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EMU Bids Fairwell To 1399 Graduates



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Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) 2016 – 2017 Academic Year Fall Semester Graduation Ceremony took place at Lala Mustafa Paşa Sports Center on 31 January 2017. During the ceremony around 1053 students graduated from associate and undergraduate and 346 students from postgraduate and doctorate degree programs.

The ceremony which started with a moment of silence and the national anthem also included speeches by Faculty of Education, Guidance and Psychological Counseling Undergraduate program top scoring student Esra Bellur and Faculty of Business and Economics, Economics Department top scoring student Precious

Paul Adesina. Following the symbolic tree planting ceremony, TRNC Parliamentary Speaker Dr. Sibel Siber delivered a speech in which she stated that EMU is a window to the world and being an EMU graduate is an honor for its students. Furthermore, Siber emphasized EMU's significance for TRNC and expressed her feelings in the following manner: "As the government, we should not interfere in the university's autonomous structure, universities must maintain their autonomous nature". TRNC Minister of Education Özdemir Berova also delivered a speech during the ceremony stating that university education is the leading economic sector in the TRNC adding that there are 14 local universities offering quality education to more than 90

thousand students from all over the world and that as the two public universities in TRNC; EMU and European University of Lefke are considered to be the source of pride in the existing higher education system. EMU Board of Trustees Chair and Beyarmudu Mayor İlker Edip expressed his best wishes to all the graduates and stated that their primary goal is to expand the boundaries of EMU while maintaining the quality education the university has been offering to students. EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Necdet Osam delivered a speech at the opening ceremony on behalf of the university and stated that EMU is an international accomplishment for Turkish Cypriots and by featuring on Times Higher Education list, which is one of the

world's most reputable publishers of the worldwide university rankings; EMU has once again proven its standards all over the world.

After the protocol speeches the ceremony continued with diploma awarding to faculty/school and department top scoring graduates by the protocol followed by the presentation of diplomas to doctoral, master's, undergraduate and associate program graduates. The ceremony finished after the throwing of graduation caps into the air and a concert by the famous Turkish Cypriot pop-singer and EMU graduate Buray.



EMU Organizes "Graduation Reception" For Fall Semester Graduates and Their Families

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) organized a "Graduation Reception" for 2016 – 2017 Academic Year Fall Semester graduates and their families. The reception which took place at Rauf Raif Denktaş Culture and Congress Hall received great interest from the graduating students and their families.

Attended by EMU Rector, Vice Rectors, Deans, Department Chairs, academic and administrative staff members, the said reception commenced with a cine-vision screening about student life on campus, prepared by EMU TV.

Operating under EMU Social and Cultural Activities Directorate, EMU Folk Dancing Community performed their

unique dance show and Group INDIGO presented their musical work on stage after the cine-vision screening.

During a speech he delivered, Prof. Dr. Osam stated that the day of graduation is the time for students' efforts to bear fruit and congratulated all the graduating students. In addition, Prof. Dr. Osam highlighted his confidence regarding the future success of the students. At the end of his address, Prof. Dr. Osam extended his best wishes to all graduates.

After Prof. Dr. Osam's speech the excitement continued with musical performances by Group INDIGO and INCA. The ceremony ended with the graduation cake cutting.



EMU Rector Attends Scholarship Meeting Organized by the British Council

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Rector Prof. Dr. Necdet Osam attended a British Council meeting regarding the EU Scholarship Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community that has been available since 2014. The meeting took place at Nicosia Merit Hotel on the 25 th of January 2017. The meeting included information about the 2017-2018

Academic Year Scholarship Programmes for the Turkish Cypriot Community and a briefing about how to promote these programmes within the community. The meeting was also attended by Vice Rector for International Affairs and Promotion Prof. Dr. Cem Tanova and Public Relations and Press Director (a.) Murat Aktuğralı.



Tablets in Education at EMU Computer Engineering Department

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Faculty of Engineering, Computer Engineering Department is getting ready for innovation by providing students the opportunity of using tablets in their education. For the course Foundations of Computer Engineering, in which students learn programming and the structures of analytic thought, tablet use aims to simplify the learning process by diversifying learning with the addition of visual materials.

Computer Engineering Department academic staff member Selin Bitirim carried out the first workshop informing students about the tablets that will be used for education in the 2016 – 2017 Academic Year Fall Semester.

The application "Playgrounds" developed by Apple is used to improve problem solving and programming skills of students. As a result of virtual characters and targets programming is made more

interesting and learning easy. Creating programming in a 3 dimensional visual environment connected to the course topics is made possible. Therefore, the topics that create the foundation of programming can be relayed to students in a simpler manner.

Feedback from the students indicated that they are very satisfied about using tablets in their education. Academic staff member Selin Bitirim noted that

with tablets in education a topic that would previously take a long time to explain can be explained in a quicker and more practical manner, creating a more enjoyable experience for the students who will easily be able to grasp the core concepts of a topic. Bitirim also noted that in the future tablets will play a more active role in education.



EMU Department of Civil Engineering Presents Certificates to Successful Students

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Faculty of Engineering, Department of Civil Engineering presented certificates to the successful students of the Spring Term 2015-2016 Academic Year. The certificate ceremony that took place at the Department of Civil Engineering included a total of 161 students comprising of 61 honor and 100 high honor students. The students were handed their certificates by EMU Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Özgür Eren, Faculty of Engineering Dean Prof. Dr. Aykut Hoca'nın, Department of Civil Engineering Chair Assoc. Prof. Dr. Serhan Şensoy, Vice Dean Asst. Prof. Dr. Ahmet Ünveren and members of academic staff.

After a guitar recital by Department of Civil Engineering student Bashar Alibrahim the certificate ceremony featured speeches by a Civil Engineering Club representative, Department of Civil Engineering Chair Assoc. Prof. Dr. Serhan Şensoy, Engineering Faculty Dean Prof. Dr. Aykut Hoca'nın and Vice Rector for Administrative Affairs Prof. Dr. Özgür Eren.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Serhan Şensoy noted that the Department of Civil Engineering started its activity 37 years ago in 1979 as one of the three departments then under the umbrella of the Advanced Technology Institute. In 1986, the Institute was transformed into EMU and to this

day the department has given more than 2000 graduates. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Şensoy noted that the department has an international structure with over 1217 students from 44 different countries whilst recommending that student carry out research and be open to innovation. Congratulating the students for their success Assoc. Prof. Dr. Şensoy highlighted the Civil Engineering program's ABET accreditation and its importance.

After Assoc. Prof. Dr. Şensoy's speech, EMU Faculty of Engineering Dean Prof. Dr. Aykut Hoca'nın provided information about the faculty noting that it is accredited by ABET. Prof. Dr. Hoca'nın congratulated the successful students wishing them all the best in the rest of their lives.

Prof. Dr. Eren also congratulated the students wishing that success follows them throughout their lives. After his speech, Prof. Dr. Eren was handed a service award for acting as the Chair of the Civil Engineering Department from 2013 to 2016.

After the certificates were presented to the winners of the Pasta Bridge Competition organized by the Construction Club, honor and high honor students were awarded their certificates to mark their success.



EMU – CWS Organizes Workshop

Eastern Mediterranean University Centre for Women’s Studies (EMU – CWS) organized a workshop titled “Refugee and Fugitives within the Perspective of Human Rights”. The workshop included the participation of Refugee Rights Legal Clinic students.

The Legal Clinic course is offered to EMU Faculty of Law students as an elective course and aims to create a medium in which students are able to “learn by practice”, by seeing and being able to comprehend human rights problems. As part of the course law education isn’t just theoretical but also practical for students involved.

After carrying out research on the refugee problem and trying to define the problem by carrying out interviews, Law Clinic students presented the data they obtained at the workshop hence gaining the opportunity to express themselves before starting their profession.

EMU – CWS Chair Assoc. Prof. Dr. Süheyla Üçışık Erbilin provided information about the workshop noting that as a center they are trying to develop public awareness. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Erbilin noted that on the occasion of human rights day, the refugee problem should be ad-



ressed with the aim of finding a permanent solution. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Erbilin stated that during the second part of the workshop Faculty of Law Academic staff

Asst. Prof. Dr. Nurcan Gündüz presented attendees information about “Human Trafficking” and “Human Smuggling”. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Erbilin thanked Refu-

gee Rights Legal Clinic executive Asst. Prof. Dr. Seda Orbay Yücel and clinic students for their contributions in the organization of the workshop.

EMU-CWS Attends Turkish Republic Council of Higher Education Meeting

Eastern Mediterranean University Center for Women’s Studies (EMU-CWS) Chair Prof. Dr. Süheyla Üçışık Erbilin and Research Assistant Bilcan Bladanlı attended the “Executives of University Women Study Centers Meeting” that took place in Ankara on the 30th of October 2016. The meeting took place at the Turkish Republic Council of Higher Education (YÖK) Head Office. As well as centre executives among those attending the meeting were Ministry of Family and Social Policies Female Statute General Director and representatives. The opening speech was made by Acting YÖK president Prof. Dr. Safa Kapıcıoğlu who

talked about YÖK’s expectations from university Centers for Women’s Studies. Prof. Dr. Kapıcıoğlu further emphasized YÖK’s and President Saraç’s outlook at female leadership in academia and women’s rights highlighting that centers should carry out collaborations with institutions and civil society in the province they are located in and that young academicians should make use of project funds to especially carry out work regarding the education problems faced by refugees.

Ankara University, Faculty of Law academician Prof. Dr. Gülriz Uygur gave

a presentation titled “Approach and Expectations from Universities”. Emphasis was laid on the document prepared by the YÖK Women Studies and Problems in Academia Commission and sent to all universities. The document titled “Approach to Gender Mainstreaming in Higher Education Institutions” put forward recommendations that the universities are expected to fulfill. The expectation stressed upon the most was regarding all universities or their Women Research Centers providing postgraduate and doctorate level gender programs and training expert academicians in order to create a strong foundation. According to

the commissions’ statistics the percentage of women doing postgraduate study is 53% however the percentage of those who reach the level of ‘professor’ is only 28% whilst those who become administrators are only 9%. For this reason based on the decision made by the Inter-University Council it was reminded that female academicians should be considered for administrative positions.



This Week's Academic Publications

Source: Web of Science

Faculty of Arts & Sciences

1. Halilsoy, M., & Ovgun, A. (2017). Particle collision near 1+ 1 dimensional Horava-Lifshitz black holes. *Advances in High Energy Physics*, doi: 10.1155/2017/4383617.

Faculty of Engineering

1. Kazemi, A., Abdellahi, M., Khajeh-Sharababadi, A., Khandan, A., & Ozada, N. (2017). Study of in vitro bioactivity and mechanical properties of diopside nano-bioceramic synthesized by a facile method using eggshell as raw material. *Materials Science and Engineering: C*, 71, 604-610.

2. Sharababadi, A. K., Abdellahi, M., Kazemi, A., Khandan, A., & Ozada, N. (2017). A novel and economical route for synthesizing akermanite (Ca 2 MgSi 2 O 7) nano-bioceramic. *Materials Science and Engineering: C*, 71, 1072-1078.