

## From the Editor's Desk

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Welcome to the Issue 5, Volume 3, Edition of WCAS E-Newsletter !

After the long sweltering summer, with its share of highlights and low points, we once again brace ourselves for the academic as well as activity-filled march forward!

WCAS, this year also kept up the trend of past years and participated in GHEDEX 2013 as Gold Sponsor. It was held at the Oman International Exhibition Center in April, 2013. Despite bad weather, many visitors visited the WCAS stall. They evinced keen interest in our programs. The prime focus of this event is to focus on the quality of education by inviting accredited universities and colleges to participate and show case their programs and curriculum to the prospective students of this country.

The dean, Dr. Mohan Varma did the college proud when he was invited to chair the technical session on "Combustion Modeling" at the 5th European Conference for Aeronautics and Space Sciences (EUCASS-2013) held at Munich, Germany in July, 2013. He also presented a research paper entitled, "Comparative Study of Rheological Properties of Ethanol and UDMH based Gel Propellants" co-authored with collaborating academicians from Republic of Korea.

The cap of WCAS has been adorned with a few more colorful feathers in the exemplary achievements of its faculty members-paper presentations at international conferences, workshops, publications in international journals and to crown it all, being awarded a doctoral degree!

The second ALUMNI meet 2013 was organized at the college campus in May, 2013. The dean, Dr. Mohan Varma welcomed the gathering and emphasized the significance of ALUMNI association as a means of connecting the college with graduates of different years, as their experiences are valuable in building up a vibrant relationship with their Alma Mater. "Stay connected- Nurture bond" was the main theme of WCAS Alumni meet, 2013.

WCAS proudly announced the Dual degree in engineering programs from the session 2013-14 with the Queen's University in Canada and the University of Leeds, England. This program offers our engineering students global exposure in higher education. "It is the result of our ongoing efforts to enhance the quality of education that we currently offer and many students have already availed the Dual degree option in UK". The icing on the cake of WCAS is that it has succeeded in getting its name recognised in Cambridge University students Guide 2013 . All Kudos to our team, for his unstinted efforts to raise the name of our college at different global platforms.

Meetings and partings are the stuff life is made of. WCAS bid a fond farewell to two of our well-loved colleagues from the Department of Management and Department of Computer Science and Engineering, who left for their future assignments in India and UAE.

Finally, let us look forward to a stint of enjoyable reading on board, and savor the variety of fares that it offers! Our sincere thanks and acknowledgment to all our contributors without whom this issue would not have become a reality .....



# ACHIEVEMENTS

Prof. Mohan Varma, Dean WCAS was invited to chair the technical session on Combustion Modelling at the 5th European Conference for Aeronautics and Space Sciences (EUCASS – 2013) held at Munich, Germany during July 1-5, 2013. Dr. Varma also presented a research paper entitled “Comparative Study of Rheological Properties of Ethanol and UDMH based Gel Propellants” co-authored with collaborating academicians from Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Republic of Korea. During this period he interacted with the senior scientists and academics attending the event from all over the world and visited prestigious MT Aerospace Company, Germany.



Prof. Mohan Varma



Dr. Srilekha Goveas

In June, 2013, Ms. Srilekha Goveas, Assistant Professor of the Management Department has been awarded doctoral degree on her thesis titled “Women's Career Success and Work Life Balance in Medical Profession in Sultanate of Oman” from Banasthali University, India, under the guidance of Dr Ipshita Bansal.

Dr. Soofi Asra Mubeen, Asst. Professor of Dept. of Management, WCAS, has published a paper in International Journal of Management, IT and Engineering with following details:

Soofi, A.M., Azeem, M,A (2013). Training and Development of Non Executives in Tourism Sector – A study of APTDC, India. International Journal of Management, IT and Engineering, Vol.3, Issue 6, pg 395 – 414. ISSN 2249-0558.



Dr. Soofi

Dr. Arockiam Prakash, Asst. Professor of Dept. of Management, WCAS, presented a paper entitled “A study on Economic growth and Economic development with special reference to Sultanate of Oman” in the International Conference on Business Management from 17th-18th April, 2013 at Dhofar University, Sultanate of Oman.



Dr. A. Prakash



Ms. Vallikannu

Ms. Vallikannu , Asst.Professor, Dept.of Computer Science and Engineering, WCAS has presented a paper on “Survey of Text Mining “ at International Conference On Technology and Business Management , held at American University, Dubai from 18th – 20th March, 2013.





Dr. Mohan Varma

The new academic session 2013-2014 has just begun. We welcome all the new students who have joined in different academic programs of the college. WCAS continuously strives to provide its students a renewed learning experience through a high quality academic curriculum, professional mentorship and well designed innovative and co-curricular activities. You will soon start getting a feel of it right from your induction program that will acquaint you with various facets of life on the campus.

Our foundation program has been re-structured to make it more effective to prepare students for the main courses and a state of art Language Laboratory has been added to enhance the learning process this year. The existing students will also find visible changes in their upgraded laboratories, library with additional learning resources and RFID based issue and return system, additional engineering softwares, newly commissioned ERP system to provide better overall experience with student services besides a new student centre catering to counseling and entertainment needs.

We know that there is no substitute to hard work and discipline. The young men and women joining our programs are advised to work hard right from the beginning under the guidance of experienced faculty members. We encourage our students to set their career goal early in life and mentor them to accomplish it by providing all necessary support. The first step in this direction is the quality of imparted education and emphasis on personality development that prepares you to take up responsibility and encourages accepting challenges. Various co-curricular activities in the college are designed to unfold the hidden talent in each individual and we invite each one of you to participate in activities of your interest and choice.

Life is a competition right from the start and the one who is better trained and prepared eventually emerges as a winner. The contemporary world is fiercely competitive. WCAS has crafted a well structured approach to help the students to achieve excellence by committing themselves to assigned tasks. Your serious involvement in studies and belief in your abilities, aided by professional counseling and hand holding by your mentors shall surely transform you into a bright and worthy individual ready to serve the country and the community by the time you graduate.

Innovative approaches and learning through practical experience imbibed in our curriculum, hones up your skills in developing an analytical mind and flair to accept challenging tasks with determination to perform better than others. Your exposure through training programs, industrial visits, and interaction with leaders from corporate and industrial world besides renowned academicians will substantially enrich the learning experience. WCAS promotes spirit to explore and experiment, recognizes and awards talented students and aims to develop leaders of tomorrow.

You are at a right platform for a great launch in your pursuit for knowledge. Best of luck.

*"Only the curious will learn and only the resolute overcome the obstacles to learning. The quest quotient has always excited me more than the intelligence quotient."*

- Eugene S. Wilson



## GHEDEX-2013



Our Academic Programmes Well Portrayed In GHEDEX.

Keeping the trend of past years, this year also Waljat College of Applied Sciences participated in GHEDEX 2013 as Gold Sponsor. The event was organised from 23rd to 25th April 2013 at the Oman International Exhibition Center. The event was inaugurated by H.H Sayyid Taimur Bin As'ad Al Said, Assistant Secretary General for International Relations, The Research Council. The Ministry of Higher Education has played a vital role in supporting GHEDEX since its launch 12 years ago.

The prime focus of this event is to focus on the quality of education by inviting accredited universities and colleges to participate and showcase their programmes and curriculum to the prospective students of this country. This year over 175 Universities from 25 countries exhibited at GHEDEX. Despite bad weather, many visitors visited the WCAS stall. They showed keen interest in our programs. Most of the parents discussed with us the Engineering programs and Master Degree Programs.



Visitors Are Well Inspired!

## French Academic visits WCAS, recommends Curriculum in Sports Management



Challenges Can Be Diverse But Together We Solve!

Dr. Nicolos Scelles from the University of Poitiers and Madame Francoise from France visited Waljat College of Applied Sciences and had official meeting and discussion with Dr. Mohan Varma, Dean, WCAS, Mr. B.B. Pant, Dean External Relations & Coordination B.I.T. Ranchi, Assistant Dean, Dr. Padmini Padmanabhan and Associate Professor, Dr. G.P. Mishra. Dr. Scellesis, an expert on Sports Management has earned a Doctorate from University of Caen Basse –Normandie and has more than 30 publications in various refereed journals including the latest published book on "Uncertainty of outcome, key success of professional sport spectacle, finance, management and competitive intensity of leagues between measured impacts and perceived effects". He discussed, "The challenges facing sport" in recent times Sport Management in Oman in the context of Oman Sail since 2008, Cycling tour of Oman since 2010 and Asian Beach Games held in 2010.

## Industrial Visit



Sharing The Joy Of Connecting With People

- Students of BE CS-6th and 8th Semester visited the NAWARAS HQ. Students were briefed about the entire network system of Nawras in the country and its operations.
- Students of BE-EC 8th Semester visited the studio and transmission tower of Hi-FM.



In Touch With People Who Are In Touch



## DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY HOLDS COLLOQUIUM

A Colloquium of the Bio technology department was held on 29th May, 2013. It was well attended, being represented by faculty members of the departments of Electronics, Computer Science and Bio technology. The event was graced by our Dean , Dr. Mohan Varma. The credit for the best presentation went to Mr. Anoop Murali, the topic of the presentation being Smart Skin: Artificial Electronics. "Super Skin" powered by solar cells.



Just A Small Step!  
Are Geared For More!



Enlightenment Academicians  
Brightening Our Faculty!

## BIT@WALJAT

The portals of WCAS were illumined by the Academic team of experts who visited us and enlightened us with expert lectures. Dr. Manju Bhagat, Prof. in the department of Management, BIT spoke on "Problem Solving with Effective Communication Skills"; Prof. Nisha Gupta, Associate Dean and Professor, Department of ECE, BIT discussed and deliberated on the topic "Electromagnetic Interference and Electromagnetic Compatibility". Dr. S.K. Jain, Prof. of Applied Mathematics and Controller of Examinations, addressed the topic "Linear Programming" quite comprehensively.

## WALJAT GOES GLOBAL

Congratulations! WCAS has succeeded in getting its name recognised in Cambridge University Student Guide. All kudos to our Dean, Dr. Mohan Varma for his unstinted effort to raise the name of our college at different global platforms including the current one at the University of Cambridge, a debut for 2013, indeed! WCAS became the only Higer Education from Oman to find place in "the Guide to Excellence 2013 Edition- Global Education and Opportunities" published by Cambridge University Students' Union (CUSU), in its chapter 6 "Higher Education ( rest of the world)" section as a " Model of Excellence". Well done, WCAS...!

## STUDENTS FAREWELL PARTY

Waljat College of Applied Sciences organized a Farewell Party for the outgoing students on 20 June 2013 in the college auditorium under the guidance of Professor In charge- Students Activities Mr. Mohammad Mohatram.

The program was initiated by recitation of the Holy Quran by Mr. Khalid Khalfan Salim AL-Khaldi followed by the views and speeches of the Dean, faculties and Students. Dean shared his views on competitive advantage our students have and wished the students to reach the heights of excellence. she also asked the students to give

constructive feedback about the college so that necessary improvements can be made in the future. Ms Indrani Basu, Head of English Department while wishing the students asked them to be part of the Alumni. Students also expressed their views about the experience and the time they have spent in the college. The party was concluded with refreshment.



Leaving The Brightness To Light The  
Unknown Future



How Better Can We Serve?

## INDUSTRIAL VISIT

MBA IV semester students had gone for Industrial Visit to Millennium Resort Musannah on May 13, 2013. This visit gave them practical exposure to the subject 'Hotel Management'. The students were taken to different departments of the hotel and were told about the operations of each department. They got insight into working of Housekeeping department, Food & Beverages Production and service, Purchasing, Financing and Accounting practices followed in the hotel industry. Dr Seema Varshney and Mr. Prashant Singh accompanied the students for the visit.



## STAFF FAREWELL PARTY

The Dept. of Management and the college as a whole gathered to bid farewell to Mr. Iftexhar Ahmed, who served this college for a decade and more. Dr. Mohan Varma, Dean WCAS gracing the occasion and addressing faculty members reflected on the experience he had while working with Mr. Iftexhar during his tenure and wished him success in his future endeavors.



An Excellent Career Taken To Another Centre!



Quiet & Studious Leaves- A Model To Emulate

Having served the College for about 7 years, a farewell was organized by the Department of Computer Science and Engineering for Dr. Santosh Kumar Ray on Wednesday, 20th August 2013 at Grill House. Faculty members of Computer Science and Engineering, thanking Dr. Santosh Kumar Ray for his contribution to the College during his 7 years stay, wished him success in his future endeavors.

## WCAS Proudly Announcing Dual degree in Engineering Programs

From the session 2013-14, Waljat College of Applied Sciences is offering dual degree programs in engineering with the Queen's University in Canada and University of Leeds, England. Under this program, interested students from the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Electronics and Communication may now avail an opportunity to get an engineering degree both from the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Sciences (FEAS) at Queen's University in Canada and Birla Institute of Technology (BIT), India. Eligible students from the Department of Electronics and Communication can also avail the dual degree program with the University of Leeds, England.

"The dual degree program offers our engineering students global exposure in higher education. It will be a great learning for the students as they will receive comprehensive education from premier international universities. We are offering this program in cooperation with two of the most renowned universities in the world. BIT, of course, is a centre of excellence in India. Our dual degree program is the result of our ongoing efforts to enhance the quality of education that we currently offer and many students have already shown interest in the dual degree facility of WCAS" Dr. Mohan Varma, Dean stated.

The graduates are well placed in various organizations in the Sultanate of Oman as well as other countries. Many of them opted for higher education and joined prestigious universities/ institutes in US, UK, Germany, Singapore, Canada, Australia, China, India and other countries.

## Workshop on Interview

Workshop on "Interview Skills" was conducted for BBA, BCA and BE students of WCAS on 15th April 2013. The workshop was attended by 40 participants.

Dr Mohan Varma, Dean, WCAS inaugurated the workshop and emphasized on the importance of skills to face interviews and how to prepare oneself for interviews. He enlightened students with his motivational speech and practical examples. He appreciated the response and learning attitude of students towards the workshop.



How Best Can You Sell Yourself?

Syed Aulia, Asst. Professor gave an interactive presentation on 'Interview skills' and gave insight into how to prepare for the interviews. He stressed the importance of time management and confidence while making the presentation. This was followed by mock interview. The Workshop was more of practical learning with relevant videos and interactive presentations.

Dr.A.Prakash coordinated the work of organizing the workshop and helped the students with his tips and guidelines. The participants found the programme highly beneficial and helpful.



Waljat College of Applied Sciences organized its Second Alumni Meet on May 30th, 2013 at College Campus in Knowledge Oasis Muscat. "Stay Connected-Nurture Bond" was the main theme of WCAS Alumni Meet 2013. The meet witnessed participation from a sizable number of graduates who have been actively contributing to multitudinous business domains in diverse fields.

Dr. Mohan Varma, Dean, Waljat College of Applied Sciences, welcomed the gathering. He emphasized the significance of alumni association as a means of connecting the college with the graduates of different batches, as their experiences are valuable in building up a vibrant relationship with Alma Mater.



Waljat Has Made Us Smile !



Prizes Were Won Too.

In an endeavor to facilitate building and strengthening relationships with its alumni, WCAS launched 'Alumnee', the ERP instance dedicated to college alumni to provide an effective platform for its graduates to be in touch with current students as well as with faculty members. About sixty graduates have registered on the alumni portal so far. The highlight of the event was a film showcasing college infrastructure and glimpses of campus life followed by an interactive session arranged for alumni and college staff, which provided opportunity for experience sharing as well as revival of past memories. This annual event is one amongst the several channelized efforts made by the college to nurture and strengthen bond with its brand ambassadors.



What A Joy To Be At Home !





EL AMINE EL NOUR

## HIGHER EDUCATION IS NOT A LUXURY BUT A NECESSITY OF THIS ERA

Higher education is the ultimate goal for every one seeking self development and further knowledge or the one who is struggling towards gaining a remarkable status and prestige. Virtually, there is a wise Arabic saying telling us that "The one who likes climbing the summits, should endure sleepless nights." That means there is always a high price for any success.

No doubt, during the glorious reign of his Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, God save him, the Higher education has become abundant and available for every diligent, hard working student, who has completed the secondary school and has a certificate. It is true to mention that the Higher education is no longer a luxury or just a privilege enjoyed by the elites, but, has become an open option given to all people, especially those who have strong self drive and ambition. Today, Higher education is globally offered by internationally accredited universities and private institutions, beside other specialized institutions that provide some rare subjects in modern technology and applied sciences needed for the job market. In Oman some of these colleges are based in Muscat, and others in other big cities and truly, these Higher Education institutions are evidence of the great deeds of His Majesty Sultan's longsighted vision towards human development. In fact, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, God save him, has always been a supreme model and symbol of self drive, persistence, strong will, broad knowledge and wisdom.

Thus, the wise government of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Higher Education has played a vital role in monitoring the Higher Education Institutions' academic syllabus and programs, through accurate observation and review of educational process and performance. Notably, the Ministry of Higher Education has set measures and standards to be applied at the higher education institutions in Oman e. g. Oman Accreditation Council and OAAA.

Today, every aspiring student in Oman enjoys an equal chance of applying and proceeding towards higher education according to their personal preferences and self desires, when the poor students are getting free scholarship and public support

Accordingly, Higher Education looks after every regular study that succeeds Higher secondary school certificate with accredited success, aiming at acquiring higher degrees, whether a diploma- , advanced diploma, Masters or a Ph.D.

And as previously mentioned, the Higher education becomes a desire and a supreme goal for every person desiring vast knowledge achievements and self development for facing the rapid changes of the era and other requirements. But every Higher education student whether in Oman or in the other parts of the world has to benefit much from the availability of higher education institutions e.g. Public universities, higher Institutes or the private colleges scattered everywhere. The student has to be very smart, diligent, persistent and hardworking at any field of study either academic, technical, practical or a research field. Students should begin with the proper choice of study at the suitable university or a private college choosing the academic line of study that fits his / her mental abilities and personal interests. And each family should support and respect the children's academic interest.





**Khushbu Bharat  
Bhatt(BE/50005/11)**  
(BE biotech 4th semester)

I heard everyone wish their mothers and I realized with the tears rolling down my cheeks as all the memories came flooding back....

I still get nightmares of that dreaded night which had started with my 18th birthday celebration at the Taj, Mumbai: 26th November 2008. The day I lost my mother to a bullet...

"Sweetpea, hurry up! All your friends will be there soon", said my mom as she guided me into the hotel lobby. "Mom! Relax; the party is not until 9pm and its just 7pm now." I found a seat right in front of the television and sat down. All of sudden, a hand touched my shoulder; I jerked back in surprise, but relaxed as soon I saw that it was mom.

She looked into my eyes with pure love and happiness reflecting in hers. Those words are still ringing in my ears. She said, "Honey, you have turned into an adult now. Adulthood brings loads of power to enjoy freedom but you must not forget that with bigger power comes greater responsibilities, there is deceit, treachery, despair and evil everywhere but you must fight through those to find hope, happiness, joy and friends, I will be there on the sidelines watching you race, and if you fall down, I will help you rise again and make you feel that you can make your decisions now, but these wrinkles have come with years of experience, Don't ever hesitate to ask for my help, I was and I will always be your shoulder to lean on. And lastly dear promise me that you will keep up your fight even when I am not there with you..."

"Mom, please don't say that..." before I could tell my mom how much I loved her or thank her for her never ending support. A shot rang through the emotional environment which soon turned into a bloody mess. My mom tackled me to the carpet. I waited for my mom to move aside so I could take a breath. But, empty eyes were all I could see. Slowly, my shirt became wet at the place where my heart was beating fast. It didn't take me long to realize that my mom had seen the terrorists aim on me and took the bullet to save my life.

I stayed still, could not move a finger. I heard several blood curdling screams and bullet shots but I somehow survived through all.

Today standing here, at the mother's day celebration as I hand a rose to every mother. I just want to say that, "hold on to your mother tight because you never know when what will happen..."



## Quality Assurance in Higher Education

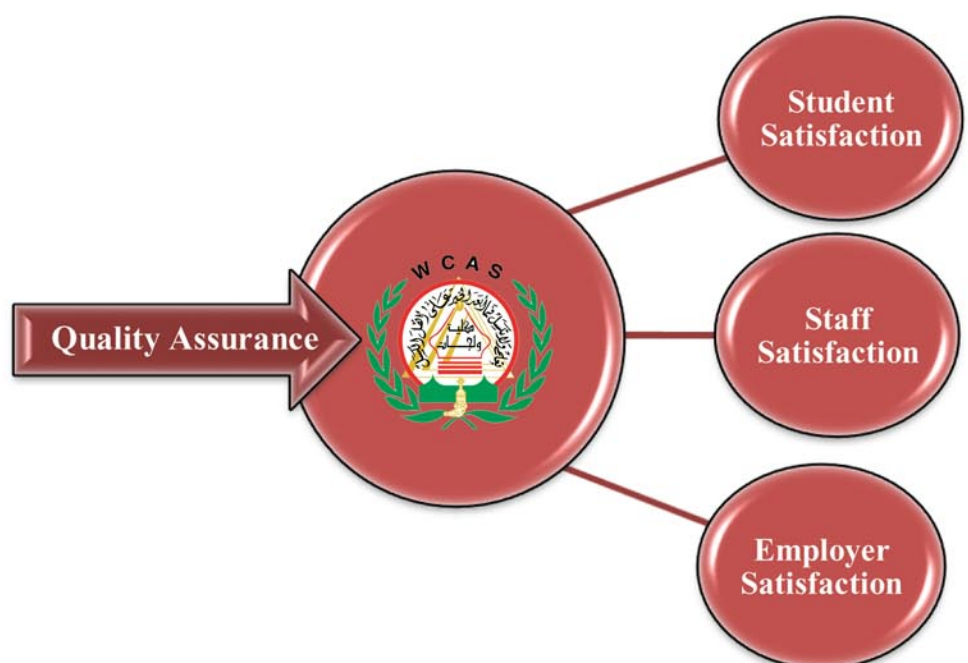
Higher Education is vital for the progress of a country. Students are the center of a Higher Education Institution. A quality higher education is central to Oman's social and economic development. Quality in Higher Education enables students' to achieve their goals thereby meeting the needs of the society.



**Fig 1: What is Quality Assurance?**

## Quality Assurance in WCAS

Quality Assurance is the responsibility of every one in WCAS. A rigorous and robust quality assurance system gives confidence to all our students and other stakeholders that the College is progressing in the right direction.





## Students' role in our Quality Assurance Process

All activities in WCAS revolve around our students. The Quality Assurance Department along with staff working in every department of WCAS wishes to provide our students with the best learning experience. Students can assist in improving our quality systems by

1. **Taking active part in their own learning process** – The focus of education is student centered learning where students take equal responsibility of their learning process. Cultivate your study skills, time management skills, research skills. Get in touch with your teachers or Heads of Department if you require more assistance.
2. **Providing accurate feedback on their Course** – At the end of each semester, students will be asked to fill a Student Feedback Form online in the computer lab. Taking part in these activities and giving us the right information will help us in improving your learning.
3. **Making full use of the Class Advisor System** – Each student will be assigned a Class Advisor who will guide students in their academic and professional development. Meeting the Class Advisors and receiving their guidance will help in improving your learning.
4. **Taking the role of Student Representative in a responsible way** – Student Representatives can play an active role in the formal feedback system. If you are a student representative, attend meetings regularly and take up issues of your peers in a formal and responsible manner.
5. **Representing the voice of other students through Student Council and other formal mechanisms** – All students in WCAS are given opportunities to suggest their feedback. Students can use the Student Representatives or Student Council members to convey issues that they would like the College Management to address.

All these mechanisms will help in identifying good and bad practices and improve ourselves accordingly.

We appreciate and value your feedback.  
Send in your suggestions and feedback to  
Hannah Manogaran, Quality Controller  
qc@waljat.net, Phone:24449194, extn 194



## A strong foundation for a bright tomorrow

Specializing in Engineering, IT and Business Administration, Waljat College of Applied Sciences offers world-class University Education in Oman.

WCAS adopts academic programs in line with programs offered around the world, focusing on the significance of academic research and practical laboratory work. This guarantees that, you as a graduate have a head start in building a bright career path.

**REGISTRATIONS  
OPEN**

WCAS strategic partnership with the Birla Institute of Technology, Ranchi, India - one of the most respected universities, specializing in information Technology and Engineering would add tremendous value and enrich your academic pursuits.

### PROGRAMS OFFERED

#### Engineering Programs

##### Undergraduate Level

**Bachelor of Engineering in:**  
Biotechnology  
Computer Science  
Electronics & Communication Engineering

#### Applied Sciences and Management Programs

##### Postgraduate Level

**Executive Master of Business Administration**  
**Master of Business Administration**

##### Undergraduate Level

**Bachelor in Business Administration**  
**Bachelor in Computer Application**



**كلية ولجات للعلوم التطبيقية**  
**WALJAT COLLEGE OF APPLIED SCIENCES**



Application forms are available at Admission & Registration Department or can be downloaded from our website: [www.waljatcollege.edu.om](http://www.waljatcollege.edu.om) for further details contact us at: [admissions@waljat.net](mailto:admissions@waljat.net)  
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