# THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE NEWSLETTER Feb. 2024





### **OUR VISION**

The School of Medicine is to be an international center of academic excellence – contributing to the development of health sciences, and distinguishing itself on the basis of the quality of both its graduates and research, and the relevance of its training programs to national and global needs.



### **OUR MISSION**

To provide society with qualified physicians capable of delivering quality healthcare services nationally, regionally, and internationally; of pursuing specialized higher studies; of engaging in scientific research; and of interacting with the world medical community.



MEDICAL SCHOOL IN

**JORDAN** 





#### **SCIENTIFIC DAY 2023**



**ALUMNI CORNER** 





#### **ACHIEVEMENTS**

ACCM \*\*
ACCREDITATION COMMISSION ON COLLEGES OF MEDICINE

The School of Medicine is accredited by the ACCM.

### School of Medicine Dean Prof. Yaser Al-Rayyan

It is with great pleasure and pride that we unveil our latest issue of the University of Jordan School of Medicine newsletter. Tailored for a discerning audience of physicians, healthcare professionals, and policy makers, this newsletter stands as a testament to the remarkable achievements and continuous excellence emanating from our esteemed institution.

In the dynamic landscape of healthcare, the alumni of our beloved medical school consistently demonstrate the exceptional



quality of knowledge and experience acquired during their formative years at The University of Jordan. As we reflect on the journey of our newsletter through its past issues, the exponential growth in our readership mirrors the expansive diversity of topics explored within its pages.

From the distinguished accomplishments of our alumni to the groundbreaking contributions of our esteemed faculty, the newsletter serves as a social platform where the tapestry of medical expertise and experience is woven together. Its diverse content encompasses a spectrum of subjects, including but not limited to, faculty updates, student initiatives, noteworthy medical research, thought-provoking articles, and a glimpse into the future activities shaping our medical school.

We extend an earnest invitation to our esteemed alumni to contribute their latest achievements, faculty members to share their pivotal contributions, and students engaged in extraordinary activities to grace our pages with their remarkable endeavors. Your input is not only valued; it is the lifeblood that sustains the vibrancy and relevance of our newsletter.

Professor Yaser Al-Rayyan Dean, School of Medicine The University of Jordan.

### **Distinguished Alumni**

### Firas Al-Hawari, MD

Dr. Firas Ibrahim Al-Hawari is the Jordanian Minister of Health. He was appointed as minister on 29 March 2021. Dr. Hawari holds a bachelor's degree in medicine from the University of Jordan (1992) and completed an Internal Medicine Residency and Clinical Pharmacology Fellowship at the University at Buffalo (1997) and a Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellowship at University of Irvine (2000).



From 2000 to 2004, Al-Hawari worked at the American National Institutes of Health. In 2007, he chaired the Institutional Review Board at King Hussein Cancer Center and later became the director of the Smoking Cessation Program. His roles included overseeing the Respiratory Therapy Unit, Pulmonary Function Lab, and serving as head of the Department of Chest Diseases and Intensive Care. He was also a member of the Executive Board at King Hussein Cancer Center from 2013 to 2021. From 2018 until 2021, Al-Hawari served as the head of the Cancer Control Office. In 2020, he was appointed head of the National Center for Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases.

### Ziad Issa, MD

Ziad Issa, MD, is Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield, Illinois. He is on staff at Prairie Cardiovascular Consultants in Springfield, specializing in cardiac electrophysiology. Dr. Issa is a co-author of Clinical Arrhythmology and Electrophysiology, 2nd Edition: A Companion to Braunwald's Heart Disease.



Dr. Issa, a University of Jordan School of Medicine graduate, is a board-certified cardiologist and cardiac electrophysiologist. He completed his residency and fellowship at Indiana University School of Medicine and is affiliated with professional organizations like the American College of Cardiology. Dr. Issa has authored numerous publications in the field and is recognized nationally for his contributions to cardiac electrophysiology.

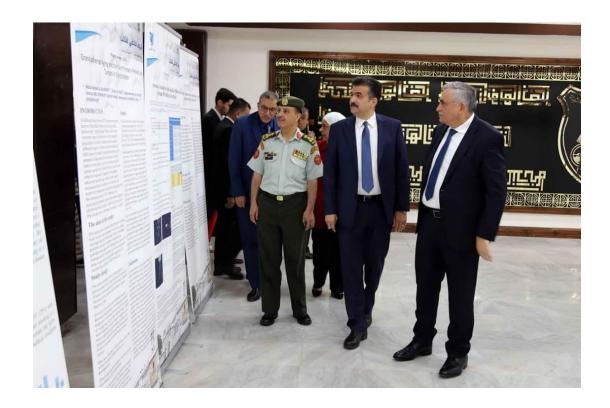
### 2022/2023 School of Medicine Scientific Days

The School of Medicine, under the supervision of the Office of Scientific Research, held the second and the third **Scientific Days** under the patronage of His Excellency the President of the University of Jordan, Prof. Natheer Obeidat, and in the presence of the Dean of the School of Medicine, Prof. Yasser Al-Rayan.



Scientific Days come as a culmination of the efforts of the school and its students, as they carried out more than 240 scientific research projects, more than 100 of which were published in international scientific journals, contributing to the provision of science and raising the ranking of Jordan and its mother university in the world. This is considered one of the most important achievements of the Office of Scientific Research, which was established about five years ago to support scientific research in the School of Medicine. Since its establishment, the Scientific Research Office has conducted dozens of workshops to raise awareness among

students and raise their ability to carry out scientific research, where it supervised hundreds of students and research, most of which were published in international journals.



It is worth noting that the number of research papers published by graduate medical students exceeded one hundred, compared to less than ten research papers three years ago when the office was established. At the conclusion of the two Scientific Days, the dean of the school and its professors presented prizes to the winners with the highest ratings during the Scientific Days' discussions.



### Four years of graduation projects comprising 500 research projects

Sixth year students graduating from the School of Medicine at The University of Jordan had to do a research project in order to fulfill the criteria for obtaining their Doctor in Medicine (MD) degree. Since 2019, there have been around 500 research projects performed, and appraised by faculty members, where many of them have also been published in scientific journals.

The Medical Research Office established a database that includes titles of graduation projects, which can be accessed by The University of Jordan staff through their Microsoft platform credentials.



### The School of Medicine achieves an advancement in the "QS World University Rankings"

The Faculty of Medicine at the University of Jordan has made great progress in the QS World University Ranking where it reached a ranking of 351-400, noting that the ranking for the past year was 451-500, and this is the highest ranking that the college occupied during the previous five years.

The college administration, represented by the Dean, deputies and dean assistants, and the Office of Quality and Accreditation Affairs, addresses all members of the School of Medicine and administrative staff for their efforts that contributed to improving the international



ranking in various fields (research publication, research citations, academic and employment reputation).

The aforementioned ranking is based on the following criteria: academic reputation 40%, employment reputation 10%, citations 25%, and impact coefficient H index 25%.



Expanding publishing prospects through collaboration with representatives from "Nature" and "The Lancet Oncology" journals.

In May 2023, the University of Jordan's President, Dr. Natheer Obeidat, discussed enhancing publishing opportunities for faculty members with



representatives from the international publishing house "Nature" and "The Lancet Oncology" journal.

This took place during his participation in the Global Health Catalyst summit hosted by the University of Pennsylvania in the United States. Dr. Obeidat explored communication strategies and facilitated research publication discussions, especially considering "The Lancet Oncology" is a leading global journal in clinical oncology published by Elsevier, with a high impact factor of approximately 61 according to Scopus, ranking 99 globally. Faculty and researchers in the university's health colleges have notable contributions to practical publications in top international journals, with several recently recognized among the top 2% of global researchers.

### **Reunion Day 2023**



Under the leadership of University of Jordan's President, Dr. Natheer Obeidat, the 18th gathering of the Faculty of Medicine's twentieth and twenty-first cohorts marked their 25th anniversary since graduation. The Dean highlighted the faculty's global standing, international accreditation, research, and professional reputation. Dr. Obeidat, the event's patron, expressed pride in the faculty's history and distributed commemorative shields to distinguished professors, acknowledging their lasting contributions, including:

- 1. His Excellency Professor Dr. Walid Al Maani
- 2. Professor Dr. Azdidad Badran
- 3. Professor Dr. Mustafa Shunaq
- 4. Professor Dr. Ahmed Al-Sarroujia
- 5. Dr. Faisal Al-Khatib

The President also awarded outstanding students from the forty-sixth cohort. Graduates shared their academic and professional journeys, and Dr. Tareq Kanaan, the ceremony's host, thanked supporting doctors and the Graduates Committee for organizing the event.

### His Excellency the President of the University honors the first graduate students for the academic year 2022-2023

His Excellency Prof.Nathir Obeidat, President of the University of Jordan, honored the first students of the graduates for the academic year 2022-2023, during the ceremony organized by the School of Medicine for the Alumni Forum of the School of Medicine for the years 1997 and 1998.

The honored students, according to graduation grades (GPA), are:

- 1. Amr Hisham Ibrahim Al-Khatib
- 2. Joud Sadiq Fahad Al-Karmi
- 3. Raghad/Mohammed Khair/Salim Bani Hamad
- 4. Raghad Ahmed Hassan Ramadan
- 5. Maram Abdel Rahman Ahmed Al-Jayeh
- 6. Abdullah Mohammed Abdul Karim Al-Kharabsheh
- 7. Sherine Youssef Mostafa Asha
- 8. Dana Khaldoun Mohammed Atiyat
- 9. Sadan Ajmad Abdel Fattah Abdel Fattah
- 10. Farah Anwar Falah Maaya
- 11. Nour Zaher / Mohammed Rateb / Al-Attili
- 12. Mohammed Kamal Abdullah Al-Daradka
- 13. Ahmed Amjad Ahmed Tobasi
- 14. Toka Ahed Abdel Rahim Al-Shraideh
- 15. Mahmoud Omar Mousa Al-Shneikat
- 16. Bahaa Nabil / Mohammed Saeed / Abdul Rahim

### Office for Quality Affairs and Communications





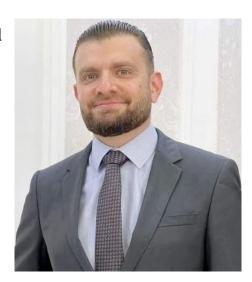
### A Delegation from the School of Medicine visits Hebron Polytechnic University, Palestine

A delegation from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Jordan made an official visit to Hebron Polytechnic University, Palestine, during the period from 7/30 to 8/1/2023 This came within the framework of cooperation between the School of Medicine and Hebron Polytechnic University's efforts to obtain international accreditation for the College of Medicine at the Palestinian University from the WFME world federation for medical education.



### **Achievements of School of Medicine staff**

Dr. Malik Salam receives the Distinguished Researcher Award for Health Colleges Dr. Malik Salam, Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology and Microbiology, received the Distinguished Researcher Award for Health Faculties at the University of Jordan for the academic year 2022/2023 based on the decision of the Council of Deans, and on this occasion, the School of Medicine, represented by its Dean, Prof. Yasser Al-Rayyan, and faculty and administrative staff members extend their warmest congratulations to Dr. Malik, wishing more excellence to the college and the university.



## The President of the University of Jordan honors the doctors who obtained the highest marks in the entrance examination for medical specialization in the United States



### **Extracurricular achievements of students of the School of Medicine**

Student Tatyana Al-Souri secures the first place in the UCMAS competition. Tatyana Alexander Al-Souri, a fourth-year student, part of the Jordanian team with Yara Masad, Anthony Koujian, and Deena Al-Qudsi, clinched the repeated gold medal in the YUCMAS World Cup held in Malaysia -



Kuala Lumpur on December 3-12, 2023. She also achieved the third runner-up position in the individual competition, Category I. The College of Medicine, represented by the administrative, teaching staff, and students, extends heartfelt congratulations to Tatyana and her fellow participants for their outstanding achievement and creativity, wishing them continued success and progress.

### **Engage with the school**

#### Contact the school

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Laith Sa'deddin Theeb, a fifth-year medical student at JU, clinical students' representative

#### Write for the newsletter

This newsletter is prepared by the research office of the School of Medicine at The University of Jordan. Please contact us if you want to participate in future editions:

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