabian Peninsula Studies**, Vol. 36, No. 139, October 2010.
- **Arab Journal for the Humanities**, Volume 28, No. 110, Spring 2010 Issue.
- **Arab Journal for the Humanities**, Volume 29, No. 113, Winter 2010 Issue.
- **Arab Journal for the Humanities**, Volume 29, No. 114, Spring 2011 Issue.
- **Journal of Sharia & Islamic Studies**, Vol. 25 Issue 82, September 2010.
- **Journal of Sharia & Islamic Studies**, Vol. 25 Issue 83, December 2010.
- **Journal of Education**, Volume 24, Issue No. 96.
- **Arab Journal of Administrative Sciences**, Volume 17, No. 1 Jan. 2010.
- **Arab Journal of Administrative Sciences**, Volume 18, No. 1 Jan. 2011
- **Journal of Law**, Volume 34, Issue No. 4, December 2010.
- **Journal of Law**, Volume 35, Issue No. 1, March 2011.
- **Annals of Arts and Social Sciences**, Volume 31, March 2011

B. Authored/Translated Book(s) (2010)

• **History of the Sunnah and Misconceptions Orientalists** by Dr. Hakem Al

Mutairi, College of Sharia & Islamic Studies, is a study of the history of Sunnah and stages of its connoting, and attention, which was originally a part of the author's PhD study, and which has since been developed as a book, with requisite refinement to meet the requirements of students at Kuwait University, following the selection of the work by the Faculty of Sharia to be given the form of a textbook. The book essentially includes an introduction providing the definition of knowledge of Sunnah history, its importance, and its sources.



Chapter One of the book focuses on stages of caring of Sunnah, and attention by it since the time of the Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) down to modern times: a stage of writing, process of gathering and recording it, to the stage of encyclopedias Hadith. The Second Chapter highlights Misconceptions Orientalists about Sunnah, and discusses the views. The book also includes indices on sources, references and topics. Published (*in Arabic*)

III. Center for Gulf & Arabian Peninsula Studies (CGAPS) publications

The Center for Gulf & Arabian Peninsula Studies (CGAPS) released several publications and periodicals during 2010/11, as listed below:

• **Identity Crisis of Youth in Kuwait University under Current Changes and**



Challenges by Dr. Abdulaziz Ahmed Al-Ahmed addresses the concept of identity, its dimensions and principles. Based on a research study, the author has used descriptive analysis in presenting three dimensions of youth behavior and values concerning self-evaluation, extent of alienation and conflicting values among a sample of students drawn from two institutions – Kuwait University and Public Authority for Applied Education & Training. The study revealed some interesting results in gender response patterns as regards self-esteem and alienation, value-conflicts and personal status, with overall results showing dual positive correlation between the three dimensions. Published (*in Arabic*).

• **Foreign Labor Policies in GCC Countries** by

Abdalraouf Abdalaziz Algaradawi, issued under the umbrella of the Center for Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Series, in July 2010, the study addresses the issue of imbalance in the demographic structure and labor force in the GCC countries. The document reflects on diverse dimensions of national and expatriate labor force, and its impact on social homogeneity, public services, resources and foreign exchange. The focus is also on the failure of replacement policy attributing to unemployment of citizens, the threat to national identity and resultant dependency on foreign labor, and the lack of discipline in the labor market. The redressal of this situation through relevant policies and measures taken by GCC remain yet to be fully realized. Published (*in Arabic*).

(Contd. P.22... ▶)

OVPR Publications Released...(From.... P.21)

• **Social-Economic Status of Al-Hassa Province, 1871 – 1913**



A.D. (1288-1331 H.) by *Hamad Mohammad Al-Qahatani and Prof. Helmy Ahmad Shalabi*, essentially deals with economic and social conditions in Al-Hassa province during the period 1288 – 1331 Hijri/1871-1913 A.D, due to its strategic location in the middle of the west coast of the Arabian Gulf and the economic significance of the province. The study also attempts to fulfill existing gap in historical studies addressing economic and social aspects in view of the importance of the province in the Arab Peninsula, while tracing its historical situations at various phases, times and periods. The province, well known for its crafts, shipbuilding, leathers and textiles witnessed an important role of bedouine women in raising the economic level of their families, in an area characterized by conflicts between tribes, as well as the binding influence of its own customs, traditions and practices. Published (in Arabic).

• **The Record of Current events in the Gulf Region and its Geographic Vicinity**, Vol. 54, April-May-June 2010. Released by the Center for Gulf & Arabian Peninsula Studies, this periodical carries forward the series, documenting current events and happenings in the Gulf Region. This issue is 54 in the series of volumes released so far by CGAPS, with its first volume released in 1997. Published (in Arabic).

IV. Center for Strategic & Futuristic Studies (CSFS) publications

The latest publications released by CSFS during 2010/11 are listed below:

• **The Effect of Economic Diplomacy on “Kuwaiti-Japanese” Relations**



by Dr. Nada Al-Mutawa. Released as a book in August 2010, this document analyzes some of the main elements that influence changes and development of Kuwait's foreign policy, taking into consideration the new diplomatic trend that was launched in 2004, which is the “Economic Diplomacy.” Organized around the economic diplomacy are three events, the strategic shift of Kuwait's foreign policy from being politically oriented to economic diplomacy in 2004, the Asian trip by HRH the Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah in 2004, when he was a prime minister 2004, and Sheikh Nasir Al Sabah, Kuwait's Prime Minister's trip to Japan in 2007, through development of the concepts of diplomacy, and combining economic diplomacy with peaceful activities. The book provides an introductory perspective on the conceptual framework of the economic diplomacy, tracing the historical antecedents and diplomatic representation, and then goes on to explain the strategic changes, security issues and rearrangement of priorities, and in the process formulates an economic oriented strategy towards Asia, with a highlight on year 2007 Kuwaiti-Japanese Declaration, winding up with the lessons learned. Published (in English and Arabic).

• **Socio-Cultural and Legislative Problems of Citizenship and**

Empowerment: The Case of Kuwaiti Women



by Dr. Faris Al-Wgayan, working as Senior

Specialists at the Center for Strategic & Futuristic Studies, effectively examines 10 year census data (1995-2005) on population dynamics as the basis for reflecting on socio-cultural and legislative problems concerning matters of citizenship and empowerment vis-à-vis Kuwaiti women. Published (in Arabic).

Overall, the range and diversity of publications released by OVPR's diverse sectors by far exhibit the prevailing scientific dynamism in institutional research, providing advanced outlook of the sweeping developments outlined in the interim and long-term goals to be realized in the future. Embedded in this dynamism is the vital substance for the sustenance and scoping of major documents, new, emerging, ongoing and serial, incorporating the gross information requirements of the research sector that needs to be transmitted to an expanding community of researchers, scientists, decision-makers, planners, institutions, partners, and global users/browsers.

The constant and continuous need for a variety of documents, encompassing critical and analytical information on institutional research mission, priorities, programs and accomplishments forever keeps RA's publications domain in intense activity, to oversee documents shaping up from raw information to professionally prepared, designed and technically assembled products ▶

► Faculty Visits (Humanities Faculties) ... (From.... P.7)

Nonetheless, RA noted the faculties suggestion in this regard for organizing orientation meetings or workshops on research policy, programs, and awards system governing grants for the benefit of researchers. Issues were also raised on various procedural matters that needed consideration with respect to purchase, petty cash, mission, employment of temporary manpower on projects, and research productivity, which would be duly studied by RA for redressal possibilities.

The specific research requirements of humanities faculties also surfaced during the visits, which required a different approach, especially in redesigning the Research Support Application tailored to humanities needs for the submission of proposals, in view of the nature of humanities research, being different from scientific disciplines. The identification and listing of high quality refereed Arabic Journals was also mentioned as a necessity to facilitate researchers in publishing their research outputs.

RA exhibited receptivity to these issues, with assurance of continuous and sustained efforts in providing improved services and flexible procedures to expedite grant



▲ Arts



▲ Social Sciences

processing, and facilitating research implementation. RA also invited the humanities faculties to build their existing research infrastructure through availing General Facility grants for developing their resource muscle for pursuing high quality research. RA's efforts were also aimed at encouraging faculties to enhance their research participation and diversify their research focus to other specializations and disciplinary streams.

On this positive note, RA completed the first phase of its visits to humanities colleges, and was moving towards the next schedule of its visits to health sciences, sciences, and engineering faculties over the next few weeks. RA anticipates that a successful culmination of this highly rewarding faculty-RA interactive mission would provide deeper insights into various faculties research activity,

and diverse views expressed during the visits would provide ample scope and substance for improving, developing and enhancing institutional research to reach quality levels of international credibility.

The visiting RA team included the Vice President for Research, Prof. Hasan Al-Sanad, and his assistants, Prof. Haitham Lababidi, Prof. Nejb Smaoui and Dr. Obaid Al-Otaibi, along with Mrs. Mariam Shemali, Director, RA. The team held very informative and cordial meetings with respective faculty Deans, Vice Deans for Research, Departmental Research Coordinators, and faculty members, where matters concerning faculty research activity were discussed in an environment that encouraged free flow of ideas, sharing of concerns and raising of issues central to concerned faculties. □

► OVPR Publications Released ... (From.... P.22)

in pre-press formats, ready for mass production, including its printing, delivery and release, a well developed system for which is in place at RA for the rapid generation of strategic publications in quick succession.

Underlying this whole process is a mission of extraordinary importance to relay worldwide

the rapidly advancing sphere of research activity at Kuwait University through the power of publications, in print, visual or electronic forms, critically unfolding Kuwait University's research developments, accomplishments, and R & D potential, for the information and benefit of the global scientific community, to be aware and alert as regards KU's expanding

research horizons, geared to the dictums of quality, collaboration and distinction. This purpose is the critical principle signifying the value and virtue of OVPR's publications, critically driven towards taking the institutional research sector to newer heights of recognition, visibility, and world attention, in a continuous, and long-lasting process of information dispersal, exposure and awareness. □

Websites update integral to Government approved program of projects for fiscal year 2010/2011

APC signs contract for redesigning and developing KU scientific journals websites

On the occasion of signing the contract for redesigning and developing the websites of scientific journals issued by Kuwait University Academic Publication Council, Dr. Ahmad Al-Munayyes, Vice President for Academic Support Services, and acting Vice President for Research, said in a recent press release that the APC continues to strive hard for enhancing its services rendered to researchers and readers, especially technology and technical services concerning scientific publications. Within this framework, the recent contract is primarily aimed at improving and developing the scientific journals, as well as the publications released by the Authorship and Publications Committee through gross reliance on internet

technology to facilitate this purpose. The contract signed with one of the specialized companies is primarily aimed at this purpose for the redesigning and updating of KU scientific journals websites, being integral to the projects of government program, earmarked for the fiscal year 2010/11.

Dr. Al-Munayyes further clarified that the websites present a wider view and access to significant and high quality research in diverse fields and sectors, in consonance with applications of research engines to facilitate users, and enhancing visibility, communication and connectivity. Explaining the significance of this venture, Dr. Al-



Munayyes emphasized that this developmental step is in response to meeting the increasing scientific needs and requirements, and enhancing and strengthening KU's presence in the competitive internet world, for attracting more researchers and readers worldwide.

CSFS sustains its scientific momentum through an intense schedule of ongoing multi-activities

The Center for Strategic & Futuristic Studies (CSFS) ventured into the new academic year 2010-2011, with an intense schedule of activities, ranging from participation in international book fairs, organizing seminars and conferences, as an integral part of its ongoing activities. The major activities and events that highlighted the CSFS's calendar during the period Sept. 1 to Dec. 31, 2010 are summarized below, as part of the center's achievements as follows:

1. Participation in International Book Fairs

1. Participation with the Ministry of Information in the 13th International Book Fair, held in Amman, Jordan, during the period Sept. 22 to Oct. 1, 2010.
2. Participating in the 15th

- International Book Fair, held in Algeria, during the period Oct. 27 to Nov. 6, 2010.
3. Participated in the International Book Fair held in Libya during Oct, 2010.
4. Participated in the International Book Fair held in Khartoum, Sudan, during the period Oct. 6-17, 2010.

2. Seminar(s) Organized

The CSFS organized a seminar entitled, "Evaluating the Developmental Plan and Follow-up Mechanisms," held on Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010, at 9.30 am., at Hall No. 129, Faculty of Social Sciences, Kuwait University.

The Seminar's Key Speakers included:

- **Dr. Mohammad Al-Rumaihi:** Dept. of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, KU.
- **Mr. Sami Al-Nisf:** *Writer and Political Analyst.*

The lecture was chaired by Dr. Yaqoub Al-Kandari, Dept. of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, KU.

3. Conference(s)

In addition, CSFS also organized a conference entitled, "Political and Economic Transformations and its Impact on the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Region," in cooperation with the Center for Gulf & Arabian Peninsula Studies. The three-day conference was held during Dec. 20-22, 2010, at the theater hall, H.H. Shaikh Abdulla Al-Jaber, Shuwaikh, Kuwait University.

Progress in implementing goals of Strategic Plan...(From P.4)

of joint awards in cooperation with several external institutions (eg. KFAS, EPA, TFF, KPC, etc.). In this context, the visit of 4-member KNPC delegation to the OVPR during Dec. 6, 2010, followed by a second visit of 6-member KNPC delegation on May 23, 2011, marked a further step in this direction, with mutual consensus of scientific collaboration among both institutions emerging through shared interests, especially in the spheres of research and consultations, and in advancing post-graduate and scholarly studies concerning Master's and Ph.D programs.

As the year progresses, RA is looking

forward to several new potential collaborative partners in boosting the existing collaborative network for spearheading institutional R & D activities. RA also outlined its budgetary requirements for the next fiscal year in line with its developmental priorities and commitments for advancing the institutional research sector, with provisions included for new projects concerning Research Park and Higher Council for Research. The budget accordingly included a feasibility study on developing the business plan for establishing the Research Park at Sabah Al-Salem University City at Shadadiya, as well as

the establishment of Higher Council for Research. These elements were integrated within the overall budgetary requirements submitted, exhibiting the dire need and requirements of RA in meeting its developmental priorities and goals ahead.

As the year advances, RA is set for covering significant mileage in accomplishing the outlined goals and effectively contributing in fulfilling its obligations towards the realization of the govt. approved developmental plan earmarked for enhancing, strengthening and advancing the institutional research sector. 

Research rewards recipients...(From P.15)

Faculty of Engineering & Petroleum

2010

1. **Al-Musallam, A.:** "Block copolymer-stabilized nanoparticles in two-phase media: Geometrical considerations." Final report of Project EC02/07.

Faculty of Medicine

2010

1. **Mustafa, AS:** "Bioinformatics analysis for identification of promiscuous ThI - cell antigens and peptides encoded by Mycobacterium tuberculosis region of difference I open reading frames." Final report of Project MI06/08.
2. **Zahid, M:** "Psychosocial outcome in schizophrenia in Kuwait." Final report of Project MQ01/05.

Faculty of Pharmacy

2010

1. **Kombian, S.:** "Studies on acute effects of linezolid and related oxazolidinone compounds on brain cells." Final report of Project PT02/06

Faculty of Science

2010

1. **El-Dusouqui, O.:** "Gas-Phase Thermolysis of Arylhydrazono. 1,2,3-triones." Final report of Project SC01/02.
2. **Al-Mousawi, S:** "Utility of Gabriel approach for synthesis of heterocyclic amines as intermediates in synthesis of dyes using microwave as environmentally clean route." Final report of Project SC05/06.
3. **Ibrahim, Y:** "Pyrolysis in organic synthesis: Applications on some nitrogen heterocyclic compounds." Final report of Project SC04/05.

Faculty for Women

2010

1. **Al-Dallal, J:** "Connectivity-based object-oriented class cohesion metric." Final report of Project W104/08. 

Faculties must endeavor for scientific visibility through distinguished research

RA observes progressive growth in faculty research activity with 522 ongoing, completed and under-process projects during eight months of the current academic year 2010/11

The onset of the new academic year 2010/11 significantly sustained the faculties scientific momentum with a total of 522 ongoing, completed and under-process projects during the first eight months of the current academic year 2010/11 (September 2010 to April 2011). Cumulatively, in terms of ongoing and completed projects, the faculties combined research activity totaled 408 projects. This figure is set to grow further, when the currently under-process projects (114) are granted approval and assume active status. In addition, the inflow of new proposals from faculties tends to keep the RA's processing channels in full swing, reflecting the faculties continuous participation in KU research. While RA's efforts and energies are directed at stimulating faculties research participation, the focus is also on encouraging faculties to pursue priority, multi-disciplinary and nationally relevant research through joint and collaborative studies, as well as to enhance the sphere of postgraduate research, setting critical priorities and directions in institutional research. RA's efforts are also aimed at promoting the culture of scientific innovation, creativity and relevancy in faculty research that could yield distinguished outputs.

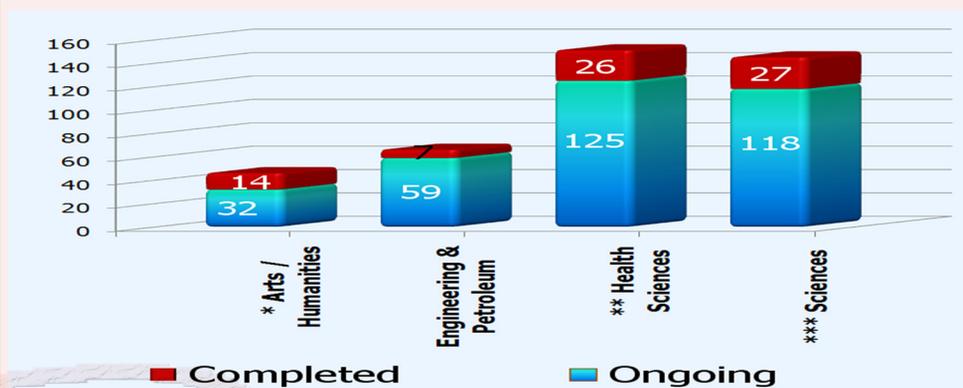
These aspirations are at the center of RA's grants process, with faculties research activity exhibiting progressive growth, recording as many as 522 ongoing, completed

Developing researcher-friendly environment a top priority

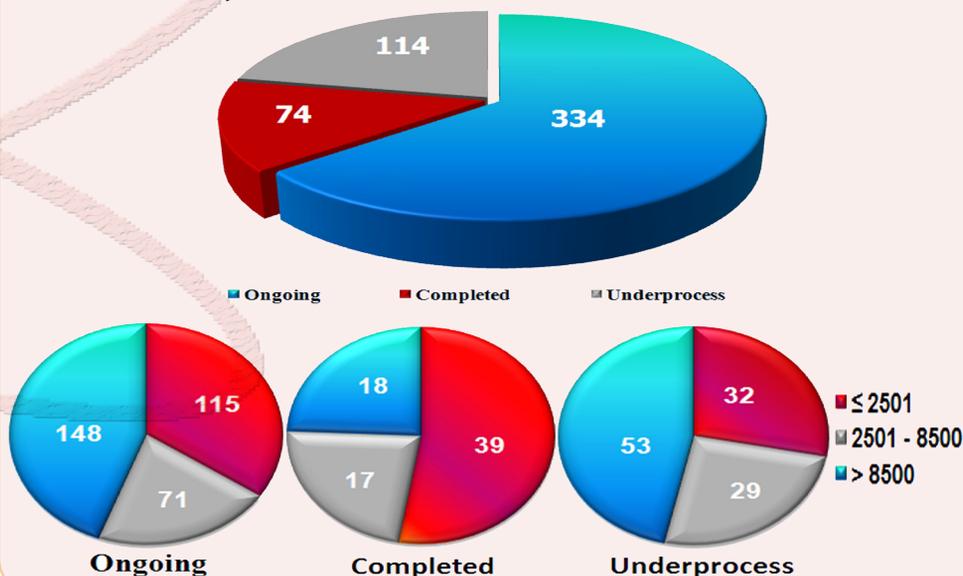
Table 1. TOTAL RESEARCH ACTIVITY, 2010/11
(Period 8 Months, Sept 1, 2010 to April, 2011)*

Project Status	Funding ** Levels			Total
	less than 2501	2501 - 8500	more than 8500	
Ongoing	115	71	148	334 (64%)
Completed	39	17	18	74 (14.2%)
Underprocess	32	29	53	114 (21.8%)
TOTAL	186 (35.6%)	117 (22.4%)	219 (42%)	522

* Source KURA, Data upto April, 2011.
** Values in KD.



* Includes the Faculties of Arts, Business Admn., Education, Law, Sharia and Social Sciences.
** Health Sciences Center Includes Faculties of Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Medicine and Pharmacy).
*** Includes Faculties of Science and Women.



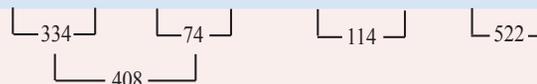
and under-process projects in the first eight months of the current academic year 2010/2011. Of the 522 projects, 334 (64%) were ongoing, 74 (14.2%)

were completed, and an additional 114 (21.8%) were under-process (Table 1). Taken together, the ongoing and completed projects provided the actual volume of 408 (78.2%) grant awards, reflecting the faculties research participation and performance up to April 2011. Analyzing the 408 ongoing and completed projects by grant levels, a larger concentration of 166 (40.7%) projects was found in the highest budgetary category of more than KD 8500/-, while 154 (37.8%) projects were in the less than KD 2501/- category. There were 88 (21.5%) projects in the medium-range budgetary level of KD 2501 – 8500/-. Taken together, the highest and lowest budgetary categories were collectively responsible for 320 (78.4%) projects, indicating faculties research preferences oscillating between larger and lower grants, with medium range grants attracting lesser participation. As regards under-process projects, once again the maximum under review projects (53, 46.5%) were in the highest budgetary category of more than KD 8500/-, followed by 32 (28.1%) projects in the lower budgetary category of KD 2500, and the least number of 29 (25.4%) projects were in the medium-range budgetary level (Table 1).

The cumulative total of ongoing and completed projects further showed faculties research performance reaching 408 projects by April 2011. Faculty-wise, the performance of Health Sciences faculties (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy & Allied Health) superseded all other faculties with maximum number of 151 (37%) projects, followed by Science colleges (Science & Women) with 145 (35.5%) projects, Engineering & Petroleum with 66 (16.2%) projects, and Arts & Humanities (Arts, Social Sciences, Business Administration, Education, Law & Sharia) with 46

Table 2. TOTAL ONGOING, COMPLETED & UNDER-PROCESS PROJECTS by FACULTY & FUNDING SOURCE, 2010/11
(Period 8 Months, Sept 1, 2010 to April, 2011)*

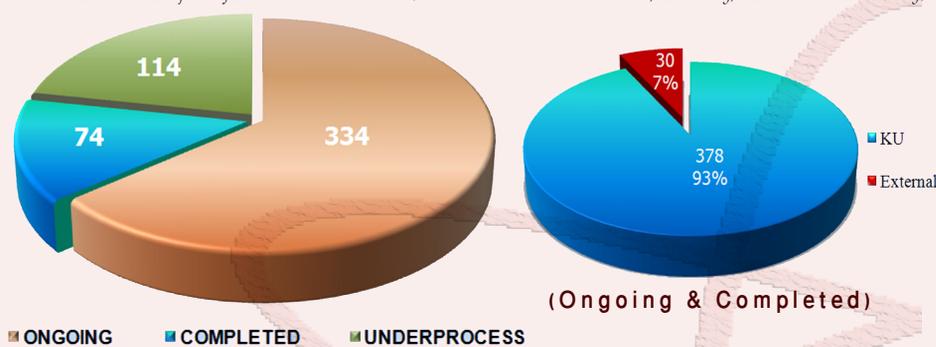
FACULTY	ONGOING		COMPLETED		UNDERPROCESS		TOTAL		GRAND TOTAL
	KU	EXT**	KU	EXT	KU	EXT	KU	EXT	
Allied Health Sciences	6	-	6	-	10	-	22	-	22
Arts	4	-	2	-	6	-	12	-	12
Business Admn.	10	-	2	-	2	-	14	-	14
Dentistry	18	1	3	-	3	-	24	1	25
Education	4	2	2	-	3	-	9	2	11
Engineering & Petroleum	55	4	7	-	24	2	86	6	92
Law	2	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	3
Medicine	82	5	11	3	14	3	107	11	118
Pharmacy	11	-	3	-	4	-	18	-	18
Science	90	11	16	2	27	2	133	15	148
Sharia	2	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	3
Social Sciences	8	-	6	1	4	1	18	2	20
Women	16	1	9	-	5	1	30	2	32
Health Sciences Center (GF)***	2	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	4
TOTAL	310	24	68	6	105	9	483	39	522



* Source KURA, Data upto April, 2011.

** External Institutions.

*** General Facilities Projects of Health Sciences Center (Includes Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Medicine and Pharmacy).



(11.3%) projects (Table 2). In addition, the under-process (114) projects further complemented the faculties research participation, with maximum under-review projects recorded for Health Sciences (36, 31.6%) and Sciences (35, 30.7%) faculties, followed by Engineering & Petroleum (26, 22.8%), and Arts & Humanities (17, 14.9%) colleges. These projects were in various stages of evaluation and approval for grant awards (Table 2).

The distribution of 334 (64%) ongoing projects by funding levels

showed a maximum concentration of 148 (44.3%) projects in the highest budgetary category of more than KD 8500/-, followed by 115 (34.4%) projects in the lowest budgetary level of KD 2501/-, while least number of ongoing projects 71 (21.3%) were in the medium-range budgetary category of KD 2501-8500/-. This pattern was found to reverse in terms of completed (74, 14.2%) projects, where maximum completed projects 39 (52.7%) were in the lowest budgetary category of KD 2501/-, 18 (24.3%) projects in the highest budgetary (Contd. P.28... ▶)

Pursuing strategic priorities through collaborative and multidisciplinary research a critical need..! ... (From P.27)

category of KD 8500/-, and 17 (23%) projects in the medium budgetary range of KD 2501-8500/- (Table 3).

As regards the funding source, Kuwait University along with several external institutions, were the key fund-providers for supporting and

sustaining a total of 408 ongoing and completed projects up to April 2011. Looking at the budgetary allocations, Kuwait University remained the single largest fund provider, rendering grant support to a voluminous 378 (92.7%) projects, where as external sponsors were collectively responsible for

supporting 30 (7.3%) projects. The external support involved the participation of Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) for funding 20 (66.7%) projects, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) for granting 3 (10%) projects, and the remaining institutions that included Environmental Public Authority (EPA), Terryfox Foundation (TFF), Unesco, Novo Nordisk Company, Kuwait Oil Company (KOC), Kuwait National Guards (KNG), and the British Council (BC), each of which was responsible for granting 1 (3.3%) project (Table 4). The under-process 114 projects, further showed maximum 105 (92.1%) projects lined-up for KU's funding support, with remaining 9 (7.9%) projects were seeking external support (Ref. Table 2).

Analyzing the data by types of grants, Table 5 (see page 32) presents faculty-wise distribution of 334 ongoing projects, with maximum 208 (62.2%) projects enlisted under the University Research Projects (URP) category, 53 (15.9%) were Graduate Research Projects (GRP), 24 (7.2%) were External Research Projects (ERP), 23 (6.9%) were RIG grants, 15 (4.5%) were General Facilities Projects (GFP), 10 (3%) were Priority Research Projects (PRP), and 1 (0.3%) was National Research Project (NRP). No projects were currently ongoing in the categories of University Service Projects (USP) and Joint Projects with the GCC.

As regards research productivity, Table 6 (see page 32) provides a view of faculties productive output from completed projects during the last ▶

Table 3. PROJECT STATUS by FACULTY & FUNDING LEVELS, 2010/11**
(Period 8 Months, Sept 1, 2010 to April. 2011)*

FACULTY	ONGOING			COMPLETED			UNDER-PROCESS			TOTAL
	less than 2501	2501 - 8500	more than 8500	less than 2501	2501 - 8500	more than 8500	less than 2501	2501 - 8500	more than 8500	
Allied Health Sciences	3	-	3	5	-	1	5	2	3	22
Arts	2	1	1	1	1	-	4	2	-	12
Business Admn.	9	1	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	14
Dentistry	15	-	4	1	-	2	2	-	1	25
Education	4	-	2	2	-	-	2	1	-	11
Engineering & Petroleum	26	6	27	4	3	-	7	5	14	92
Law	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Medicine	19	35	33	5	4	5	2	5	10	118
Pharmacy	6	2	3	-	1	2	1	1	2	18
Science	11	21	69	8	2	8	6	4	19	148
Sharia	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Social Sciences	6	-	2	5	2	-	-	5	-	20
Women	11	4	2	5	4	-	-	4	2	32
Health Sciences Center (GF)***	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
TOTAL	115	71	148	39	17	18	32	29	53	522

* Source KURA, Data upto April. 2011.

** Values in KD.

*** General Facilities Projects of Health Sciences Center (Includes Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Medicine and Pharmacy).

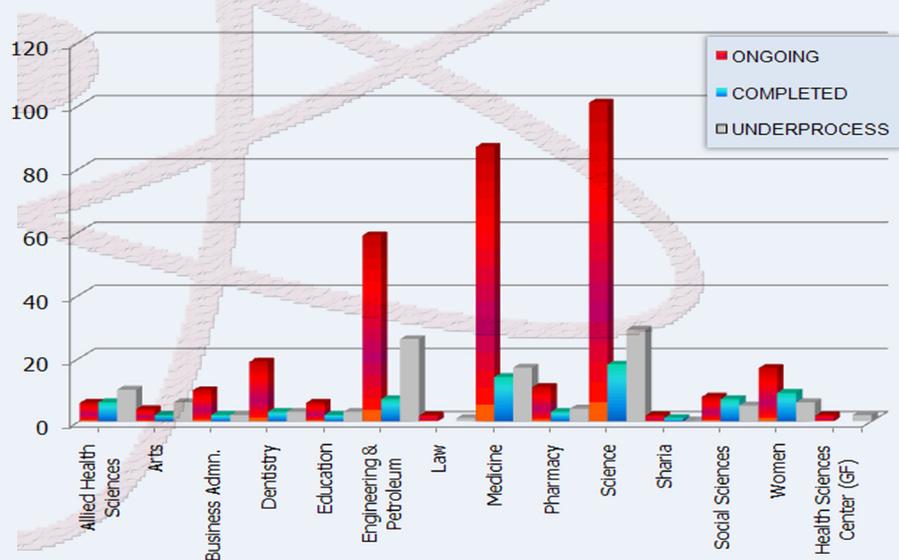


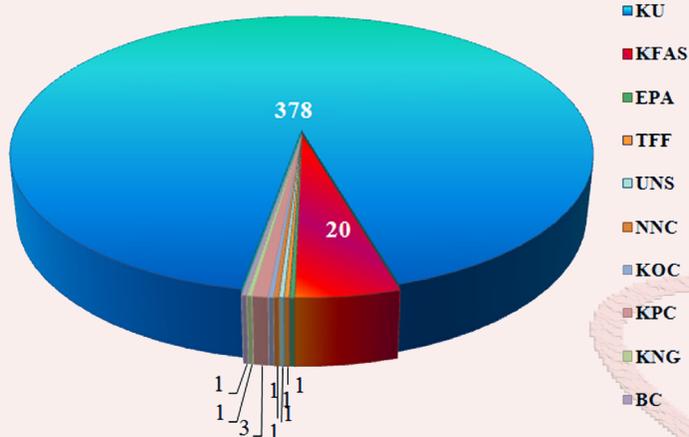
Table 4. TOTAL ONGOING & COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS by FUNDING SOURCE, 2010/11
(Period 8 Months, Sept 1, 2010 to April. 2010)

FACULTY	KU	KFAS	EPA	TFF	UNS	NNC	KOC	KPC	KNG	BC	TOTAL
Allied Health Sciences	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Arts	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Business Admn.	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Dentistry	21	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Education	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Engineering & Petroleum	62	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	66
Law	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Medicine	93	6	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	101
Pharmacy	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Science	106	9	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	119
Sharia	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Social Sciences	14	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Women	25	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	26
Health Sciences Center (GF)**	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
TOTAL	378	20	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	408

* Source KURA, Data upto April. 2011.

** General Facilities Projects of Health Sciences Center (Includes Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Medicine and Pharmacy).

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------|
| KU | Kuwait University | KFAS | Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences |
| EPA | Environmental Public Authority | TFF | Terryfox Foundation |
| UNS | UNESCO | NNC | Novo Nordisk Company |
| KOC | Kuwait Oil Company | KPC | Kuwait Petroleum Corporation |
| KNG | Kuwait National Guards | BC | British Council |



six calendar years -- 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. The figures for 2010 provide a reflection of faculties research productivity up to February 2011, which is expected to increase, as under-review papers get accepted by journals for publication. Hence, the actual status of 2010 productivity levels are likely to increase during 2011, and beyond. At present, the comparative six-year view of productivity shows that the faculties productivity levels stood at 184 published papers during the calendar year 2005, 180 during 2006, 159 during 2007, 168 during 2008, 140 during 2009, and 119 during 2010, with expectations of upward growth, considering the usual time-scale that journals take between paper submission, acceptance and inclusion as printed journal article.

The above statistical view of faculties research activity up to April 2011, reflects a promising index of growth attained during eight months of the current academic year 2010/11, with RA firmly pursuing the strategic policy of improving (**Contd. P.32...**)

Patent registration requests ...(From P.5)

So far, these checks have been completed on 33 requests, paving the way for onward transmission of the applications to the American Patents Office for the requisite filing number. Primary research and technical checks have also been carried out on one additional application, which has likewise been forwarded to the GCC countries Patents Office. Of the remaining requests, three have been earmarked for standard evaluation and technical checks, one has been withdrawn, five others have been cancelled on

researchers request, and three applications have been frozen on respective researchers' requests for conducting further studies. Overall, these figures significantly indicate as to how faculty research endeavors are providing the basis for creative outputs of patentable propensity through original and innovative research. providing reassuring signals as regards the quality of research at KU. A changing climate is increasingly being observed in faculties efforts towards targeting originality, excellence and recognition, the elements which RA is

ardently promoting in a bid to spread the culture of research across KU faculties, that naturally motivates researchers to innovate, experiment and achieve distinguished outputs of critical value and significance. The Patent office is also exploring the feasibility of organizing the Second Patents Workshop that could address such vital issues as patents, intellectual property and authorship rights, as well as matters concerning plagiarism, the scheduling of which would duly be announced, when finalized.

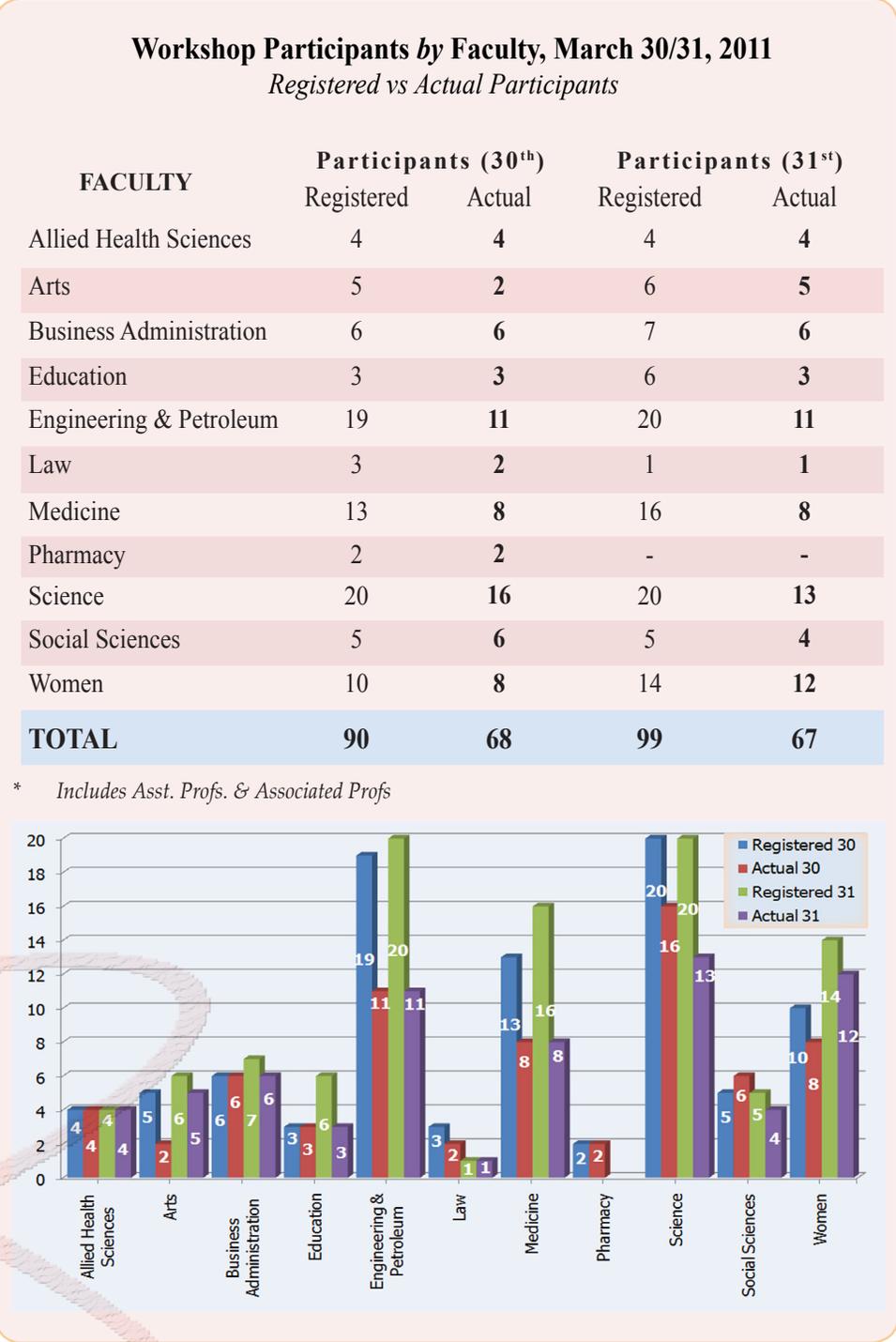
Scientific Writing & Publishing Workshop... (From P.10)

the first and second workshops, respectively, across 11 faculties for two-day sessions.

Of these, the actual workshop attendees were 68 and 67, respectively, approximating 70% participation rate. The workshop feedback from the participants overwhelmingly complemented RA for organizing an immensely valuable scientific event, and rated the sessions from excellent to good, with low responses for average, and none for poor. The attendees suggested the holding of such workshops a dire need for quality assurance and sustained development of KU research to international levels of compatibility.

An apparent emphasis on periodic holding of such workshops was strongly recommended, as an immensely useful platform for scientific exposure of the faculties to wide and diversified expertise, beyond nature, to include broad-based concerns specific to humanities, arts, social sciences, and business studies. Emphasis was also on inclusion of more practical sessions, where exercises on formation of abstract, introduction, methodology, results, conclusions, etc., could be performed, for the participants to overcome textual weaknesses. The senior faculty emphatically raised issues concerning specialized aspects of research, writing of research reviews and refereeing, with an interactive focus, by inviting research stalwarts who could engage the participants in specialized sessions, sharing experiences, dialogue and expertise.

There were specific suggestions of inviting experienced reviewers and experts who had achieved significant



recognition for their scientific writing skills and distinguished research. There seemed an apparent need for more diversified and widely representative scientific workshops for addressing multidisciplinary requirements of various faculties. Special session for Master's and Ph.D students was also suggested to ensure early exposure and orientation to high

quality research. For RA, the workshop's enthusiastic response from the faculties, has indeed opened a constructive channel where researchers concerns and queries could be addressed through wider, diversified scientific exposures, beyond Nature, so that specific needs and aspirations of sciences and humanities researchers could appropriately be met. □

Annual Sponsored Research Series ...*(From P.11)*

health sciences faculties (Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry & Allied Health) predominated all other faculties with as many as 155 (35%) projects, closely followed by sciences faculties (Science & Women's college) with 154 (34.8%) projects, Arts & Humanities (Arts, Business administration, Education, Law, Sharia & Social Sciences) with 68 (15.3%) projects, and Engineering & Petroleum with 66 (14.9%) projects. Taken together, faculties research participation during 2008/09 showed a clear upswing with 443 projects over the last year's (2007/08) 417 active projects, registering nearly 6.2% growth. Growth was also observed in the domain of postgraduate research, with students increased involvement in scientific research under the umbrella of RA's graduate grant awards.

With RA's current emphasis on high quality research, the faculties are being encouraged to pursue the path of priority and solution-based research, by venturing into areas of potential significance for national and human needs, which is likely to influence the faculties choice of



A line-up of few earlier Sponsored Research issues

subjects to be addressed in the years ahead through their basic, applied or humanities research.

RA is also critically promoting research awareness through the dissemination of institutional research accomplishments, documented in RA's prime publications, carrying invaluable information for researchers, planners, policy-makers, and wider community of users to sensitize the public at large on faculties creative and scientific dynamism, as well as the impact of research outputs that could enhance KU's international standing on grounds of its distinguished research.

Since the annual documentation of Sponsored Research provides the most current and vital information on the institutional grants process, this data on 2008/09 faculty research is indicative of as to how far the faculties are incorporating the

attributes of quality in their scientific endeavors, and in the process, energizing their respective research domains to yield outputs of value.

The broad themes, currently being researched across faculties, also provide additional insights into emerging trends in institutional research, that could be monitored over the years in determining the directions, as also the volume of basic, applied, and humanities research being pursued during the course of a single year. From scientific standpoint, such data is a vital indicator in assessing the objective realities concerning KU's grants activity, and in facilitating RA in determining the growth, quality and path of faculty research, a purpose which the Sponsored Research documented series is effectively endeavoring to meet by creating a long-lasting repository of institutional research activity in an annual continuum. □

► *KU/KNPC team discusses collaborative research...*(From.... P.16)**

that some KNPC employees were pursuing Master's studies at KU on part time basis, since KNPC's long-term target was to develop its R & D potential through higher educational program by sponsoring students to pursue master's and doctoral studies in coordination with KU, it was suggested that KNPC submits

requisite proposal concerning its needs, which could be studied by KU, and eventually developed into full-fledged program, along with the needed mechanism for its implementation.

The purpose was to expose students to research environment and activity at KU, so that their

skills and experiences could eventually benefit KNPC. The meeting ended with consensus on moving forward in the field by using full potential and capabilities of both sides in realizing the goals of joint research, and in strengthening the Research & Technology needs of the collaborative partners, KU and KNPC. □

► Statistics on Faculty Research Performance...(From P.29)

research quality, and inducing the elements of research relevancy, creativity and excellence in faculty research. The

Table 5. ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS by TYPES OF GRANTS, 2010/11
(Period 8 Months, Sept 1, 2010 to April, 2011)*

Faculty	Types of Grants							Grand Total
	URP	RIG	PRP	GRP	GFP	ERP	NRP	
Allied Health Sciences	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	6
Arts	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Business Admn.	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	10
Dentistry	13	3	2	-	-	1	-	19
Education	4	-	-	-	-	2	-	6
Engineering & Petroleum	40	7	4	-	4	4	-	59
Law	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Medicine	45	2	-	34	-	5	1	87
Pharmacy	9	2	-	-	-	-	-	11
Science	60	-	2	19	9	11	-	101
Sharia	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Social Sciences	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Women	13	3	-	-	-	1	-	17
Health Sciences (GF)**	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
TOTAL	208	23	10	53	15	24	1	334

* Source KURA, Data upto April, 2011.

** General Facilities Projects of Health Sciences Center (Includes Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Medicine and Pharmacy).

URP - University Research Projects
PRP - Priority Research Projects
GFP - General Facilities Projects

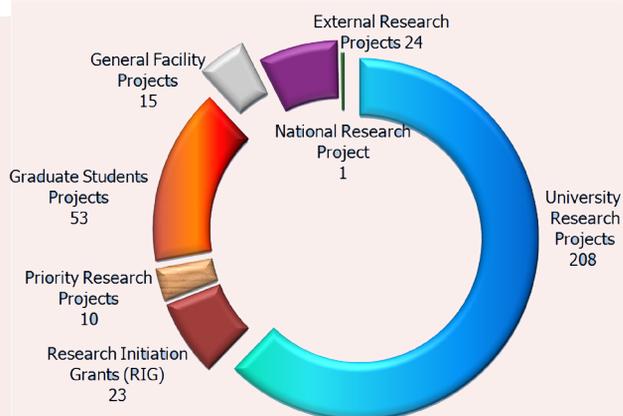
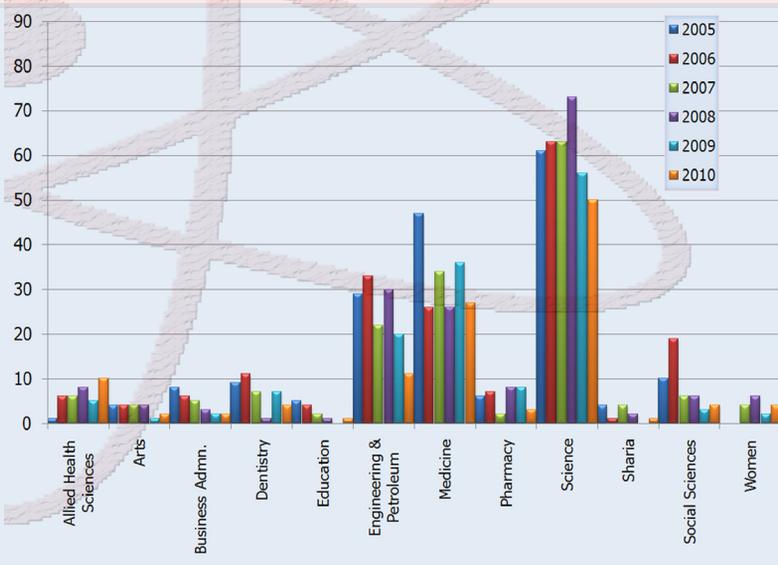
RIG - Research Initiation Grants
GRP - Graduate Research Projects
ERP - External Research Projects

Table 6. PUBLISHED PAPERS, COMPARATIVE SIX CALENDAR YEARS*,
2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 & 2010**

FACULTY	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010**
Allied Health Sciences	1	6	6	8	5	10
Arts	4	4	4	4	1	2
Business Admn.	8	6	5	3	2	2
Dentistry	9	11	7	1	7	4
Education	5	4	2	1	-	1
Engineering & Petroleum	29	33	22	30	20	11
Medicine	47	26	34	26	36	27
Pharmacy	6	7	2	8	8	3
Science	61	63	63	73	56	50
Sharia	4	1	4	2	-	1
Social Sciences	10	19	6	6	3	4
Women	-	-	4	6	2	4
TOTAL	184	180	159	168	140	119

* Figures for Published papers both refereed / unrefereed, coordinate with calendar-year (Jan. 1 to Dec.31).

** Data upto February, 2011.



focus is also on developing a conducive environment that encourages researchers to be innovative, inventive and distinctive. Already, RA has upgraded its grant support system with the inclusion of new clauses and articles broadening the regulatory framework with simplified procedures, productivity requirements, and incentives for researchers to publish their research outputs in journals of high impact. These are included in the new manual of Research Support Rules & Regulations, 2010 (2nd edition), the electronic version of which was recently made available to researchers as e-manual, during March 2011, for online access through the research portal facility.

These moves indicate RA's commitment and continuous drive to facilitate researchers, and sensitize them towards the value and virtue of high quality research that leads to scientific breakthroughs and landmark discoveries which could elevate institutional standing among world renowned universities on the strength of its research accomplishments, the ultimate goal which RA is endeavoring to achieve in the foreseeable future.

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