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Graduation Day

Special Edition

Graduates speak

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October 21, 2019



# 116 students to graduate today

SUR, Oct. 21, 2019

One hundred and sixteen students will graduate today at the Sur College of Applied Sciences.

In a ceremony in Al Sharqiya Hall, 53 graduates will receive degrees in Mass Communication, 36 will receive degrees in Information Technology (IT) and 22 in Applied Biotechnology. Four students will receive diplomas in IT and one in Mass Communication.

The graduation program will be held under the patronage of His Excellency Dr. Saud bin Hamoud Al Habsi, Undersecretary of Fisheries at the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, in the presence of His Excellency Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Sarmi, Undersecretary, Ministry of Higher Education; Dr. Abdullah Ali Al Shibli, Di-

rector General of the Colleges of Applied Sciences and Dr. Salma Bint Khamis Al Musharafi, Dean, Sur CAS.

Distinguished guests will include prominent members of the community, members of the academic and administrative departments of the college and the graduates along with their family members.

"In keeping with the trend of past years, the ceremony will be held at 12:00 noon and will be telecast live on Oman TV," said Mr. Yaqoub Ibrahim Al Farsi, Head of Student Counselling and Guidance Center.

The Public Relations committee has made a great effort in making the graduation ceremony a memorable one. Ms Fatema Al Balushi, a member of the committee, said: "It is a valued moment for our students, so we are working hard to make it look won-

derful and worth remembering."

Honor student and Public Relations Graduate from the Department of Mass Communication, Amal Al Aرامي, said: "Our academic and professional journey does not end at the moment of graduation. It is the beginning to achieve the dreams and hopes we had during our study period."

Mr. Yaqoub Al Farsi added: "Congratulations to the graduates of Sur CAS. After their struggle and effort in their studies and after facing the challenges of academic and student life, their strong determination has helped them to achieve their goal for their homes and their future. Today, they harvest the reward of the hard work they have put in the past years."

By Asma Al Ghadani & Malak Saeed Al Hasni

## Message from the Dean

### 'Be part of the progress of our country'



His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said has said, "Development is not a goal in itself. Instead, it exists for building man, who is its means and maker. Therefore, growth must not stop at the achievement of material wealth and a diversified economy. It must go beyond that to contribute to the formation of the citizen who is capable of taking part in the process of progress and comprehensive development."

Sur College of Applied Sciences is working with the vision of His Majesty. The students who graduate today should keep in mind the vision of His Majesty and should work towards developing our nation. As an institution, we have trained you in the different skill sets required to face the real world and to take part in the process of progress and development of our country.

On this happy day, I congratulate you all for your hard work, sincerity and dedication. I wish you all the best for your future endeavours.



Mr. Sultan Al-Saraai  
Head  
Mass Communication  
Department

Dear graduates, It is hard to express my feelings today. It is the day you have all been waiting and working for. Simply, it is the day your dream comes true. I know this day didn't come easy. You went through tough moments, you had doubts, made mistakes and some of you even dropped GPAs. But, you kept the faith and remembered that "Good things don't come easily". On the other hand, I'm sure you have had some nice and unforgettable moments on campus. This was one very important stage in your life which you have succeeded in, and now it is time for the next stage. That might be continuing your post graduate studies, getting a job or opening your own business. My only advice for your next stage is, "Do what you love, and love what you do".

Each stage in our life has its own ups and downs; just try to enjoy it by dedicating all your efforts to service and to get the most out of it. Naturally, each stage is going to be harder than the one before. You may not feel it because you are getting stronger and wiser.

In closing, I will leave you with these words. Develop your skills and always be true to yourself. We are proud of all of you and believe in all your dreams for your futures and of the future of Oman. We are certain that wherever you go, you will be contributing members of society.

Wish you all the best on your journeys. May Allah be with you.

## MESSAGES

With much happiness and pride, the Department of Information Technology is pleased to felicitate the graduates of the College of Applied Sciences in Sur with the warmest congratulations and best wishes for success.

Today, a new batch of students will graduate and join other youth in the continued building and growth of the beloved nation, the Sultanate of Oman. We are delighted to see the joy in the eyes of our students as they finish their scientific education in Information Technology in this college guided by specialization in either software development, networking or information security. We are delighted that all our students are ambitious to start another stage in their lives, which is to work and build a career. We are certain that their efforts, in addition to their perseverance and high seriousness, along with and the efforts of the faculty members, can only lead them to progress and success in their careers. All the best, God willing.



Dr. Tarek Nasser Gasmii,  
Head,  
Information Technology  
Department

On behalf of all the faculty and staff of the Applied Biotechnology Department (ABT), I would like to express my heartiest congratulations to graduates of Applied Biotechnology Program and their parents/ guardians, and family members for their sincere, patient dedication, enthusiasm and sacrifice. Next, I would like to express my sincere thanks to faculty members/ staff of ABT, and other academic and nonacademic departments for their help, support and guidance to cater knowledge and skills among these graduates that empower them to a bright future.

The fourth batch of the ABT Program will graduate with assimilation of knowledge and skills in three main domains: Marine, Food & Agriculture and Environmental ABT. The department is proud of these graduates with their multidisciplinary achievement in the fields of academic, research, community service and participation in various students' activities and competitions.

I hope these graduates will be able to meet the global needs through their talents and will come forward to serve mankind and work for the sustainable development of the Sultanate of Oman.

I wish all the graduates success in their life.



Dr. Mohammed Zafar, Head,  
Applied Biotechnology Department

## Understanding how journalists work at PART



*My summer training at the Public Authority for Radio and Television opened the doors to practical learning, writes Amani Al Balushi*

### MUSCAT

I like listening to the radio. I think that is why I had so much fun in the radio department during my summer training at Public Authority for Radio and Television (PART) in Muscat. I felt so excited there, as though it wasn't just a summer internship – the people working there treated us like employees, so that we would be more responsible about what we do. As a student, it was a great opportunity for me to be a part of that and to feel so involved.

In addition, I also trained in television, learning various aspects of visual media, such as presenting programs, producing them and also filming programs.

I was given the opportunity to visit the Innovation Exhibition 2020 for elementary schools held at Sultan Qaboos University. Not only did I get to see so many innovations on display, I was also entrusted with the task of interviewing student visitors there for television. That too was fun and exciting. The experience helped me to understand how journalists work and how they collect information for their programs.

I visited all departments in PART and trained in presentation, sound, editing, lighting and photography. The training was a practical application of the theories and concepts that I studied in Sur CAS. Some more highlights from my training:

- I participated in producing and filming several episodes of the morning coffee program under our trainer, Mr. Mohamed Yahyaai.
- Mr. Hilal Al Hilali trained us in presentation and improvisation before the radio microphone.
- The head of department of news, Mr. Yousuf Al Hoti held a workshop for us on how to be a journalist with ethical values.

## This is the beginning to achieve our dreams

### Bahja Al Muasbi, *Public Relations*

One year of the foundation program at Ibri and four years of study at Sur CAS has been the “fast train” of my life. It carried happy, sad and tired moments, yet was so enjoyable.

In my first year at Sur CAS, I faced barriers in the way of studying, as it was so different from school. But I solved this issue early by writing the problems in my notebook and looking for solutions.

College life has been so enjoyable: living with people from different places and learning life experiences from teachers. This has taught us how to be strong and wipe our tears with courage and a positive outlook.

### Rabyaa Al Farsia, *Digital Media*

Today, I am a graduate in Digital Media -- I have pursued my passion. We enjoyed our time on campus, and we owe it to our colleagues and to our teachers, who have done so much to help us reach the edge of knowledge which will help us achieve our goals in the larger world.

### Amal Al Araimi, *Public Relations*

At this moment we all have mixed feelings. Of course we are happy to finish what we came to accomplish but we also cannot realize how to face the reality of leaving it all behind.

I would like to say thanks to everyone who has supported and mentored me during my college journey. In the past few years, I've learned how not to let any struggle disrupt my motivation in learning and succeeding, to expect the best and work only for the best, to give so much time to improving myself that I have no time to criticize others. I am proud to say that today I have grown, I am different from the person I was when I first came here.

Now, we can say hello to a new adventure, our academic and professional journey does not end at the moment of graduation, but it is the beginning to achieve our dreams and hopes that we have always dreamed of during the study period. It is an opportunity to develop our skills and look for ways to train and apply what we have learned, so that we are efficient and fully qualified for the job we wish.

### Ali Al Balushi

#### *Public Relations*

When I entered college, I had a lot of doubts, wonders and questions: what I am going to achieve?

Would I be able to reach my ambition, achieve my goal? Would I be proud of myself. Would my people be proud of me?

Well, this is the moment to get the answer. My experience in the media and theatre fields has facilitated my comprehension of many courses, which require practical experience to be understood in the best way. That includes my participation in social and media events in Sur CAS.



### Yusuf Al Mamari, *Digital Media*

Digital media is a blend of technology and content. It requires a team of professionals with diverse technical, artistic, analytical, production and coordination skills to build a higher quality of content production. All of these skills need to be balanced in all the members of the team or focus on creating the best user experience.

Sur CAS provided me with the best environment and skills that helped evolve my conceptual and practical thoughts in my specialization of Digital Media beginning with learning the fundamentals of design. I have worked on software video editing programs such as Maya, Dreamweaver, Flash, InDesign, Premier, Photoshop and AfterEffects.

I also worked as a Multi-Professional Camera operator and have participated in beneficial workshops offered in the college that have provided me with advanced new skills.

### Jamila Al Muqemi, *Public Relations*

Through my study in the College of Applied Science in Sur, I have acquired a range of skills such as, computer skills, writing skills and the use of programs for design and for data analysis. I have also gained confidence and the tools that help me to communicate effectively with people. This has made it easy for me to communicate with all segments of society in spite of their different customs and cultures. Also, I have learned how to manage my time and be patient in completing my daily work. Working in a team in the college has increased my team spirit and all of this has increased my knowledge, so that I have become a more social person and collaborator with everyone.

### Suad Al Alawi, *Journalism*

For the first time I have found myself. I had special moments with friends and a beautiful time. In academics, I gained knowledge and confidence which helps me enter the workplace with passion, ambition and courage.

Yes, there were many difficulties during my years of study in college, but my family always supported me to complete my degree. I was excited to participate in student activities, and won some awards and recognition. I have had several experiences of success, and I am proud of them. I now leave this college with a lot of beautiful memories.

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*Sur Post is a periodic journal written and produced by students of Sur College of Applied Sciences*

## CAS students participate in Malaysia youth event

*More than 1000 emerging world leaders represented 100 countries at the 10<sup>th</sup> University Scholars Leadership Symposium in Kuala Lumpur, writes Amal Khamis Al Araimi*

Kuala Lumpur, Sept. 16, 2019

Six honour students from the five Colleges of Applied Sciences (CAS) and the College of Education, Rustaq, participated in the 10th University Scholars Leadership Symposium (USLS), held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from August 1 to 7.

Abdul Aziz Mustahil Akaak, a student of Salah CAS who took part in the 10th USLS, said: “This is an experience I will look back on with fond memories: I travelled to a foreign land, met amazing people and listened to motivational speakers. I also interacted with and learnt from different people and their cultures.”

The USLS is specifically designed to provide future leaders of the 21st century with a vision of how to distinguish themselves in their commitment to making the world a better place for the human race. More than 1000 emerging world leaders represented 100 countries around the world in the symposium under the slogan, “Together we serve”.

A distinguished panel of professional trainers, life coaches and world renowned humanitarian workers, like documentary filmmaker Chris Temple and President of the National University of Singapore, Professor Tan Ing Che, among others, demonstrated “how to realize the boundless scope of their potential” and to be an agent of global change.

The delegates were also given the opportunity to “act and



impact” under which the delegates in groups embarked on various volunteer programs so as to “maximise their shared impact”. Some participants interacted with the Malaysian community on the Service Learning Day by doing volunteer work for refugee children from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria and other countries. Other groups worked to remove 450 kgs of waste from a local river in order to preserve the habitat of fireflies.

Salalah student Abdul-Aziz said that speakers at the symposium opened his eyes to the world when they described worldwide strug-



gles, such as lost orphans on the streets of Cambodia, the horrors that millions of refugees face around the world among other heart rending realities. “These individuals allowed me to picture the lives of others through their words and helped me not only to appreciate the life I have, but also raised my desire to make a change, no matter how small,” he said.

Ahoud Saeed Al Hanaiy, a student from Ibri CAS, said: “Participating in this symposium has given me more knowledge about the issues the world is suffering from. It gave me inspiration and motivation to serve people and society more than ever. This symposium brought us together to teach us to serve the world together and to serve others, even by the simplest things that can change a person's life.”

*This article was published in Muscat Daily, Oct. 3, 2019*