

Oman Medical College Newsletter

(In Academic Partnership with West Virginia University)



Orientation for Batch 2014 - 2015



Academic Advising Workshop



MED 2020 Conference



Dr. Yaseen with Egypt's Cultural Attaché

The Dean's Office and Academic Affairs

Orientation for Batch 2014 - 2015 The 2014/15 Academic year began on September 14 with 117 admissions to pre-medicine and 35 admissions to pharmacy programs. Students toured the college and were oriented to different facilities and departments.

Faculty Meeting: On 25th September, Dr. Yaseen, Dean Pre-medical and Pharmacy program, welcomed faculty and staff to the 2014/15 academic year. The new faculty were introduced and inducted regarding the mission, vision, policies and academic advising. The meeting was followed by a luncheon.

Academic Advising Workshop for the New Faculty: On 25th September, Dr. Yaseen conducted a workshop for the new faculty explaining the importance of student advising.

Orientation to Yr 3 Pre-Med Students: On 30th September, Dr. Yaseen addressed the students on the following issues:

1. Their pending courses
2. 2.5 GPA reminder by the end of third year
3. Criteria for registering regular and remedial courses in summer
4. Hostel

MED 2020 Conference: Dr. Yaseen & Dr. Saleh attended a two day conference titled MED 2020 ON 26th and 27th October 2014 held at the Intercontinental Hotel. The main objective of this conference was to promote superior Health Care Outcomes in the MENA region. Physicians, Medical Students, Faculty and other health care professionals were the audience for this event.

Meeting with Egypt's Cultural Attaché: Dr. Yaseen was invited by the Egyptian cultural attaché at the embassy's office to discuss the performance of Egyptian students at OMC.

Publications

Following articles were published in peer reviewed journals in last few months.

1. **N.A.Y. Al-Saimi, H.R. Chitme, M. Al Mandhari**, Dietary factors influencing stomach cancer incidence in Omani patients. *European Journal of Cancer*, 2014, 50(4), e39-e40.
2. Jose Kurian and **P. Jayasekhar** ‘A validated HPTLC method for the determination of clopidogrel in pharmaceutical dosage forms’ *World Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical sciences*. (2014); 3(10):1244-1252.
3. **Nida'a Mohammed Ali, Pratap David, Said Saud Said Al Harthi and Alka Ahuja**, Challenges of communication skills in Pharmacy Practice, *Current research in Biological and Pharmaceutical Sciences*, Volume 3, Issue 3, May June 2014.
4. **AR.Mullaicharam, Joseph Francis** et al, Analysis of different Teaching Methodologies Applied in Undergraduate Programmes at various academic institutions in Muscat –A Survey Based Research, *Asian Journal of Pharmaceutical Technology & Innovation*, 02 (08); 2014.
5. MA Koladi, M Akhtar, S Ahmad, S J Ahmad, and **Shah A Khan**. Substantiation on short term efficacy and safety of insulin analogues in North Indian superspeciality hospital. *Indonesian Journal of Pharmacy*, 2014;25(3): 174-180.
6. Lubna A, Mujeeb M, Showkat R. M, **Khan SA**, Ahmad A. Comparative assessment of extraction methods and quantitative estimation of Luteolin in the leaves of *Vitex negundo* Linn. by HPLC. *Asian Pacific Journal of Tropical Biomedicine*, 2014; 4(Suppl 2): S708-S712.

FURAP Research Proposals

A) A research proposal entitled “**Comparison of antioxidant activity, total phenolic contents and *in-vitro* inhibitory effects on α -glucosidase and α -amylase level of five native Omani date seed cultivars**” has been approved by the research council (TRC), Oman for funding under the Faculty Mentored Undergraduate Research Award Program (FURAP) call 2. The research project will be carried out by final year Pharmacy students namely Ms. Amira Rashid Al Kiyumi (Group leader) and her team comprising of Manal Saif Ali Al Sheidi, Tagreed Salim Fadhil Al Khusaibi and Noura Mohammed Ahmed Al Shehhi under the supervision of Dr. Shah Alam Khan. Date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera* L.) is the most popular plant cultivated for its edible fruit in the desert oasis of the Arab world for centuries. Date seeds or pits are waste material but traditionally these pits have been used as coffee substitute in ‘Arabic Qahwa’. Authors hypothesized that date seeds could be the potential source of natural antioxidants due to the presence of phenolic compounds which are known to possess diverse pharmacological actions including antioxidant activity. Therefore, it is proposed to study the antioxidant activity and possible anti-diabetic activity of five native and commonly used Omani date cultivars.



B) The research proposal titled ‘Modifiable and Non-modifiable risk factors of gestational diabetes in Omani patients’ has also been accepted by The Research Council for funding under FURAP scheme. Study will be carried by the team consisting of Ms. Sumaya Abdullah Said Al Shibli (Leader) and Ms. Raya Mahmood Khalid Al-Shamari under the mentorship of Dr. H. R. Chitme. The study is designed with an objective to determine the relationship of gestational diabetes mellitus risk factors in Omani patients. Study will be carried out at Nizwa Hospital, Sohar Hospital and Armed force hospital for one year period. The outcome of the study is expected to elaborate on level of association of geographical, dietary, exercise, obesity, medical, medications, and family factors increasing or decreasing the risk of developing diabetes during pregnancy.

Student Affairs



Student Council Elections were held on 1st October 2014 and the following are the newly elected office bearers of the student council.

President	Thoo Al Fakar Sami Shaheed Abdul Jabbar
Vice President	Fatema Ahmed Mohammed Al Badi
Treasurer	Daniel Amir
Head of Media and Publicity	Ibtisam Khalfan Hamed Al Rashdi
Coordinator Media & Publicity	Muna Hyder
Asst. Coordinator Media & Publicity	Mohammed Ashraf
Head of Scientific Programs	Hanadi Al Busaidi
Coordinator of scientific programs	Aya Hassan Al Hamed
Asst. Coordinator of scientific programs	Muzna Al Asmi
Head of Literary & Cultural programs	Asil Asim Hamed Al Ghaiti
Coordinator of literary & cultural programs	Fatema Jasim Eshaqi
Asst. coordinator –literary & cultural programs	Maha Sabeeh
Head of Hostel	Ashwaq Rashid Mohammed Al Ghaithi
Coordinator of Hostel	Ibtisam Khalfan Hamed Al Rashdi
Head of Student Welfare & Cafeteria	Yahya Sultan Al Adi
Coordinator of student welfare & cafeteria	Mohammed Ashraf
Asst. Coordinator of student welfare & Cafeteria	Asma Al Maskari
Year 2 Premed class representative	Wala Ibrahim
Year 2 Pharmacy class representative	Rawan Abdel Razik
Year 3 Pharmacy class representative	Muna Hyder
Year 4 Pharmacy class representative	Maha Sabeeh

Medical Student's Meet

Oman Medical Students 4th General Assembly Meet was held “at Sultan Qaboos University under the theme “Healthcare Industry” on 17th and 18th October 2014, students from medical colleges and other healthcare related disciplines participated in this two day event. The event was organized by Sultan Qaboos University - Medical Students Group. Training sessions, workshops, scientific activities and social programs were some of the highlights of this event. Muna Hyder, Lujaina Abdullah and Meera Hassan Al Balushi from the Bowsheer campus represented OMC. Dr. Saleh Al Khusaiby, Dean of OMC- Sohar and Dr. Yaseen Al Lawati Dean of the Premed and Pharmacy program were the special guests of the event.

Note: the picture above shows Dr. Abdullah Al Harthy, Deputy Director of Sultan Qaboos University Hospital with Dr. Saleh and Dr. Yaseen.

The picture below shows Dr. Yaseen with participants from the OMC Sohar campus.



Library and Information Services department conducts workshop on “Accessing Databases & Electronic Resources” for students and Faculty.



Workshop Content:

Module 1: Electronic library resources-Introduction and Overview – Different range of electronic journals and types of scholarly databases available.

Module 2: Introduction to the SOLE Portal and the resources available in the Portal - Overview and demonstration of the resources.

Module 3: Effective searching - Searching electronic journals, scholarly databases and associated online resources.

For further details please contact Ms Sudha. (Ext-171)

E Resources and Databases

To access the E resources and Databases, you need SOLE portal's username and password. Faculty and students can contact Mr. Sultan Hamed Suliman Al-Bakri (Ext-130) from the Library and information Services department and register their name for the SOLE access. The last date of registration is **16th Nov, 2014** for the year 2014-2015.

Mr. Sultan Hamed Al-Bakri attended symposium on “Health Information overload: challenges & solutions” at Royal Hospital, Muscat from 15th – 16th October, 2014.



Activities of HR & External Relations Department

Ms. Asma Al-Araimi participated in the local educational exhibition on 28/10/2014 organized by Thuraya Al-Busaidi School. Ms. Asma has given an orientation to the school children about OMC programmes and curriculum and had an interactive session with the students in order to enable them to choose the suitable courses for their higher education.



Statistical Meet: A group of students from Sultan Qaboos University from Statistics and Mathematics programme organized the statistical meet in OMC in cooperation with National Center of Statistics and Information. Many OMC students have attended this and they had a good explanation and understanding about statistics.



The following students of OMC had attended “Talent’s Event” (Gallery 2) including (Photography workshop and Photo show) organized by Oman Dental College on 21/10/2014.

1. Ibtisam Al-Rashdi
2. Muzna Al-Nasri
3. Rufaidah Al-Shahi
4. Taif Al-Kaabi
5. Salam Al-Yahyai
6. Hana Al-Nadhairi



Newsletter committee Members:

Dr Yaseen, Dr Alka, Dr Mohamed Borghan, Ms Sudha, Ms Shabana, Ms Maha, Dr Geetali, Ms Vasheena, Mr. Sultan Hamed Al Bakri