Welcome friends to the e-newsletter, issue-1, Volume 4!
Wishing all our readers, a happy and successful new year 2014, we at WCAS brace ourselves for the breakthroughs and challenges that it will bring in its wake.....
Stated simply, the purpose of life is a life with purpose. Take a leap. Rise above your circumstances to your next level of greatness.

“Success cannot be pursued; success ensues....”

A moment of glory indeed for the ‘achiever faculty’ of WCAS who have published papers in international journals, and have been crowned with doctoral degrees in their chosen domains. We are proud of them!
WCAS has found its way in Oxford UK publication of World Universities, a matter of great honor and pride for us. The inclusion of WCAS in the above collection gives a new image to our college and opens doors for presenting future programs and methodologies in such a prestigious international forum, Socrates Almanac, 2013-14 edition.
The 25th of November, 2013 was a memorable day at WCAS, as it celebrated the “National Day” with a program filled with music, poetry, plays and such cultural endeavors showcasing the history and heritage of Oman and thus capturing the spirit of the occasion. The event was presided over by Dr. Saad Salem Al-Wahaibi, the Quality Assurance Expert from the Ministry of Higher Education as Chief Guest, the Dean Dr. Mohan Varma and a large number of staff and students.

Leadership and team spirit walk hand in hand, as we are all aware. But only in a free and fair election process could guarantee that The Annual Election of WCAS Student’s Council was held on 18th November, 2013. The polling was about unprecedented sixty percent. Even a number of part-time students were able to participate in the voting process this time, as the election was extended to the afternoon hours. Congratulations to the elected winners!
One of the most prestigious events that took place on 18th December, 2013 was the Annual Merit Scholarship Awarding Ceremony. The BIT Merit Scholarship was instituted in the academic year 2008-09. On the very same day and platform, the Dean Dr. Mohan Varma announced the Best Project Award-2013 in the presence of distinguished guests, HoDs and parents/guardians of students. The Best Project Awards were introduced from the academic year 2012-13. The motive behind the institution of this award is to inculcate a culture of research and innovation among students.

WCAS has made wide strides again by establishing an academic relationship between WCAS, Muscat and Queens University, Canada, strengthened with the visit of Professor Scott Yam, Associate Dean, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Sciences of Queens University, Kingston, Canada on 3rd December, 2013. Selected students of WCAS can now avail 16 months internship and a Post Bachelor degree.

Last but not the least, a motivational lecture by Mr. Hashim Al-Hasani-Executive Director, Shell Oman on “how to be a successful businessman” inspired our final year undergraduate students, and provided them with food for thought as well as guidance.

In conclusion, may I have the privilege of profusely thanking all those who contributed in making this issue worthy of being read and appreciated.

“The past is water under the bridge and the future is a distant sun on the horizon of your imagination. The most important moment is now. Learn to live in it and savor it fully” - Robin Sharma
Thompson David Manohar, Assistant Professor, Department of English, has been awarded doctoral degree on “Christian leadership” with studies on Creative writing, Visionary Leadership and Whole Brain Learning in 2013 from the Christian Leadership University of New York. His paper on ‘Whole Brain Learning’ can be viewed in the University site’s blog: www.cwgministries.org/blogs/whole-brain-learning-tdavid-manohar

Ms. Nupur Sen, Assistant Professor of the Management Department has been awarded doctoral degree on her thesis titled “Barriers to Career Advancement for Women in Oman Employed in the Services Sector” from Banasthali University, Rajasthan, in November 2013, under the guidance of Dr Ipshita Bansal and Dr. G.P Mishra.

Dr. Arockiam Prakash, Asst. Professor of Dept. of Management, WCAS, has published a paper in International Journal with following details: A. Prakash “Trend and Growth in Advances, Outstanding and Recovery Position of Bhutan Development Finance Corporation LTD”, International Journal of Application or Innovation in Engineering & Management (IJAIEM), September, 2013

Ms. Kusum Lata Mishra, Associate Lecturer of Dept. of Management, WCAS, has published a paper in International Journal with following details: Ms. Kusum Lata Mishra & Dr. G.P. Mishra on “Establishing Relationship between Stress and Eating Leading to Overweight among College Students in Sultanate of Oman”, Journal of Business and Economics, ISSN 2155-7950, USA, June 2013, Volume 4, No. 6, pp. 529-535


"A good leader is not the person who does things right, but the person who finds the right things to do."  
Anthony T. Dadovano
The annual election of WCAS students’ council was held on Monday, 18th November 2013. Student affairs Department in coordination with the Professor-In-Charge of Activities took great responsibility in preparing, organizing and facilitating the voting process. Students from all disciplines took part in the elections. As closing time for the election was extended to the afternoon hours, a number of part time students also took part in the voting. The polling was about 60%. The following students were duly elected for the post mentioned against each:

**FUTURE LEADERS! TAKE UP LEADERSHIP ROLES!**

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<td><strong>Rafel Naji Jabeir</strong></td>
<td><strong>Shaikha AL-Jabri</strong></td>
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<td>Secretary of Adventure Club</td>
<td>Secretary of Cultural Club</td>
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<td><strong>Tina Ranjan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Mehek Khokar</strong></td>
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<td>Secretary of English Club</td>
<td>Secretary of Entrepreneurship Club</td>
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"You can learn from anyone even your enemy."
— Ovid

"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."
— John F. Kennedy

"It is better to learn late than never."
— Publilius Syrus
First Century BC, Maxim 864
Heartiest Greetings of New Year to all our students, colleagues and well wishers. The New Year has brought new hopes and aspirations and along with it fresh challenges and determination to overcome them. We have shown commitment to march towards excellence, team work to attain set targets and goals and open-mindedness to assimilate best academic practices in our system, in the yester years. Having established the required platform to achieve our vision and mission, we would like to focus on innovation in whatever we do, in 2014. The habit of thinking with a difference has yielded encouraging results in terms of our students winning awards in prestigious competitions, award of doctorate degrees to many of our faculty members and over-all international acceptance and recognition among the institutions from this part of the world.

WCAS strives to constantly innovate and encourages its students, faculty and staff members to be creative and imaginative. Five simple approaches required to be innovative are:
1. Do not accept things ‘as it is’.
2. Question the existing practice.
3. Look at the problem from various angles.
4. Weigh the solution options and select the best one.
5. Where there is problem, there is surely a solution.

In a system, where all follow the set norms, mediocrity resides. It is easy and tempting to adopt a well beaten path but to achieve extraordinary heights one needs courage, initiative and ideas that should be vigorously pursued. Younger minds must accept the challenge to become the vehicle of transformation.

A new idea is often soft and fragile. It can be killed in a moment by experienced and existing intelligence. We see it around us every day that the new incumbent to an organization is taught about do’s and don’ts, the best practices the organization already follows, that system has evolved through the learning of the past or maybe we are the best in the business around. This approach leads to the major constraints in innovation and virtually kills imagination. The response of a new comer in such a system generally leads to ignoring challenges, choosing to patch up rather attempting to change, filling the cracks instead of finding out the reasons for imperfections and fire fighting in lieu of preventing the fire itself.

Creativity is the first casualty in the comfort zone. Challenge and competition are essential to bring out the best. Bright minds that are imaginative and connected complement each other to generate new ideas. One needs to pursue good ideas without fear of failure. Failure also teaches us two important lessons – to know what doesn’t work and to try something different and more refined. Patience and perseverance pay enormously in pursuit of innovation. Many bright but delicate ideas are shattered because of haste and hurry.

Innovation has a huge range, be the catalyst of a positive change.

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**Square Watermelon:**

Japan had small grocery stores and refrigerators. The conventional round watermelons were difficult to transport and store. The farmers thought of a simpler approach to do the impossible by finding out that if they put the fruit in a square box while growing, it attains the desired shape. Thinking out of the box with a box, isn't it.
National Day Celebration

On 25th Nov, the College celebrated the National Day with a program filled with music, poetry and play. The event was presided over by Dr Saad bin Salim Al Wahaibi; the Quality Assurance Expert from Ministry of Higher Education as chief guest, the Dean and a number of staff and students. At the start of the event, the guests were served with traditional Halwa and Coffee. The program started with the playing of the National Anthem and a reading from the Holy Quran.

Our Nation Has Really Made Us Proud!

We Celebrated With a Play

This was followed by a short play in Arabic by Waljat College students which depicted the spirit of National Day. A short video on the history and development of Oman was then shown and followed by a show of traditional Omani Costumes and jewelry, performed by children from Danat Al Marifa School. The guests were then entertained with a Rap song, performed by Asil Al Hasni and Yahya Al Kindy. A poetry recital was performed by guest poets from SQU. The program concluded with a group of Waljat College International students giving a short “Congratulations to Oman” speech.

Prize for His Poems

Display of Traditional Omani Costumes & Jewelry

Prize for an Exciting Poem
Annual Merit Scholarship 2012-13

The prestigious Annual Merit Scholarship and awarding ceremony was held on Wednesday, 18th December 2013 at college auditorium. Mr. Vikash Sharma welcomed the recipients, their parents and other guests.

Dean Dr. Mohan Varma felicitated the topper of the academic year 2012-13 in the presence of distinguished guests and Heads of the Departments. Addressing the gathering, the Dean congratulated the recipients and reminded them not to be complacent but set higher goals for themselves. Dean also announced the names of the recipients of the prestigious Best Project Award for the year 2012-13.

Speaking on the occasion parents acknowledged the efforts of teachers in shaping the future of their wards. The recipients expressed their gratitude to their parents and teachers and promised to carry on the good work in future as well.

BIT Merit Scholarship was instituted in the academic year 2008-09. The main objective behind this scholarship is to recognize the meritorious students and encourage them to aim for higher goals in their chosen field of study. Best academic performers in an academic year from various categories in BBA, BCA and BE programs are eligible for this scholarship. They awarded with a cash prize and a certificate of merit. Till date 119 students have been honored with this Scholarship. This year 23 students qualified for the scholarship.

WCAS scholarship is awarded to students achieving academic merit every semester, 40 students were nominated for this award last semester. Till date 388 students were awarded with this prestigious award.

WCAS announced Best Project Award- 2013

WCAS prestigious Best Project Award- 2013, which was announced by Dean Dr. Mohan Varma on Wednesday, 18th December 2013 at college auditorium, in the presence of distinguished guests and Heads of the Departments.

Addressing the gathering, the Dean congratulated the recipients and reminded them that this is just a beginning and students must aim higher “The motive behind the institution of Best Project Award is to inculcate culture of research and innovation among students” he asserted.

Best Project Awards were introduced from the academic year 2012-13.

The selected projects submitted by the final year students were judged by independent judges. Dean Congratulated the recipients of the First Best Project Award, Mary Jose Pattara, Dhiral Mahesh Ganatra, Azhar Abdul Wahad Sulaiman Al Harrasi, and Raida Abdullah Said Al Mamari. The Project entitled “A study on the acceptance and use of Omanuna by residents of Oman” was guided by Mr. Mithun Shrivasatava, Assistant Professor, Department of Management. The main objective of the study was to investigate acceptance and use of Omanuna (portal) by residents of Oman. The recipients will be felicitated with Certificate of Merit and Cash Prize during the Graduation Ceremony. The recipients expressed their gratitude to their parents and teachers and promised to carry on the good work in future as well.
Career Counseling program for students of Std XI, ISWK

Waljat College of Applied Sciences organised Career Counseling program for the XI Std Science stream students of Indian School Al Wadi Al Kabir on 23rd October 2013. The students had interaction with the Senior Faculty Members from Biotechnology, Computer Science and Electronics & Communication Engineering. They also availed the opportunity to see the laboratory facilities of the college. The students raised questions ranging from choosing a program, choosing a college/university to international recognition of the programs and scope for higher studies.

Faculty get-together

Faculty and Staff of Waljat College of Applied Sciences celebrated Diwali with a Gala dinner organized on 15th November, 2013 at Moti Mahal.

FESTIVALS BRING DELIGHT, THIS DIWALI BROUGHT MUCH MORE!
One step forward with Queens University, Canada

The academic relationship between Waljat College of Applied Sciences, Muscat and Queens University, Canada got strengthened with the visit of Prof. Scott Sze Hong Yam, Associate Dean, International and Special Projects, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Sciences of Queen’s University, Kingston, Canada on 3rd December 2013. It is to be noted that Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra has academic collaboration with Queens University and being an academic partner, students from BE (Computer Science & Engineering) and BE (Electronics & Communication Engineering) can now avail this facility.

During his one day visit, Prof. Scott met the Heads of the Department followed by interaction with students. He was apprised of the facilities and strengths of the college. He also visited the various Laboratories and infrastructure facilities at WCAS and appreciated the efforts. The vision of WCAS was shared with him by the Trustee Council Members of the college and Prof. Scott dwelled on various research possibilities and capability building in the areas of renewable energy, optic communication, mineral engineering and power electronics etc. to benefit the students.

The possibility of student and faculty exchange programme, funding for technical projects in joint collaboration, and PG programme at Queen’s University campus were also discussed. As the Queens University has a high rank in North America and all over the world, the dual degree programme in engineering would provide an opportunity to young Omani and expat engineering students of WCAS to have career prospects in the Gulf region, India and North America.

It is to be noted that eligible students from BE (Computer Science & Engineering) and BE (Electronics & Communication Engineering) can study the third and fourth year of the program at Queens University Canada. Selected students can avail 16 months internship and two years post bachelor degree extended visa to stay in Canada.

WCAS in Oxford UK publication of World Universities

The ‘Socrates Almanac’ is an annual edition covering the most interesting scientific research, modern teaching methods, promising industry innovations, and an analysis of financial frameworks.

The collection also contains ratings of Universities Worldwide, registers of innovative projects and innovative programmes, popular scientific articles, factual and biographical material and journalistic essays on world-famous Scientists. The inclusion of WCAS in the above collection gives a new image to our college and opens doors for presenting future programmes and methodologies in such a prestigious international forum, Socrates Almanac, 2013-2014 edition.
ZES Holds meeting at WCAS

A meeting of Zawawi Executive Service traineees, Managers and CEOs of the OMZEST group of companies was held on Nov. 26, 2013 at WCAS. The participants were informed about the new version of ZES program and the trainees shared their experience.

WCAS partners in Discover Oman App with NOKIA

WCAS recently entered in partnership with the famous mobile phone manufacturer NOKIA in the development of "Discover Oman" app. Representatives from NOKIA had a presentation to students on 8th October 2013. More than 200 students registered their names for the same. It was a two day training program for the students. Under this training, the students were explained of their role in the development of the app. The selected students were provided with NOKIA Lumia 1020 Windows Phone.

The participating students will be part of a 12 week program. In this program, they will upload photos of places of interest in Oman, and untold stories about the country to the links provided to them. Representatives from NOKIA will finally select the text and photos to be uploaded in the app.

At the end of the project the participants will receive a Certificate of Training and there are attractive prizes for the candidate with highest correct contributions, like LUMIA 1020 Smart Phone from NOKIA etc.

WCAS ORGANIZES WORKSHOP ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. Arindam Dutta, a noted expert in Entrepreneurship & Incubation organized a workshop on “Developing Entrepreneurial Attitude” for the final year students of Waljat College of Applied Sciences on 6th October 2013. This workshop was among one of the series of activities undertaken by Dr. G.P. Mishra, Professor in charge of Entrepreneurship Club.
We used to think of ourselves as separate from nature” said Rosamond Rhodes a bioethicist. “Now it is not just us, it’s us and them”.

Everyone’s life is touched by microbial technology in some way or the other. Can you imagine a world free from serious diseases, where food is abundant for everyone and the environment is free from pollutions? These scenarios are exactly what many people in the biotechnology industry envision as they dedicate their lives to this exciting science.

Microbes are those microscopic creatures, which are largely invisible, inhabiting every place on earth where larger living creatures exist; they also inhabit many parts of the earth where no other kinds of organism can survive for long.

Microbiology is one of the branches of life science, which deals with the study of microorganisms, the organisms which are of microscopic dimensions such as fungi, bacteria and viruses. It provides the information for basic research involved in biotechnology and also help to create many processes which are useful to mankind.

There are many areas of science that contribute to Biotechnology. But research has indicated that microbiology is the Mother of Biotechnology, where the rapid growth and multiplication of microbes make it possible for us to understand the processes like Genetics (gene cloning), Industrial Fermentation (soy sauce, sauerkraut, dill pickles, salami, beer, wine, citric acid, bread and cheese), bioprocessing (biofuels and therapeutics), enzyme production (amylase use in textile, pectinase in food and juices, lipase in detergent, protease in biological washing powder) and biodegradation (aluminium cans, plastic bags, plastic coated milk carton are recycled). In food industry where chicken nuggets are made with a coating containing genetically modified soya, a meat-free meal containing fungal protein products or cheese made with microbial rennet and a low fat dessert thickened by microbial gum are made by microbes.

If the waste comprises different compounds like nitrogen, phosphorous, etc then the organisms like algae, bacteria, which degrade these compounds can be used to remedy the environment. The secret behind the pretty pansies growing in the garden are micro propagated, from which we are able to make bouquets of flowers. The purity of products you see in food and water is monitored by biotechnological devices, which protect humans from diseases. As commensals, they assist many body functions and also prevent invasion by pathogenic organisms.

As we have begun to unravel the secrets of DNA structure and function, new technologies have led to gene cloning, the ability to identify and reproduce a gene of interest and manipulate the DNA of an organism. Through genetic engineering, scientists are able to combine DNA from different sources, which are used to produce many proteins of medical importance including insulin, human growth hormone and blood clotting factors in microbial cultures. Keeping such developments in view, microbes have proved to be much more important to mankind than what could be thought of earlier.

Through Biotechnology program, Waljat college of Applied Sciences provides students with the latest thinking and working processes on the biological science technology like biological paper recycling, production of xanthum Gum using dates as source of energy, extraction and study of antibacterial and antifungal properties of clove oil, and investigations on the biofuel production capacity of marine algal from the coastal waters of Oman etc., which are ongoing projects.
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.

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**

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<td>Bachelor of Engineering in:</td>
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<td>Biotechnology</td>
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<td>Computer Science</td>
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<td>Electronics &amp; Communication</td>
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<th>Applied Sciences and Management Programs</th>
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<td>Master of Business Administration</td>
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| **Undergraduate Level** |
| Bachelor of Business Administration |
| Bachelor of Computer Applications |

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

Knowledge Oasis Muscat, PO Box 197, PC 124, Rusayl, Muscat, Oman
Phone: +968-24446660, 24449194, Extn: 317, 126, 134, Fax: 24449196
Convocation 2013

The Convocation ceremony 2013 of Waljat College of Applied Sciences, Muscat will be held on 19th January 2014 (Sunday) at Al Noor Hall, Al Noor Plaza, Madinat As Sultan Qaboos. Gowns will be distributed on 14th, 15th and 16th January 2014 between 9.00 A.M. to 12.30 P.M. and 2.00 P.M. to 4.30 P.M. at Room no. 4 (First floor) Block 1.
All graduating students are requested to come for rehearsal at the COLLEGE AUDITORIUM on 16th January 2013 at 12.00 Noon positively.

IMPORTANT:
Kindly inform if you are unable to attend the Convocation.

For further details contact admissions@waljat.net

"The key to successful leadership today is influence, not authority."

— Blanchard