

INTERNATIONAL



FOCUS

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Compiled by Steve Glazner

HIGHLIGHTING APPA MEMBERS WORLDWIDE

While most APPA member institutions are located in the United States and Canada, there are also 45 of member institutions located internationally—from Australia and New Zealand to Southeast Asia to the Middle East to Europe. *Facilities Manager* will focus on our international members over the next several issues.



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF KUWAIT

Salmiya, Kuwait

Year Founded: 2003

By **Abolghasem Alavinejad**

Director of Campus Services Department

Years with Institution: 6

MISSION

The American University of Kuwait is a liberal arts institution, based on the American model of higher education. It is dedicated to providing students with knowledge, self-awareness, and personal growth experiences that can enhance critical thinking, effective communication, and respect for diversity. AUK seeks to create leaders and lifelong learners who aspire to the highest standards of moral and ethical responsibility in their societies.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS OFFERED AT AUK

AUK's College of Arts and Sciences offers excellent undergraduate programs leading to Bachelor's degrees (BA, BBA, BE, and BS). Students enroll in a diverse array of majors and minors, working closely with outstanding faculty and learning resource units, to pursue their educational goals. Its mission is to serve all undergraduate students with personalized, attentive, caring, and high-quality academic experiences that support their personal and professional development. Our students receive a comprehensive education blended in the tradition of liberal arts education that helps them not only enter the workforce after graduation or continue their education in graduate or professional school, but also become well-rounded, engaged citizens.

The College of Arts and Sciences is administratively divided into four principal academic divisions that oversee 13 degree programs:

- **Business and Economics**
 - Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting
 - Bachelor of Business Administration in Economics
 - Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance
 - Bachelor of Business Administration in Management
 - Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing
- **Humanities and Arts**
 - Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Media
 - Bachelor of Arts in English
 - Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design
- **Sciences and Engineering**
 - Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Engineering
 - Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
 - Bachelor of Science in Information Systems
- **Social Sciences**
 - Bachelor of Arts in International Studies
 - Bachelor of Arts in Social and Behavioral Sciences

Number of Students: 2332

Number of Buildings: 19

Your Main Facilities Challenge: Additional Parking Spaces

SOMETHING WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL:

The AUK campus is located in Salmiya at the intersection of Salem Al-Mubarak and Amro Ibn Al-'Asse Streets in the middle of one of Kuwait's most vibrant neighborhoods.

AUK opened its doors in Fall 2004 and conducts its academic activity in new, rehabilitated, and refurbished facilities, which will be expanded and developed as needed in the coming years. AUK's campus has spacious, modern classrooms; computer, science, and language laboratories, an administration building, a state-of-the-art library, coffee shops, restaurants, shops, and recreation courts; nearby parking available for students, staff, faculty, and visitors. Next to the library and central campus classrooms are a beautifully designed and landscaped central courtyard and garden, which serve to provide shade and respite from the hectic activities, offering AUK students, faculty, and staff a pleasant place to enjoy, relax, and study.

Campus life is an integral part of a student's university experience at AUK and helps to bring students, faculty, and staff together as one community. Students are encouraged to participate in campus events and use the resources available on campus to further enhance their educational experience at AUK. For example, the Student Success Center provides students with assistance in their academic work, offering faculty and peer tutoring assistance in all subjects.

Campus life contributes to making the time students spend on campus a continuous and valuable learning experience. Through both classroom learning and extracurricular activities,

AUK students learn the critical thinking skills, knowledge, and values needed to succeed effectively in today's modern societies in the region and internationally. Participation in extracurricular activities allows students to learn new skills and discover hidden talents, thus enhancing not only their educational experience but personal development.

The university has a student government association, a student-run newspaper and academic journal, intramural and intercollegiate athletic clubs and organizations, theater, academic organizations and activities in which students can participate. AUK's location in Salmiya adds an important dimension to campus life. It is located within walking distance of the country's most renowned restaurants, coffee shops, shopping malls, and movie theaters, as well as the seafront and the Scientific Center of Kuwait. The Salmiya area is active, lively, and secure.

At AUK we strive to conserve energy and have been able to reduce the energy conservation to about 40 percent and have received two certificates of award from the Ministry of Energy.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF SHARJAH

Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

Year Founded: 1997

By Mazin Elya

Director of Facilities

Years with Institution: 13

PRIMARY PROGRAMS OF STUDY:

- College of Arts and Sciences
- College of Engineering
- College of Architecture, Art, and Design
- School of Business and Management

Number of Students: Currently around 6,000 students

Number of Buildings:

Academic Buildings – 15 Buildings

Faculty Housing Units – 423 Units

Dormitories – 12 Buildings (around 2,000 rooms)



YOUR MAIN FACILITIES CHALLENGE:

To maintain, enhance, and provide the best quality of service for physical environment of academics, faculty housing, dormitories, and public functions of the university. We strive to provide professional services that address function and timely response to user need. We are committed to the success and satisfaction of AUS faculty, staff, students, and campus visitors. Parts of our responsibilities are maintenance, operation, and improvement of buildings, grounds, and utility systems, custodial care, and engineering support. Our objective is to provide dependable and timely service, maintain a safe campus environment and conduct planning activities to achieve the highest quality of service.

SOMETHING WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL:

American University of Sharjah (AUS) was founded in 1997 by His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Mohammad Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Sharjah, who envisioned the university as a leading educational institution in the Persian Gulf region. American



University of Sharjah is an independent, not-for-profit coeducational institution. Consciously based upon American institutions of higher education, AUS is thoroughly grounded in Arab culture and is part of a larger process of the revitalization of intellectual life in the Middle East. AUS is a leading comprehensive coeducational university in the Gulf, serving students from the region and around the world.

American University of Sharjah is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. AUS is licensed in the United States by the Department of Education of the State of Delaware. The university is also licensed by the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, and all undergraduate and graduate programs have been awarded either full or initial accreditation. All six of the bachelor's degree programs in the AUS College of Engineering are accredited by ABET, Inc. of the United States. The Bachelor of Architecture program of the College of Architecture, Art and Design is accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) of the United States.

AUS offers 25 majors and 48 minors at the undergraduate level, and 13 master's degrees programs through the following academic divisions:

- College of Arts and Sciences
- College of Engineering
- College of Architecture, Art and Design
- School of Business and Management

While Arabic is the official language of the United Arab Emirates, the language of instruction at AUS is English. All classes and administrative functions are conducted in English.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

Singapore

Year Founded: 1905

By Allan TAN Jee Teck

Director, Office of Housing Services

Years with Institution: 3

Primary Programs of Study: Comprehensive studies ranging from humanities to medical

Number of Students: Over 30,000

Number of Buildings: 200+

Your Main Facilities Challenge: Catering to growth and expansion

SOMETHING WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL:

NUS is a global university centered in Asia. It is consistently being rated amongst the top 30 universities in the world.

UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS

Nicosia, Cyprus, Europe

Year Founded: 1989

By Agis Elisseos

Director of Estates (Technical Services), Director of Campus Development Office

Years with Institution: 19



the Athalassa Campus area there are seven major projects with 47 individual buildings. Academia Campus consists of nine buildings. In addition, there are 47 buildings in the periphery, some of them owned by the university but most of them are on rent.

PRIMARY PROGRAMS OF STUDY:

The University of Cyprus (UoC) provides programs both in Literature and Letters as well as in Sciences and Engineering. For the time being there are six faculties, that is:

1. Faculty of Humanities (three departments)
2. Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences (five departments)
3. Faculty of Social Sciences and Education (four departments)
4. Faculty of Economics and Management (two departments)
5. Faculty of Engineering (four departments)
6. Faculty of Letters (three departments)

In addition to the above, an International Advisory Committee is preparing a proposal for the establishment of a School of Medicine (feasibility study, curriculum, staff requirements, buildings infrastructure, cost elements, etc). A Faculty of Fine Arts is also under consideration.

Number of Students: 6,300 (4,750 undergraduate and 1,550 postgraduate)

NUMBER OF BUILDINGS:

The UoC is being accommodated in two major campuses, the old Academia Campus which accommodated the university activities at the initial period (early 1990s) and is still providing housing mostly to Humanities and Education programs, while the new Athalassa Campus, which is under development, accommodates Sciences and Economics/Management, whilst Engineering is under way as well. Within

YOUR MAIN FACILITIES CHALLENGE:

Though UoC started as a Teaching Higher Education Institution, the orientation has changed into a mostly research university. The extent of research funds, mostly from the European Union, has been increased significantly (about 300 percent compared to four years ago). The new campus is intended to accommodate most of the teaching and research activities. International financial crises and restrictions have reduced the ability of providing new (and permanent) proper university buildings in order to meet the requirements related toward the final task of 10,000 students. Therefore, the main facilities challenge is to forecast and provide accommodation (even in rented buildings) for all new or expanding of existing academic programs activities.

Operation in two major campuses and the use of buildings scattered around the city is really a challenge. In addition, we're challenged by our aim to enhance elaboration, cost efficiency, and sustainable principles toward a green campus.

Regarding the new Athalassa Campus, a master plan was prepared in mid '90s and approved by the government authorities. Construction of the campus commenced in 1998, and most of the buildings are designed following an architectural competition for each of the projects. Up to now, seven major and four minor projects have been completed. One of the projects (sports facilities) has been awarded with national awards for their design.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS

Original research is one of the primary activities of the academic staff at the UoC. The university's research programs cover a wide range of fields and are funded either through the university's budget or by institutions in Cyprus and abroad. Eu-

European Union projects (including the 7th Framework Programme, INTERREG, COST, ERC, EUROMED, HERITAGE, LEONARDO, MEDA, LLP) constitute the majority of external funded projects. The UoC is recognized through international awards and is favorably classified after international evaluation.

UoC is ranked very close to the first 1,000 universities globally known for its research activities, while a number of academics have been awarded for their research. The Campus Development Office has been awarded by the Cyprus Association of Architects, in 2009, for adopting and promoting architectural competitions in Cyprus for the development of the New Campus. Regarding the Administration Services of the UoC, the University has been awarded with the European Foundation Quality Management (EFQM) for “Commitment to Excellence” and “Recognition for Excellence” for the Library, a Greek National Quality Award plus a number of National awards for quality of working environment and conditions.

The UoC is a member of the European University Association (EUA), the Community of Mediterranean Universities (CMU), the Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe (UNICA), the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), the International Association of



Universities (IAU), the Association of Arab and European Universities (AEUA), the Santander Group (SG), LEO-NET, and others. ☎

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