



## ABK SPONSORS PAAET GRADUATION CEREMONIES

**A**hli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) today announced its sponsorship of the honoring graduation ceremony for Training Colleges and Special Courses of Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, which was held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Naser Al

Mohammad Al Ahmed Sabah. The ceremony was held in the Institute's theatre on Wednesday, 29 April, 2015. Attendees at the ceremony included the Minister of Education, Dr Bader Al Essa alongside the General Director of Public Authority for Applied Education and

Training, Dr Ahmed Al Athari and Fawzy Al Thunayan, General Manager of Board Affairs at ABK. Commenting on the sponsorship, Al Thunayan said, "ABK has been a longtime supporter of education in Kuwait. We believe in developing the educational stan-

dards and in supporting Kuwait's youth. By fostering different education programs, especially those in relation to the Bank's activities, we hope we can influence, in a positive way, the future shape of the banking sector in Kuwait."



## KAICO AND MICHELIN TO LAUNCH BIGGEST TYREPLUS OUTLET

**K**uwait Automotive Imports Company WLL (Al Shaya & Al Sagar), exclusive Michelin distributor in Kuwait for over 65 years, is set to launch soon the renovated TYREPLUS outlet in Canada Dry street, Shuwaikh.

The new TYRE PLUS branch is located centrally at a premium location of Shuwaikh industrial area, in the middle of Canada Dry Street. Spread over a total area of approximately 2000 square meters, the outlet will have a pleasant ambience and an innovative display of tyres, car maintenance, services and accessories. It will also have a workshop, fully-

equipped with latest machinery to handle all tyre and vehicle related services, an exercise undertaken by Michelin Tyres for all its TYREPLUS outlets across the world. The store will have a professional team, all trained in required technical skills. Michelin would also provide TYREPLUS team with professional trainings encompassing product, soft and management skills.

The first TYREPLUS branch in Kuwait was opened in Jahra industrial area in January 2008 followed by TYREPLUS Ahmadi outlet in 2014. KAICO aims at reaching its customers

and providing them quality products and services no matter where they reside in Kuwait. Since 2002, the Michelin Group has deployed the TYREPLUS network across the world to provide customers with the best solutions in the market.

TYREPLUS is a one-stop-shop offering a wide variety of all major tyre brands (Michelin, BF Goodrich, Kormoran, Apollo), Mobil lubricants, ENERGIZER batteries, suspension and braking systems, A/C services, VR-12 (Vitamin for radiator), all under one roof for customer convenience. It also offers professional services such as alignment, nitrogen

inflation, air conditioning revitalizing and engine steam washing.

TYREPLUS provides both technical capabilities and values, such as a competitive pricing, strong brand & image, convenient location, national network, well trained staff, Michelin quality assurance, world standard operations and a clean and friendly store environment. With a wide spread network, vehicle owners in Kuwait will be able to rely on TYREPLUS, their one trusted partner for all tyre and vehicle maintenance needs.



Dr. Ali Charara



Charles Nahas



From Left Dr. Amir Zeid, Director of RISE Center receiving Sponsors Award from Charles Nahas, General Manager of Microsoft Kuwait



The three winning teams with the judges committee holding their boarding passes to Bahrain.

## AUK TEAMS WIN MICROSOFT IMAGINE CUP 2015

**T**wo AUK teams won the Kuwait finals for Microsoft Imagine Cup 2015 competition and qualified for the Pan Arab Semifinals coming up in June 2015 in Bahrain. This year's competition was held at the American University in Kuwait (AUK) under the sponsorship of the Center for Research in Informatics, Sciences and Engineering (RISE). The Imagine Cup, in its 9th year in the Gulf, is Microsoft's initiative to encourage young people to apply their imagination and creativity to technology innovations that can make a difference and address pressing world issues.

The 2015 Kuwait Imagine Cup began with a series of keynote addresses by Dr Ali Charara, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences at AUK; Charles Nahas, General Manager, Microsoft Kuwait; Bashar Atout, CEO of Al Diyar United Co and Fahad Mohammad Al Menayes, Group Chief Information Officer of Burgan Bank. The student presentations followed, where students explained their creative technological innovations, including motion-based educational tools and games to support mental health research.

The competition brought together teams from AUK, American University of the Middle East (AUM), and Gulf University for Science & Technology (GUST). Each team was given ten minutes to present their project and perform a live

demo, followed by a five minute Q&A session with the judging panel.

The winning teams were announced during the awards ceremony. The Innovation category winners were 'the Geeksters' from AUK for their application LinkGo, augmented reality software for smartphones that brings reading to life for a variety of learning styles. The World Citizenship category winners were 'the Skywalkers' from AUK for their system PostFix, a wearable pad and a software solution that alerts users of poor posture and provides monitoring tools to improve health. The Geeksters comprises Hala Al-Faisal and Fatemah W Malallah and the Skywalkers are Aya K Al Toukhy, Darin H Kablaoui and Hala Al Faisal - both groups worked under the mentorship of Dr Amir Zeid who expressed delight that "all AUK participating teams this year were females, which I consider a very positive phenomenon", explaining that computer studies are usually male-dominated fields in the United States and many other parts of the world. The winners of the computer gaming category came from GUST for their RPG style educational game "Hover Knight - the Quest for Graduation," a program to improve students' decision making and problem solving in an engaging way.

During the entertainment hour of the event, judges convened to determine the competition winners and the audience enjoyed a surprise hip-hop dance performance. This year's judges were: Bashar Atout; Ghada Y Al-Amer, Technical Support Manager of KUFPEC; Jamal Raja Al-Enezi, Information Technology Planning Team Leader of KOC; Fahad Mahammad Al Menayes and Maytham Safar from the Computer Engineering College at Kuwait University. The 2015 Microsoft Kuwait Imagine Cup at AUK was also made possible by Burgan Bank and Al Diyar United Company.

The Imagine Cup 2015 allows students to bring their technological ambitions to fruition with the help of Microsoft resources and guidance. The competition is broken into three tiers of competition: Games, Innovation and World Citizenship. The Games tier invites creative students to produce a game on the following platforms: Windows (PC or touchscreen), Windows Phone, Xbox Indie Games or Kinect SDK. The Innovation tier includes innovative, groundbreaking and appealing software engineered by students using Microsoft tools and technology. Lastly, the World Citizenship tier is built for solutions to global challenges - apps to help reduce world hunger, raise environmental awareness or provide better access to education, for exam-

ple. This year's winners brought a variety of technological innovation to the competition, impressing both the judges and the audience.

AUK has been involved with the Imagine Cup for the last six years, but 2015 marks the first year that the competition was held on campus. Dr Amir Zeid, Director of RISE, has mentored 5 different winning AUK teams in past years. This year, eight teams from Kuwait participated, and three of the top five groups came from AUK. Dr Zeid noted that this year's sponsorship by RISE aimed to support AUK student innovation, and will continue to promote creative learning outside of the classroom. AUK teams have won regional titles in the Imagine Cup for many years: 1st Place Mobile Award in 2009, 1st Place Software Design Award in 2010, and 2nd Place Software Design Award in 2011. In addition, three AUK teams qualified for the world Finals in Poland in 2010, New York in 2011 and Sydney 2012.

The Geeksters and Skywalkers of AUK will represent Kuwait in Bahrain in the Pan-Arab Semi finals where they are going to compete against teams from 13 different countries. The winners of the Pan-Arab semi-finals will have the chance to move on to the Imagine Cup World finals in Seattle, Washington in July 2015.

## SULTAN CENTER SHARQ HOSTS STUDENTS OF SABAH AL AHMAD CENTER

**T**he Sultan Center (TSC) continues to evolve over time, introducing new opportunities for students to expand their knowledge and interest in healthy food by making it interesting, engaging and fun. As part of its leading social responsibility program towards the Kuwaiti community; TSC has always been keen to provide school children with the opportunity to visit any of its stores to learn more about their daily operations.

The Sultan Center Sharq branch welcomed 20 students from "Sabah Al Ahmad Center for Giftedness & Creativity", a center that sponsors

and cares for talented youth. TSC Sharq's assistant store manager Adrian carried out a tour for the students through which they were given information about the fresh local and imported fruits and vegetables that TSC provides to its customers. They were able to further their knowledge about the organic produce through tasting some of the produce.

The tour also involved educating the students about how some products manufactured, where they come from and how they grow. During this field trip, the students also reviewed different types of food

items and categorized them into either healthy or unhealthy choices or processed and unprocessed.

In addition, they were also able to observe the staff in action; whether it's arranging the shelves, helping customers to find the required items, keeping the store clean and making sure that everything is perfectly organized. TSC always has the pleasure to host school field trips through which students will be equipped with an experience where they are able to exercise their sense of adventure, break their daily routines and give a hands-on experience of the work environment.

