Bethlehem University

Thanks to the following book dealers who participated in the Spring 2011 Book Fair:
- Abu Ghosh Agency
- Sharbain
- Dandies
- Kashr
- Dar Il Jameat
- Dar Il Fiker

They have generously contributed 10% of their sales to the Library scholarship fund of our working students! SHUKRAN! THANKS!

Library Update

2010-2011

Bethlehem University Library
Holds Its Spring 2011 Book Fair

April is the month when “book celebrations” take centre-stage in many parts of the world. While e-books seem to dominate the globalized digital market, in most university settings, books in print continue to prevail.

BU Library invited six of its regular book dealers in both Arabic and English to hold a Book Fair from 5-7 April. The Fair was opened by Brother Peter Bray, FSC, EdD, Vice Chancellor who spoke on the importance of books and reading.

The student musical group “Wajd”, coordinated by Ms. May Jaber, Assistant Dean of Students, enlivened the opening.

The art projects exhibition organized by Ms. Samar Ghattas added a unique and creative touch to the entire event. A special participation by Tamer Institute lent some folkloric colour to the event.

At 1:00 PM, Brother Robert Smith, FSC, PhD, announced the winners of the Creative Writing Contest launched by the Library in coordination with Ms. Hanadi Younan of the Department of English who has co-opted her senior students. Nadine Qaimari, BU’11 and Dana Hashweh, BU’11 won first and second places, respectively.

More photos of this story on pages 9-13...

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OPENING HOURS

The Library is open on class days from:
* 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM as well as on official make-up days announced by the Administration.

It is closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and University holidays.
Mr. Tom Kennedy, New Zealand Representative visits Bethlehem University Library

On the 5th of October 2010, Mr. Tom Kennedy visited the Library to see for himself the progress being made in the digitalisation project which the New Zealand Embassy in Ankara, Turkey helped to fund at the end of 2009. The Library Team makes special mention of and expresses gratitude to Brother Peter Bray, FSC, EdD, Vice Chancellor, who has supported this project from the beginning.

Brother Peter Bray, FSC, EdD, came with Tom and after a warm welcome, we took him along the various stages of the project.

It is worthwhile to mention at this point that the New Zealand Embassy has now approved two grant awards for this Library project. The first, a generous amount of $5,000 enabled the purchase of a streaming server which the team – Wasim Zoughbi and Mike Lama of the Computer Centre, along with George Maria and Francis Sleibi of the Audio-visual Centre – has worked on laboriously through a series of meetings. George showed Tom how the streaming server works from a link on the Library Homepage (please see photos below) which was complimented by Sr. Rose Amacanin and Rebecca Calaor who had also their contributions during the various stages of the project.

From the Library – and after meeting the staff involved in the project – we moved on to the Computer Centre where Tom met Nihad Jubran, Director, as well as Wasim and Mike who both spoke about their work as a team and how BU in general aims to enhance the teaching-learning process through the proper and creative use of technology.

A second grant award was received by the BU library in the amount of $10,000 to be used to acquire high-powered computers that will complement the effective use of the streaming server. The Computer Centre will coordinate the installation of these computers in the Library premises.

The following photos – taken by Mike Hazboun of the Digital Media Centre - document this most appreciated visit by Tom Kennedy.
“God loves a Cheerful Giver!”

Bethlehem Biblie College/Public Library, c/o Mrs. Hala Gheime
New Era Publications International
Ms. Angela O’Donnel, c/o Br. Robert Smith, FSC, PhD
Fr. David Nuehaus, SJ, PhD
Christine de Marcellus de Vollmer, c/o Hanadi Younan
Brother Neil Kieffe, FSC
Nestle
Mr. Mahmoud Mihmeh
Center for Development Studies BirZeit
University
European Commission
UNRWA/UNESCO
Center for Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation
B’Tselem
Najah Zuhair Osaily
Mr. Majd Shomali
Dr. Vina, c/o Fr. David Nuehaus, SJ, PhD
Ms. Leila Sansour
Andrea Merli, c/o Lucia Russo
Dr. Abdallah Abu Eid, c/o Brother Robert Smith, FSC, PhD
Hebron University, c/o Mr. Salah
Brother Jack Curran, FSC, PhD
Mr. David Ashboreen, c/o Mr. Jim Schutz
Abu Ghosh Agency
Dandies
Dar Il Fiker
Dar Il Jamiat
Kasha
Sharibain
Dr. Steven Schild, c/o Br. Robert Smith, FSC, PhD
Republic of Cyprus, Press and Information Office
Director
Ms. Trish L. Tolbert
Ms. Sarah Shipley
Institute of Community Partnership—Bethlehem University
Tamer Institute for Community Education
An-Najah University
B.U. Public Relations Office
St. Moses Assyrian Monastery
Prof. Adnan Shqueir
Mr. Abu Al Nasser Al Tamimi

Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research
Ms. Rebecca Calaoor
Ms. Elsa Hazboun
Mr. Oje and Mrs. Lolita Tabang
Ms. Hanadi Soudah-Younan, BU ’85
Mr. David Nour, BU ’95 & Mrs. Selina Tabash-Nour, BU ’98
Ms. Samar Ghattas
Ms. May Jaber & Wajid Musical Band
Tamer Institute
Dr. Mary True, c/o Brother Peter Iorlano, FSC
Mr. Yousuf Al-Aili
Mr. Khalil Hammad
Mr. Khaled Thweib
Mr. Salah Jarar
Mr. Imad Abu Dayyeh
Institute of International Education, c/o Daniel Obst
Dr. Mohamed Hassan Suleiman Al-Barghathi
Sakkab Family, Bethlehem
Palestinian Authority Publications
Al-Quds Open University
Dr. Hassan Abdulllah, c/o Mr. Munir Jaber
Ms. Amani Amrneh, BU ’13
Mr. Salim Zoughbi, PhD
Mr. Amin Abu Amsha
Institute for Community Partnership, B.U.
Human Rights and Democracy Media Centre—“SHAMS”
President Jose Ramos-Horta, East Timor
Mr. Mohammad Shaheen, c/o Jazmine Shaheen
Ms. Rima Canawati, BU ’86, c/o Mrs. Rania C. Hazboun, BU ’96
Apostolic Delegation, Arch. Antonio Franco
Ms. Sana’a Saca, BU ’11
Qattan Foundation, Ramallah, c/o Liana Abu Aita, BU ’14
Fr. Gabriel Romanelli, IVE, Patriarchal Seminary, Beit Jala, c/o Br. Peter Iorlano, FSC, Ms. Lubna Al-Zarou, BU ’12
Mr. & Mrs. Issa Soudah, c/o Hanadi S. Younan
Mr. George El-Ama
Cultural Center c/o Mr. Wael Nazzal
Mr. Shafeeq Habib
Mr. Ramzi Odeh
Yasser Arafat Foundation
Open University, c/o Prof. Adnan Squeir
Dr. Stephen Need

“God loves a Cheerful Giver!”

Embassy of New Zealand, Ankara, Turkey, c/o Brother Peter Bray, FSC, EdD
Book Aid International
De LaSalle Christian Brothers – Bethlehem University, c/o Br. Joseph Loewenstein, FSC
Lasallian Education Fund
Brother Robert Smith, FSC, PhD
Marco and JR
Ms. Sana’ Jarayseh, BU ’88
Dr. Saeed Ayyad
Issa Qawasmi
Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
Prof. Moin Halloun
Women Studies Centre
Ms. Rania Dandis
Mr. Yousef Adawi
Mr. Yousef Adawi
Mr. Tirso Diego
Ms. Widad Salman, c/o Hanadi S. Younan
Mr. Andrea Merli & Dr. Ingebor Tiemann
–
Omar Shaban
Dr. Stephen Need

“We have too many men of science, too few men of God.

We have grasped the mystery of the atom, and rejected the Sermon on the Mount.
The world has achieved brilliance without wisdom, power without conscience.

Ours is a world of nuclear giants and ethical infants.

We know more about war than we do about peace; more about killing than we do about living.”

General Omar Bradley (Battle of the Ardennes, 1944)
STUDENTS’ "POWERSPEAK"

Rabiha Abu Sneineh, Our Youngest Book Donor at Bethlehem University Library

Ever since I was a child, I have always loved books because I felt that they were tunnels to a world of imagination and knowledge. I grew up in Houston, Texas, and there, my favorite place was my school library. To me, there was something magical about being surrounded by books. So I decided to put together my own personal library using my clothing racks as bookshelves. I still remember the joy I felt every time I added to my collection. When I came to Palestine about four years ago, I brought my “library” along and I have been adding to it ever since.

I am now a proud first year student at Bethlehem University and I love the BU Library because of its wide collection of literature. I was so pleased to know that I have the privilege to check out any book I wish that I decided to donate some of my novels to the BU library in hopes that they would be useful to any student who wished to read them. I believe that giving is an important part of what makes us human and I hope that I can continue to help my university and my community in any way possible.

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Leen Khair at Her Best Doing Translation Work in the Archives

My name is Leen Khair, third year student at Bethlehem University majoring in English Literature with translation as my minor.

I worked at the Library of Bethlehem University for 6 hours per week. During the semester, I was given many tasks to perform such as, arranging books on the shelves, helping students find the books they need, shelf reading, making sure that everything is going well at the library, and putting things in order (which I used to do at the end of the week).

However, most of the time I am assisting Sister Rose at the Archives section, which involves translating files from Arabic to English. This working experience taught me how important time is and also how to become more responsible and independent toward working hard to earn money that would help my family pay my tuition.

I would also like to thank the staff for accepting me and giving me an opportunity to work at a variety of tasks in the Library.

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Work-Study Program Student-Assistants Involved in a Training Workshop at the Library Meet with Brother Robert Smith, AVP
SPRINGER WORKSHOP, FALL TERM 2010

On Thursday, 16 December 2010, at 10:00 AM, a workshop sponsored by Springer Publishers to demonstrate access to their e-books/e-journals was organized here at B.U. Library attended by librarians from various West Bank universities. There were 14 participants, among them Birzeit and An-Najah universities who have heralded the acquisition of the Springer e-books/e-journals.

Dr. Irene Hazou, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, welcomed the participants and expressed hope and enthusiasm in this new venture of getting into the world of advance technology, in particular, access by our academic clientele to hundreds of e-book titles and journals.

Mr. Asdaa Kotani, Managing Director and Mr. David Elek, Global Director for Emerging Markets were the Springer representatives who facilitated the workshop. An interesting and an encouraging presentation was given by Asdaa on the usage of e-books/e-journals by Birzeit faculty and students.

Bethlehem University Library joins the ranks of its sister universities (Birzeit and An-Najah) and is the third library in the consortium of West Bank university libraries to enter into partnership with Springer in its offer of a wide array of e-books and e-journals. As we progress with the project of digitization, it is hoped that we will plunge full swing in campaigning for a much wider use of resources in electronic format.

Below are photos that capture the activities of the workshop.
Second Grant Award from New Zealand Embassy Home Office (Ankara, Turkey) - in Pictures

Maintenance Team and Computer Staff join forces to pave the way for the new computers to come in...

Omar helps in the Oral history project with the new computer...

Haya, a student-assistant, works on her library assignment thanks to the new computer...

... and Sr. Rose serves the students effectively at the Circulation desk using the new powerful computer.

From hard format to soft output — teacher and students watch the film through the computer projected from the streaming server, thanks to the funding of the Embassy of New Zealand, with the support of our Vice Chancellor, Brother Peter Bray, FSC, EdD, from New Zealand.
LIBRARY ACTIVITIES, NEWS...

The academic year 2010-2011 has been an active season for us at the Library with various doors of opportunity opened to enhance our resources, facilities, and services to the academic community of Bethlehem University.

a. Having launched our project of digitalisation/digitization, the B.U. Library has been awarded two separate but related grants by the New Zealand Embassy Home Office: one for the purchase of a streaming server and another for the purchase of high-powered computers to support the access to the streaming server and other internet services.

b. An interlibrary loan agreement has also been forged between the B.U. Library and the neighbouring Bethlehem Bible College/Public Library.

c. Two professional library staff went to Amman, Jordan to attend workshops on online database-access.

d. Two researchers from overseas (one from the US and another from Australia) found the book they needed (about Palestine) only in our Library collection (they claimed we were the only library among other university libraries in the Middle East who had the resources they needed) through the use of our online catalogue (OPAC) which they accessed from their respective countries. Information was sent to them by phone (when one called from overseas), by email, and airmail.

e. A workshop sponsored by Springer Publishers to demonstrate the use of online databases (especially the products they are marketing) was organized here at the B.U. Library and attended by librarians from several West Bank universities on 16 December 2010.

f. Library Book Fair for the Spring semester—5-7 April—was participated in by six book dealers of Arabic and English books and was held at Dr. Sansour Hall. (refer to front page story and pages 9-13).

AND GUESTS...

A visit to Turathuna: Dr. Lee & Ginny Huntsman listen to Mary as the staff look on.

George shows how the streaming server works to Brother Robert Smith, FSC, PhD, Academic Vice President, while Francis listens.

Brother Michael Murphy, FSC, PhD, (English Department), visits and poses with Omar after the working students’ orientation at the Library, Fall 2010.

Academics from the Philippines visit the Library’s Turathuna Heritage Centre.
This school year 2010 - 2011, we in the Library aimed to maximize the use of library resources and facilities placed at our disposal. We challenged one another to a virtual exchange of topics and subjects that would help us “grow and develop professionally.” After all, being “caretakers of a wealth of information,” we literally have all these riches at our fingertips! And, presumably, to be shared with others in the academic community.

When I first googled “professional development,” about 157,000,000 results (in 0.38 seconds!) popped up on my screen. Perhaps as days passed by, the search results have also increased. One web page alone gave me 10 possible sources to explore further - indeed, such are the marvels of technology!

Among the many definitions or nuances of professional development, I’d like to cite just three:

“Professional development refers to skills and knowledge attained for both personal development and career advancement.” (from Wikipedia);

“High quality professional development is essential to increase educators’ knowledge, skills, attitudes, and beliefs so that they may enable all students to learn at high levels.” (Department of Education, State of Vermont, USA);

“The Office of Professional Development provides leadership, technical assistance, resource and consultative services.” (Public Schools of North Carolina, State Board of Education, Department of Public Instruction, USA).

Allow me to tease out the definitions above. Common to the first two definitions are the words “skills” and “knowledge.” Other key phrases in these two definitions are: “personal development,” “career advancement,” “high quality,” “enabling students to learn at high levels.”

In some institutions, in order to better serve teachers and those involved in education, an “Office of Professional Development” is created in order to ensure that there is a systematic mechanism to “offer and monitor development.”

Whether we are inside a classroom or involved in other types of formation tasks (i.e., offering library services, counseling our students, etc.), there is a moving and dynamic activity involved in and required for professional development. One’s knowledge and skills cannot remain the same every year. Skills and knowledge improve or are honed qualitatively if a person advances and works to update oneself by availing oneself of various opportunities for professional development. Resourcefulness and creativity are two characteristic qualities that can open up horizons for one to grow professionally.

One cannot give what one does not have. For one involved in teaching and sharing knowledge this wise saying is true. We do a disservice to our constituents, our students, if the knowledge and skills we have are stale or - in this age of advanced technology and modern tools for learning - inferior to those of our students, i.e., in computer literacy, for instance.

Gratefully, Bethlehem University is considered a “forerunner” in Palestine providing opportunities for professional development which prepare our teachers to be “agents of change” in society. And for a Palestine “in the making”, this is a challenge as well as an opportunity that will involve the cooperation and the mobilization of many sectors, including the community, schools, and governmental agencies.

“If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.”
Isaac Newton, 1642-1727
English scientist and mathematician
B.U. LIBRARY UPDATE SUPPLEMENTARY PAGES

SCENARIOS FROM THE SPRING 2011 BOOK FAIR

Bethlehem University Library
Book Fair - Spring 2011
"Opening Paths to Life through Reading"

Creative Writing Contest

DVD
SCENARIOS FROM THE SPRING 2011 BOOK FAIR
The Library Administrative Team in Action...

Photos from above, left to right:
Hala Marzouka, Head of Arabic Technical Services
Vera Koussa, Head of English Technical Services and Deputy Director
George Maria, Head of Audiovisual Center
Valerie Rock, Reference Librarian
Rebecca Calaor, Head of Circulation and Periodical Services
We took a look
In every book
In every nook
All our feelings shook
Our minds were hooked

NADINE HISHAM QAIMARI - First Place
Creative Writing Contest, 5 April 2011

I'm not your pillow I'm your book;
so, please, finish reading me you lazy dog!

DANA GEORGE HASHWEH - Second Place
Creative Writing Contest, 5 April 2011
SPRING 2011 BOOK FAIR: PREPARATIONS, EXHIBITIONS, VISITORS...
Book Dealers and their Booths

Tamer Institute (in the foreground) and books on Religious Studies (in the background)
Books on the Venerable John Henry Cardinal Newman donated by Mr. Edmund Durst, c/o Fr. Peter Du’brul, SJ
Presentation of Plaque of Appreciation during the Visit of Mr. Tom Kennedy - in photos...

Brother Peter Bray, Vice Chancellor welcomes and thanks Mr. Tom Kennedy and the New Zealand Embassy for their gift to B. U. Library’s project of digitalisation.

Plaque presented to Mr. Tom Kennedy and the New Zealand Embassy during Tom’s visit to Bethlehem University Library, 1 June 2011

Tom Kennedy delivers his remarks highlighting appreciation of Bethlehem University’s work in education.

Left: Brother Peter and Tom Kennedy unveil the plaque of appreciation.

Right: Team members of the Digitalisation Project pose with Tom, Brother Peter, and Brother Neil.

Left: Hala, Sr. Patricia, Nabila, Elsa, Wasim and Prof. Qustandi listen to the presentations.

Right: Brother Peter, Tom, and Brother Robert get together after the presentation.