

Welcome address

By

President Haifa Reda Jamal Al-Lail

To

Effat New & returning

Students, Faculty and Staff

Academic Year 2018-2019

Effat University

Restaurant

Tuesday, September 18th, 2018

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم والصلاة والسلام على أشرف الأنبياء والمرسلين سيدنا محمد

وعلى آله وصحبه أجمعين....

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته....

Provost, Deans, Chairs of Department

Respected Faculty and Staff

And more importantly, our new and continuing students.

Good morning,

I start by wishing you all a happy new Hijri year and happy new academic year and I hope that you had a fun and relaxing summer. With the beginning of 2018–2019 academic year, I thank you for choosing to be a part of Effat University community and welcome you to, or

back to, Effat family during what is one of the most exciting times of year.

Whether you have been a member of the Effat community for years or just joining us, we hope you share the great enthusiasm we feel towards the opportunities and challenges ahead of us.

At Effat, we are fortunate to study, work, and live in a safe, respectful family environment that embraces and celebrates differences, and encourages creativity and innovation. Preliminary indications are that we are in the

second year for Effat five-year strategic plan. This year actually, marks the largest founder' scholarships for our incoming class **200** new undergraduate students, and **15** new graduate student. And, given the tremendous effort and support to the admission and registration of this number of new students, Effat is in full energy for excellent engagement and enthusiasm on the part of students, faculty, and staff. I am so excited that we all collaborated in orienting, guiding, advising and welcoming both undergraduate and graduate students.

These are key activities that support students and ensure they begin their time at Effat “on the right foot.”

While I extend a big thank-you to members of Effat family who dedicated and are still dedicating time to welcome and help students transition to the upcoming academic year, I must note that we, at Effat, strive every day to create a welcoming campus that offers safe, inclusive spaces where students can thrive academically, culturally, and socially. To achieve this objective, we are applying resources, both human, physical and financial, to support our students’ success.

One example, you see this year, is the admission and registration building, which will insha Allah open by spring 2019, creating a functional hub for recruitment, registration and admission as well as other academic and administrative functions. Another initiative to reinforce our tremendous growth is the construction of new faculty residences with its additional floor that will host family units to retain our great current faculty, attract new to meet our research-focused strategic growth. I am glad to tell you that Effat succeeded in hiring over **20** new

faculty and staff members, either into new positions or to fill vacancies.

With the return and arrival of students and faculty, we are eager to build on the momentum achieved over the past 20 years. I am glad to share with you that last year 2017-2018, Effat University has been ranked among the top 100 best Universities in the Arab Region. It has achieved a rank of 81-90. This is an indication that Effat University is making a mark on the regional community. This achievement will encourage all of us approach the new academic year with a sharpened focus and sense of

renewal. We are actually quickly approaching a major milestone in 2019, Effat University will celebrate 20 years serving as a leader in private non-profit higher education nationally and internationally. While we observe Effat's 20th anniversary, we will also celebrate the educational legacy that our founder queen Effat left over the last 70 years in delivering female secondary and higher education through different institutions, Dar Al-Hanan school, Effat University and through different philanthropic institutions. The 20th anniversary working group is busily planning a week-long series of activities

that will highlight the University's significant contributions over the years as well as showcase how our great institution continues to be a catalyst for positive impact nationally, regionally and around the world. I look forward to keeping you updated in the weeks and months ahead as these events and commemorations unfold.

To our students, I encourage you to reach out to the many different networks we have created to support your university experience. Learn from our amazing faculty, and seek assistance from our wonderful staff—we are

here to empower your curiosity and help you explore your options, now and for your future endeavors!

Whether this is your first or fourth year, take advantage of the many opportunities, activities, and celebrations that Effat has to offer. Attending university is more than what happens in the classroom or laboratory. Participating in extra-curricular activities is a great way to have fun, make a difference, and build friendships that last a lifetime.

Take pride in Effat collective accomplishments and share your excitement for the future Effat dynamic and vibrant

learning community. We have much to celebrate and many opportunities before us. As we encourage and inspire students along their educational journeys, let us keep our mission and vision of preparing aspirational and effective leaders to their full potential in both the classroom and the community always at the forefront.

Your time at university is a time where you learn to deepen your capacity to appreciate societies and cultures.

Take the time (and I say this to all)...Take the time to know the vision and mission of Effat University. Learn

about the core values of IQRA around which the culture of this university was built.

Learn that IQRA the divine teaching of ‘read’ was adopted by Effat University to translate into the values of:

I **Ibhath** undertake life-long research

Q **Qiyam** ethical social & educational
values

R **Riyada** responsible & creative leadership

A **At-tawasul** effective communication and
reaching out to others.

Learn our eight pillars and Codes of Ethical Conduct

(Tarbawyat)

First Pillar **T**: تقوى (Ṭaqwā) Piety

Second Pillar **A**: آداب (Ādab) Knowledge, Manners and

Outreach

Third Pillar **R**: رعاية (Ricayya) Nurturing

Fourth Pillar **B**: مرصوص بنیان (Bunyan Marsūs)

Cooperation and Collaboration

Fifth Pillar **W**: وسطية (Wasaṭya) Tolerance and

Moderation

Sixth Pillar **Y**: يسر (Yusr) Modesty and Ease

Seventh Pillar **A**: أمانة (Amanah) Ethics and Integrity

Eighth Pillar **T**: توجيه (Tawğyh) Guidance

These pillars are regulatory measures and crucial to the University's progress as it competes for academic excellence in today's highly competitive higher-education environment.

Learn the four major characteristics of Effat students, graduates, alumnae and ambassadors, متقنه ومحسنه وراعية

وسفيره لميراث عفت ووطنها.

Effat University will give you plenty of opportunities to satisfy your curiosity. Effat University's strategic vision involves around research. Whether student or faculty make time for the development of your fields through contributions towards research.

Read about its founder HRH Queen Effat AlThuanyyan (May God rest her soul in peace) who was once an ambitious young lady just like you are.

Visit the library, the sport center, involve yourself in clubs, research projects, and take part in the preparations for national and international awards. Check out the list

of activities prepared for this year and try to take part in all that interests you.

Let us know your suggestions for anything you feel might contribute to the university. Every single one of you was admitted because we saw in her something that we believed would enrich this special community...get to know your faculty and specially your advisor. Take an interest in their work.The core of all our efforts is to meet your needs, and those of our beloved country.

Effat University offers you programs and facilities that are modern in every way such as the Visual and Digital

Productions Program, Master of science in Energy

engineering, research labs and the opportunity of

scholarships to study abroad and affiliations with plenty

of national and international entities.

Now, the way you spend your years at Effat is a choice

only you will make. This is your movie... What will be

your story? The times are yours, you are the stars of the

show, and this means that yes you have huge

opportunity, yet on your shoulders falls great

responsibility...

Make us proud and have a wonderful year at Effat University...

Dear faculty and staff, our goals are one. We all, through hard work and devotion hope to enable the Effat University students with better perception, intellectual agility, creative thinking and all that is necessary for them to thrive in a global world. Encourage your students to ask difficult questions and tackle large challenges. Teach them collaboration and help them acquire the skills required by modern day employers. We want all

our efforts to pour into student success. Your loyalty, collaboration and support were the major pillars of our success in the past and will continue to support all Effat family members to enhance our learning community as our services and delivery models and learning approach continue to evolve to excellent standard.

I wish everyone a great start to our academic year and look forward to working together to achieve our shared priorities in support of student success.

Thank you for your kind attention and God bless you all and Assalam Allykum w Rahmat Allah w Barakatuh.

Dr. Haifa Jamal Allail

President of Effat Univeristy