

# A report on the First Forum of Faculties male and female vice deans for Educational Affairs under

the title: "Academic Visions in the Educational Affairs" that was organized by University vice presidency for Educational Affairs on

#### Tuesday 23/11/1433



#### Overview

Under the sponsorship of the University Rector Dr. Khalid Saad Muqrin, Vice Presidency for Academic Affairs organized the first forum for colleges female and male vice deans for Educational Affairs on Tuesday, 23/11/1433 entitled" Academic Visions in educational affairs". Vice Presidency for Academic Affairs believes in the importance of developing academic programs at the Almajmaah University, applying the latest methods of teaching and learning in various university faculties and providing integrated educational services.

#### The forum was attended by:

No	Name	Position
1	Dr. Mohammad Abdullah	University vice dean for educational
	Alshayea	affairs and the chair of the forum
2	Dr. Tawfeeq Abdullah	Vice Dean of Faculty of Engineering &
	Alkanhal	vice Dean of Faculty of Computer
		Science for Educational Affairs
3	Dr. Omar Salem Alsaeedi	Vice Dean of Faculty of Sciences and
		Humanitarian Studies For Educational
		Affairs in Hotat Sadeer
4	Dr. Omar Mohammad	,
	Alomar	Humanitarian Studies for Educational
		Affairs in Alghaat
5	Dr. Khaled Abdullah	,
	Alshabanat	Humanitarian Studies for Educational
		Affairs in Remah
6	Dr. Khaled Mohammad	Vice Dean of Faculty of Medicine for
	Alabdulwahhab	Educational Affairs
7	Dr. Abdullah Ahmed Aldahsh	Dean of Faculty of Community
8	Dr. Abdulrahman Alatram	Dean of Faculty of Dentistry in Alzulfi
9	Dr. Moataz KheiraAllah	Vice Dean of Faculty of Dentistry for
		Educational Affairs in Alzulfi
10	Mr. fahad Ahmed	Vice Dean of Faculty of Applied Medical
	Alnogheimesh	Sciences for Educational Affairs
11	Mr. Muqren Abdulrahman	Vice Dean of Faculty of Sciences for
	Almuqren	Educational Affairs in Alzulfi
12	Mr. Fares Saleh Alfares	Vice Dean of Faculty of Business

		Administration for Educational Affairs
13	Mr. Jabr Dhuweihi Alfahham	Vice Dean of Faculty of Education for Educational Affairs in Alzulfi
14	Dr. Ali Hmoud Alharbi	Vice Dean of Faculty of Education for Educational Affairs in Alzulfi
15	Prof. Dr. Mostafa Abdulazzem Farmawi	The assembly secretary
16	Dr. Mahmoud Jaber Hasan Ahmed	Member of the organizing committee of the forum
17	Ms. Maha Abdulrahman Allefan	Vice dean of Faculty of Sciences and Humanitarian Studies for female students' Affairs in Houtat Sadeer
18	Dr. Farah Mansour Alaskar	Vice Dean of Faculty of Education in Almajmaah
19	Ms. Abeer Shojaa Akharbi	Vice Dean of Faculty of Applied Medical Sciences for Educational Affairs
20	Ms. Loaloaah Adbulhadi Aldowayyesh	Vice Dean of Faculty of Education for Educational Affairs in Alzulfi
21	Dr. Muna Jaber	Female Students Supervisor in Faculty of Sciences and Humanitarian Studies in Alghaat

#### **Objectives of the Forum:**

- Exchanging experiences and points of view between administration of University vice presidency Educational Affairs and colleges vice deans for Educational Affairs about the hubs of the assembly.
- Arriving at recommendations for activating the initiatives of developing the educational process at the university.
- Arriving at a mechanism for constant communication between University Vice Presidency for Academic Affairs and colleges.
- Formulating a vision, mission, values and goals of the vice presidency as a prelude to developing its strategic plan.

#### **Axes of the Assembly:**

- Vision, mission, values and objectives of the Vice Presidency.
- The status of the old plans, and inactive sections.
- The stance of learning and teaching in colleges.
- The future needs of the departments and the new programs.

# - Student guidance and counseling, and programs for people with special needs.

The program of the Forum

Session	Axis	Time	Venue
First Session	Speech of His Excellency University Rector Dr. Khaled Saad Almuqrin	10: 00 – 10: 10 am	University Council Hall
	Speech of the forum's chair, University vice Dean for Educational Affairs Dr. Mohammad Abdullah Alshayea Presenting a report on faculties readiness for receiving the new academic semester, and a report on University vice Dean for Educational Affairs' visits to colleges	10: 10 – 10: 20 Am	University Council Hall
	Open meeting between His Excellency University Rector and the Forum's members	10: 20 – 11: 00 am	University Council Hall
Second Session	Vision, Mission, Values and Objectives of University Vice Presidency	11: 00 – 11: 20 AM	Meetings Hall in the office of University vice Dean for Educational Affairs
	The stance of learning and education in colleges	11: 20 – 11: 40 AM	
	Future needs of departments and new programs	11: 40 – 12: 00 PM	
	Noon Prayer and break	12: 00 – 12: 30 PM	
Third Session	The status of old plans, and inactive departments	12: 30 – 1: 00 PM	Meetings Hall in the office of University vice Dean for Educational Affairs

	- Student guidance and counseling, and programs for people with special needs.	1: 00 – 1: 30 PM	
Forth Session	Concluding session and recommendations	1: 30 – 2: 00 PM	Meetings Hall in the office of University vice Dean for Educational Affairs

#### Selections from the speech of His Excellency University Rector

The most of	gualified i	s the o	ne who will	be appointed
	,	<b></b>		

A student should feel that we are all here for serving him

#### Initiate field work immediately

ALmajmaah University appreciates this Forum and it will be considered one of the university committees. This is appreciation to university vice presidency and to you.

The University is always evolving as well as its decisions

The principle of partnership and appreciation is the most we care fore

I like to see the developments on the ground rather than hear them

The administrative leaders are a blessing from Allah, and these positions have always been filled with qualified industrious people

Once the person in charge knows what to do, he is the only one who can reach that.

I am very keen to appreciate the work of hard-working employees and students

## The speech of His Excellency Vice President for Educational Affairs encompassed the following:

- Welcoming and extending thanks to the University Rector for his attendence
- Welcoming the participating female and male vice Deans of colleges in the Forum.
- Reviewing readiness of faculties for starting the academic year.
- Reviewing the colleges needs based on field visits.

### Open meeting between the University Rector of the University and members of the Forum

University Rector welcomed female and male vice Deans of colleges for Educational Affairs and opened the discussion for everyone where the participations started as follows:

#### Dr. Abdullah Ahmed Aldahsh.

I offered my thanks to His Excellency the University Director for sponsoring this forum. In fact, I've sensed some positive changes since Dr. Mohammed Alshaya was appointed. I expected to find Deanship Admission and Registration among us as it is the primary axis in the University. We would like to take some responsibilities from Deanship of Admission and registration and give more authorities to vice Deans of Educational Affairs. This solves 70% of the problems.

#### Mr. Jabr Dhueihi Alfahham

I would like to mention that communicating and dealing with other colleges is difficult.

#### Dr. Khalid Abdullah Shabanat.

I suggest unifying the policies and procedures as I noticed that there is a need to review the policies and procedures. In addition to that, there should be specific authorities because I read some of the organizational guidebooks and found that regulatory functions of vice Deans vary from one college to another, so I suggest to unify all functions.

#### Mr. Fahad Ahmed Alneimesh

We need to disseminate among students the culture of tasks and objectives of the educational affairs and what are the situations that a student can visit college vice dean for. Students should be aware that contacting vice Deanship ends after finishing registration, add and drop courses. We look forward to spreading this culture among students.

#### Dr. Farah Mansour Alaskar

First, I would like to extend thanks to the University Rector and the the vice Dean. Second, I want to make a point that the role of Deanships units within colleges should be activated in an effective manner, and this will reduce the burden on vice Deanships of educational affairs.

#### Ms. Maha Abdel Rahman Allefan

I would like to raise an issue here which is a circular from the general supervisor of the university faculties. I see that the constellation of people in the university can be more positive in the development of the region. Additionally, a study is required over this circular to focus more on civil engineering.

Why do not natives of this region contribute to build the infrastructure of this area? If we have a faculty to serve this aspect, there will be no burden of graduates on the country.

#### The University Rector's Reply:

I would like to thank you for your contributions, and there is no doubt that the aim of the forum is to raise and diagnose problems, then we agree to step forward towards the favor of students and our community as a whole. There are some notices I would like to cast light upon:

- Admission and Registration participation: I like to emphasize that this Committee has the right to call for anyone in the university provided that there must be clarification on that. We do not want to see participations full of worries and emotions; rather we want to see written notices.
- With regards to distant branches: It is the destiny of the university that its colleges are located in all the cities, which is one of the challenges the university is facing. However, success exists more in the environment filled with challenges and difficulties. Therefore, these difficulties and challenges are something normal to exist. However, perhaps some of these problems could be solved in the current forum. There must be some suggestions for specific mechanisms, and this is objective criticism. For your criticism to be more effective, you should propose some suggestions.
- Regarding procedures unification: It may be appropriate to carry out a workshop for vice Deans to exchange experiences that help to reach a common formula. Generally, papers will not replace men's determination even if we get more authorities.

There were times when Deans were changed, the faculty changed 180 degrees. In fact, we did not give more authorities or new tasks; rather a very inspiring dean filled with determination came. You are now on the same path; some of you will be deans in colleges. The most qualified is the one who will be appointed.

- The last thing is I hope to hear from Dr. Mohammed Alshaya in months that the colleges vice Dean have benefitted from this forum, and we are not waiting for letters and addresses. Phone calls are not enough to solve problems; whatever you have, just call the University vice president i.e. make some changes quickly and do not wait for others. In fact, it so happened in one of the faculties and Dr. Mohammed Alshaya had to intervene and called on the two parties to solve the problem. I am very keen to take this opportunity and congratulate those who have been working hard. The university is always evolving and its decrees are always progressing.
- I would like to say that communicating directly with Dr. Mohammed and the administrations of the University will make you feel some flexibility and speed in the procedures. I do not commend any one, but the best people I have seen in Saudi universities are in this university. Thus; It is a blessing because the teamwork is very distinct in quality, admission and registration, Student Affairs or Preparatory year. So the most important principle in our work is the principle of partnership and appreciation.

#### **Discussion Axes of the Forum:**

## First Axis: (vision, mission, goals and values of University Vice Presidency for Educational Affairs)

Vision, mission and objectives represent the first criterion of academic accreditation standards which represents the general framework directed to all of the Agency's activities. Within these standards, making action plans and improvement programs take place which are also the first steps of strategic planning.

In light of this, Vice Presidency for Educational Affairs created an initial vision for vision, mission, goals and values in light of the vision, mission, goals and values the university. They were introduced to the members of the forum. Then, discussion and some modifications were agreed upon by members of the Forum for the vision, mission, goals and values to be as follows:

#### **University Vice Presidency for Educational Affairs' Vision:**

An excellent academic educational environment towards constant development

#### **Mission of Vice Presidency for Educational Affairs:**

Achieving distinction in academic programs in accordance with the quality standards for the preparation of competitive graduates in the labor market through effective community partnership

#### Values of Vice Presidency for Educational Affairs:

- 1. Social responsibility.
- 2. Competitiveness.
- 3. Justice.
- 4. Partnership.
- 5. Workmanship.
- 6. Teamwork.
- 7. Creativity.
- 8. Innovation.

#### **Goals and Vice President for Academic Affairs:**

- 1. Providing an academic service at a high level of quality.
- 2. Developing scientific research skills of undergraduate students.
- 3. Preparing students to compete in the labor market.
- 4. Creating an appropriate educational environment to achieve the objectives of learning and teaching.
- 5. Developing the skills of faculty members in the areas of learning and teaching.
- 6. Striking a balance between the number of faculty members and students in accordance with the standards of accreditation.

#### The second Axis: (status of old plans and inactive sections)

Since the importance of continuous improvement in academic plans in line with the needs of the labor market and the requirements of academic accreditation, the university administration has started developing academic plans at the level of all academic programs in the scientific Departments at university since last year. As for some programs whose plans were not developed, University Vice Presidency for Educational Affairs has been seeking since the last month to complete the development of academic plans.

#### Thus, during the forum it was agreed on the the following:

- Updating the plans according to the forms prepared by the Committee of the plans.
- Characterizing programs according to the forms of the National Commission for Accreditation.
- Characterizing textbooks according to samples of the National Commission for accreditation.
- Establishing a database on the university vice Deanship's website containing forms pertaining to characterization of programs, curriculums and plans (the new and updated plans).

#### The Third Axis: (Status of learning and teaching in colleges)

The criterion of learning and teaching is one of the fundamental standards of the National Commission for Assessment and Academic Accreditation.

In fact, this standard encompasses the following ten indicators:

Output of Student learning

Program development processes

Program evaluation and review processes

Student Assessment

Educational assistances for students

**Teaching Quality** 

Accelerating and intensifying efforts to improve the quality of teaching

Faculty members' qualifications and experience

Field experience activities

Partnership arrangements with other institutions

Since University Vice Presidency for Educational Affairs always stresses that colleges' vice Deans for Educational Affairs must be punctual and fully committed in solidarity with the vice Presidency in achieving the standard of learning and teaching, it has been discussed the stance of colleges on meeting the requirements of this standard at colleges. Consequently, participants agreed on the need for every college to design an improvement plan with regards to the standard of teaching and learning and reviewing it with the Vice Presidency for Educational Affairs and implementing it after having it approved by the Vice President for Educational Affairs.

#### The Forth Axis: (future needs of departments and programs)

Since one of the university's functions is to respond to the community's needs of qualified people through opening departments and programs that meet those needs, University vice Deanship for Educational Affairs has developed, within its work plan for this year, a survey for colleges to assess the new programs and departments that meet the needs of the community. After discussing this axis, colleges vice Deans made clarifications on the following:

- That there is a need for establishing some departments in colleges such as Department of Biology in Faculty of Education in Alzulfi. However, there are obstacles related to the lack of a clear vision for the number of students, and conflicting figures from Deanship of Admission and Registration with the real number which could affect the colleges' decisions in opening new departments.

Therefore, members of the Forum recommended that a detailed study on the University's needs of new departments and programs and obtaining an approval from university administration and competent boards must be carried out.

#### The Fifth Axis: (Academic Advising and people with special needs)

Due to the importance of academic advising in the success of the educational process, and since it is one of the basic services that should be provided by the university to students, the debate has revolved about the effectiveness of academic advising in colleges. It has been found that there are many obstacles due to registration of courses students do on their own without any role of academic adviser to guide the student. Thus, members of the Forum recommended that a workshop related to the academic advising must be carried out in order to develop a practical and clear vision; and send it to the University Rector to activate the role of colleges in the academic counseling of students.

Due to the importance of caring for the students with special needs, Vice Presidency for Educational Affairs examined the possibility of establishing a center at the university for taking care of people with special needs. Members of the Forum suggested that a study should be conducted to figure out how many students with special needs in every college as a basis for establishing the center.

#### **General Recommendations of the Forum:**

#### **Forum Members Made the Following Recommendations:**

- Organizing a workshop on academic advising
- Organizing a workshop on the administrative structure and the needs of vice Deanships.
- Holding a periodical meeting for the Educational Affairs Committee at the university level at least once a month.
- Conducting A workshop on structuring scientific departments
- Developing a unified system for rules of equations.
- Circulating a sample of examinations rules.

Then, the Forum's activities were concluded with lunch ceremony for members of the forum.

#### **Appendixes:**

Questionnaire Results of colleges readiness for starting the first semester of the academic year 1433/1434

These results reflect only eight colleges that responded and sent back the questionnaire after filling it out. These colleges are: College of Applied Medical Sciences, College of Engineering, College of Education in ALMajma'ah, Faculty of Education in Alzulfi, College of Business Administration in ALMajma'ah, Faculty of Sciences in Alzulfi, College of Sciences and Humanities in Hotat Sudair.

## Chart (1) illustrates the performance level of readiness for starting the first semester of the academic year 1433/1434

S N	Practices	Perf		nand	се		Total weig	Averag e	Percenta	Grad e
IN		5	4	3	2	1	ht	weight	ge	6
1	Appointing a college vice Dean for educational affairs	7				1	36	4.5	90%	А
2	Establishing a committee for educational affairs	6	1	1			٣٧	4.63	92.6%	A
3	Preparing class schedules and posting them for students	8					40	5	100%	A+
4	Specifying office hours of faculty members and posting them for students	5		3			34	4.25	85%	B+
5	Handing over textbooks characterizati on to students from the first lecture	4		3		1	30	3.75	75%	G+
6	Providing faculty members with attendance list sheets	5	2	1			36	4.5	90%	A
7	Executing the preparation program for new students	6		1		1	34	4.25	85%	B+
8	Preparing	2	2	2		2	26	3.25	65%	D+

	College									
	Guideline									
	booklet and giving it to									
	giving it to students									
9	Taking	5	3				37	4.63	92.6 %	Α
	attendance of students from									
	the first									
	lecture and									
	counting absences									
10	Designing a	5	3				37	4.63	92.6%	Α
	plan for									
	students and									
	executing it									
11	Making sure	5	1	1	1		34	4.25	85%	B+
	devices and educational									
	facilities in									
	lecture halls									
	are working properly									
12	Availability of	6		2			36	4.5	90%	Α
	convenient									
13	lecture halls Following	6	1	1			37	4.63	92.6%	Α
	attendance of		•	•			0.	1.00	02.070	
	professors to									
14	classes Availability of	3	2	2		1	30	3.75	75%	G+
	faculty		_	_		•		0.7.0	. 0 70	
	members in									
	all specialization									
	S									
15	Preparing	6	2				38	4.75	95%	A+
	directories for students									
16	Meeting of	7		1			38	4.75	95%	A+
	faculty Dean with students									
	with students									

17	Appointing academic supervisors for students	6		1		1	34	4.25	85 %	B+
18	Updating academic plans for departments	4	1	1		2	29	3.63	72.6%	G
19	Availability of books and scientific references	1	3	3	1		28	3.5	70%	G
20	Availability of places for students activities	4	2		1	1	31	3.88	77.6	G+
	Total marks	١.	2	2	3	1	682	4.26	85.3%	B+

It is clear from the chart that most standards that have been achieved with high percentage in all faculties are preparing class schedules and handing them over to students, preparing directories for students and meeting of colleges Deans with students. Then, the rest of standards were achieved with different percentages.

Chart (2) illustrates the average of faculties questionnaires results showing readiness for starting the new academic year from faculties points of view

SN	Faculty	Percentage of readiness for perspective of faculty	Grade
1	Faculty 1	79%	G+
2	Faculty 2	77%	G+
3	Faculty 3	94%	Α
4	Faculty 4	74%	G
5	Faculty 5	95%	A+
6	Faculty 6	73%	G
7	Faculty 7	91%	Α
8	Faculty 8	98%	A+
	Average	85.3%	B+

# CHART 3 ILLUSTRATES AVERAGE OF QUESTIONNAIRES RESULTS OF FACULTIES THAT RESPONDED TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE THAT SHOWS READINESS FOR STARTING THE NEW ACADEMIC YEARIN THE LIGHT OF EVIDENCE AND PROOFS THAT WERE SENT BY FACULTIES

SN	FACULTY	PERCENTAGE OF	GRADE
		PROOFS AND	
		EVIDENCE	
1	Faculty 1	0%	Н
2	Faculty 2	25%	Н
3	Faculty 3	95%	Α
4	Faculty 4	30%	Н
5	Faculty 5	30%	Н
6	Faculty 6	0%	Н
7	Faculty 7	0%	Н
8	Faculty 8	40%	Н
	Average	27.5%	Н

## Results of the Vice President for Academic Affairs Visits of Colleges that target:

Following the educational process in colleges, and identifying the requirements of improving performance efficiency and the most significant obstacles for work within the colleges and its agenda included seven topics, namely:

The first topic: regularity of the study.

The second topic: completion of class schedules.

The third topic: the status of college faculty members.

The forth topic: suitability of lecture halls and laboratories for students.

The fifth topic: old academic plans in colleges.

The sixth topic: Closed sections in colleges and the reasons for it.

The seventh topic: the needs of the community and colleges of new scientific departments.

#### ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE

DAY	APPOINTMENT	FACULTY
21/10/1433	9 am	Education in Alzulfi
21/10/1433	10: 30 am	Sciences in Alzulfi
21/10/1433	12: 00 pm	Dentistry in Alzulfi
22/10/1433	10: 00 am	Education in Almajmaah
23/10/1433	10: 00 am	Sciences and Humanities in
23/10/1433		Hootat Sadeer
23/10/1433	1:00 pm	Sciences and Humanities in
23/10/1433		Alghat
24/10/1433	10: 00 am	Applied Medical Sciences
24/10/1433	11: 30 am	Engineering
24/10/1433	1: 00 pm	Medicine
29/10/1433	11: 00 am	Community
29/10/1433	12: 00 pm	Business Administration

#### THE MOST IMPORTANT RESULTS OF THE MEETINGS

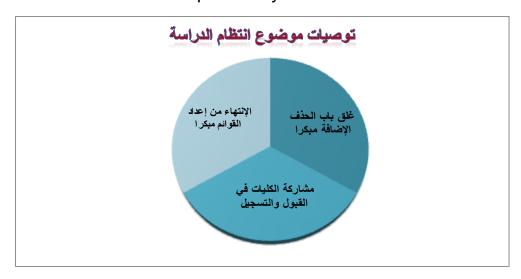
- \*STUDY COMMENCE REGULARLY IN COLLEGES FROM THE FIRST WEEK.
- FACULTY MEMBERS SHOULD TAKE ATTENDANCE OF STUDENTS FROM THE FIRST DAY.
- •COMPLETEING THE CLASS SCHEDULES AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND WORKING ACCORDING TO THEM.
- •CONTINUOUS COMMUNICATION BETWEEN FACULTY MEMBERS AND STUDENTS.
- •ACTIVATING THE MECHANISMS OF WORK IN ACADEMIC COUNSELING.
- •QUICKLY REPORTING TO UNIVERSITY VICE PRESIDENCY ABOUT THE NEEDS AND EQUIPMENTS AND DEVICES FOR THE LECTURE HALLS AND LABORATORIES.
- •UPDATING OLD PLANS IN ALL UNIVERSITY FACULTIES
- •FACULTIES SHOULD SUBMIT A COMPLETE PLANABOUT ESTABLISHING ANY NRE DEPARTMENTS
- •TAKING ACTION TOWARDS THE PROBLEM OF LATE ARRIVAL OF SOME FACULTY MEMBERS IN SOME UNIVERSITY COLLEGES.

## THIS FOLLOWING DIAGRAM REPRESENTS THE RESULTS OF FILED VISITS TO UNIVERSITY FACULTIES



OLD PLANS
PREPARING CLASSROOMS AND LABORATORIES
FACULTY MEMBERS STATUS
COMPLETING CLASS SCHEDULES
STUDY COMMENCEMENT

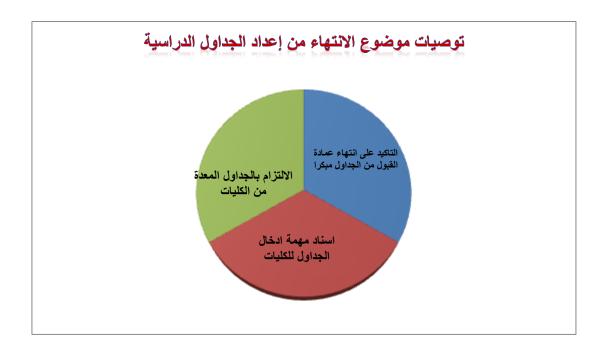
Recommendations of the topic "Study Commencement"



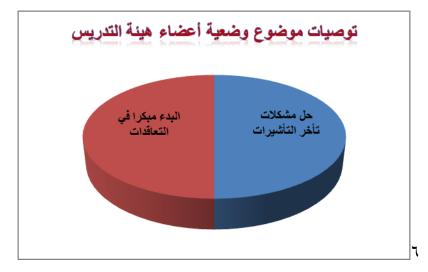
Closing drop of courses early
Completing preparation of students' lists early
Participating with faculties in admission and registration

#### Field visits resulted in the following recommendations:

- 1. Recommendations of the first topic "Study Commencement"
- \* Closing add and drop of courses from the first week of study in order to achieve stability and regularity
- \* Requiring Deanship of Admission and Registration to quickly finish the process of preparing students' lists prior to study commencement.
- \* Availability of a representative for Deanship of Admission and Registration in faculties to keep communicating between students and Deanship.
- 2. Recommendations of the second topic "Completing preparation of class schedules":
- \* Coordinating with Deanship of Admission and Registration to complete class schedules before study commences
- \*Sticking to ready-made schedules by faculties
- \* Assigning the mission of inserting schedules to faculties.



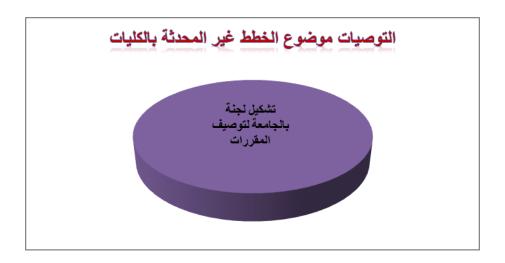
- 3. Recommendations of the third topic: "Faculty members' status in faculties"
- \* Resolving the issues of visas
- \* Recruiting lecturers as early as possible to ensure their early arrival prior to the start of the academic year



- 4- Recommendations of the forth topic: "Suitability of classrooms and laboratories"
- Periodical maintenance for classrooms and devices
- Equipping classrooms with chairs, computer devices as well as smart boards



- 5. Recommendations of the fifth topic: "Old plans in colleges"
- \* Establishing a university committee for curriculums description, especially in faculties and similar departments



- 6. Recommendations of the sixth topic: "Closed Departments in Faculties and their needs of Scientific Departments"
- \* Designing a future plan for faculty needs of scientific departments that meet the community's needs and fulfilling the requirement of labor market



- 7. Recommendations of the seventh topic: "Academic Counseling in University Faculties"
- \* Establishing a university academic counseling center and linking it with counseling units in faculties
- \* Providing a mechanism for linking academic counseling with Deanship of Admission and Registration

