



Establishing Water Research Center in Sirjan Branch

Dr. Abolfazl Jafar-Gholeikhani, director of Sirjan branch of the Islamic Azad University, reported the establishment of the water research center of this university, saying: "Considering the existent equipment and needs of the province, we intend to construct a water research center. We intend to form research panels in the field of farming in this province and do effective infrastructural and research operations, while establishing a strong relationship with the Agriculture Jihad of Sirjan; the aim is to use the services of the professionals in the field and the university, and also share our facilities with others. Sirjan branch of the Islamic Azad University is prepared to invest in large research projects of this kind." Director of the Agriculture Jihad also welcomed the suggestions offered by Dr. Gholeikhani and added: "The agriculture research centers of the province are not overly busy at the moment, thus we would be honored to participate in this project. The issues related to water are of utmost importance. This source of life is used in industries, agriculture and also for drinking, so its preservation needs a kind of attention befitting of its worth."

Central Tehran Branch: New Member of High-Tech Lab Network

Dr. Alireza Feizbakhsh, deputy of research and technology of Central Tehran branch of the Islamic Azad University says: "Central Tehran branch has signed a contract with Iran's high-tech lab networks and as of now, is an official member of this network. The purpose of this membership is strengthening the capacities of the labs-workshops in various fields of high-end and practical technology, facilitating the access route of the industries and researchers to satisfactory lab services and using the accessible equipment for presenting the scientific-lab services in the field of practical technologies, in the most efficient way." He continued: "The commitments of this network, in terms of strengthening the infrastructure of labs-workshops, include: support for holding or participation of the scholars in the workshops and professional educational courses, support for maintaining and sustaining, promotion, calibration and providing the parts required for the variety of equipment, and supporting the purchase of new lab equipment made in or outside of the country. Central Tehran branch is the first of the branches of the Islamic Azad University that has become a member of this high-tech lab network."

We welcome your views and memos on the related topics. You can contact us through: english@fdn.ir.

Director of Tehran's Medical Branch

Establishing Research Center in Hospitals



Educational hospitals, under the supervision of universities, are appropriate for improving the knowledge of the medical and paramedic students

Director of Tehran's Medical branch of the Islamic Azad University says: "Education does not have any kind of value when it is limited to the libraries. Students should know the prevalent diseases in their native lands; therefore, establishing a research center in the hospitals is a national necessity." Dr. Seyed Mahmoud Tabatabaei, visiting emergency wing of Bu-Ali Hospital and its up-to-date infirmaries as a part of the second meeting of IAU's board of trustees held in Bu-Ali Hospital, emphasized on the necessity of unity, empathy, mental and spiritual cooperation of deputies, hospital managers, physicians and experts and the faculty members, and the personnel in order to improve the mechanics that lead to development of quality of education and research. He claimed that this would lead to a stable development of higher education and society's health and well-being. He deemed it a

propitious occasion that the establishment of this clinical research center in Bu-Ali Hospital has coincided with the birthday of Imam Mohammad-Bagher, since his title means "one who opens the doors of science and knowledge".

Planning Future's Success

Dr. Tabatabaei, mentioning the university's rate of development in the past two years, stated that having a plan and setting priorities according to this plan and pre-set goals has led to great success, brilliant educational achievements, achieving the top rank amongst subsidiary hospitals, improvement of the quality of education, and finally, expansion of graduate programs in the field of medical sciences.

Dr. Tabatabaei maintained that if a person has the intention of being a good servant to God, he will be helped on by God. He continued: "The most important principle in the field of

the medical sciences, which is directly related to saving the lives of the people, is training those experts whom the society needs." He further added: "Educational hospitals, under the supervision of universities, are appropriate for improving the knowledge of the medical and paramedic students. We are placing our full force on equipping Bu-Ali, Farheekhtegan, Amir al-Momenin, and Javaheri hospitals. This is all due to the insight and support shown by Ayatollah Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Dr. Hamid Mirzadeh." In this meeting, Dr. Abbas Safavi, university's deputy of education, Dr. Hossein Malek-Afzali, director's advisor of research and health, Dr. Jenabian, director of the hospital, Mr. Shahsavari, university's deputy of architecture, Dr. Mirzal, general manager of the hospital, and the rest of the members of the board of trustees, each presented the report of the last year's activities, explaining the plans and programs for the future.

Iran's News

Bushehr Branch Plans for Offering Recreational Services



Secretariat of Bushehr's board of trustees of the Islamic Azad University referred to the desirable circumstances of this province in terms of tourism, saying: "We intend to design and execute the construction of a professional recreational complex for the purpose of attracting tourists, particularly at the international level." Dr. Yusef Gheisari, visiting the Ahram branch of Islamic Azad University and attending the meeting of the administration committee of this branch, saying: "Considering the title of this year as 'resistive economy: attempt and effort', we need to abide by the Supreme Leader's decree and work towards strengthening the economical infrastructure of the university, realizing the goal of further developing the knowledge econo-

my and raising revenue through non-tuition means." Gheisari praised the performance of Ahram branch of the Islamic Azad University as positive and gave credit for the successful achievements of this establishment to the staff and their collaboration with the local management sector and authorities of the province, also the hard work of Mr. Ghodrati, director of this academic branch. In this meeting, the members of the board of trustees and the staff of the Ahram branch of IAU stated their perspectives on various matters and the director of the IAU of the province announced that they would be executed accordingly. Dr. Abdul-rahim Pazira, secretariat of the board of trustees of Bushehr, also accompanied him in this visit to Ahram branch.

International Scientific Interactions among IAU's Important Programs



Dr. Mirzadeh, chairman of the Islamic Azad University, says that international scientific interactions are amongst the top priorities of this university. Dr. Mirzadeh said: "Considering that issues related to science and technology concern the whole human race and belong to the whole world, the Islamic Republic of Iran has a positive view towards scientific cooperation with other countries throughout the world." He further added: "Science is a global issue. Today, with sanctions lifted, we can develop our international relations better than before and use scientific experiences of foreign scientists to improve our country's scientific level. Sanctions were trying to lower the speed of our scientific progress, but thanks to the efforts of our scientists, this

did not happen. We relied on our capabilities and believing in ourselves, we were able to stand the hardships and to turn them into an opportunity." A faculty member of Amirkabir University of Technology said: "We should also pay attention to our native, national scientific databases. In the past two years we succeeded in establishing relations with the credible scientific centers of the world, such as John Wiley, Science Direct, and Springer." Mirzadeh mentioned that increasing the number of graduate programs, improving the qualities, recruiting faculty members, being active in the field of knowledge economy, and completing the process of turning science into wealth are amongst the plans of the Islamic Azad University.



ITALIAN PM MET AYATOLLAH HASHEMI-RAFSANJANI

ITALY'S PRIME MINISTER VISITED AYATOLLAH HASHEMI-RAFSANJANI, HEAD OF IRAN'S EXPEDIENTY DISCERNMENT COUNCIL, AS A PART OF HIS TRIP TO TEHRAN.

IRAN UPDATES

Iran and German Giant Sign MoU on Oilfields

The Islamic Republic of Iran and Germany's largest internationally active crude oil and natural gas producer, Wintershall, have signed a memorandum of understanding on a number of oilfields in Iran's west. The National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) and BASF's Wintershall oil and gas exploration subsidiary signed the document on research over four oilfields in western Iran. Roknoddin Javadi, head of the NIOC, and Mario Mehren, director of Wintershall, struck the deal in the Iranian capital, Tehran. Based on the MoU, the two sides will exchange relevant information on the oilfields and the German giant will afterwards begin research over the fields with the next month.

Collective Resolve, Key to Anti-terror Combat

Iran's President, Hassan Rouhani, has warned that terrorism poses a big threat to all countries across the world, saying collective resolve is needed to combat the scourge. "Terrorism is in nobody's interest and those who are supporting terrorist groups should know that all terrorist groups are detrimental to humanity," Rouhani said in his address to Iran-Italy high-level meeting attended by Italian PM, Matteo Renzi. Reiterating the need for unity in fight against terrorism, Rouhani expressed Iran's readiness to cooperate to implement a 2013 UN resolution based on his proposal for a World against Violence and Extremism (WAVE).

Iran has Raised OPEC Output

A new report by Platts, an independent provider of energy data, shows Iran's post-sanctions crude production has pushed up the output level of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). The OPEC production rose by 40,000 barrels per day (bpd) in March from a month earlier, to 32.38 million barrels a day, according to the Platts survey released late Monday. The research said Iran's output climbed by 110,000 barrels a day to 3.23 million barrels a day in the same period. According to Platts analysts, Iranian production has gone up 340,000 bpd since December, as it seeks to regain its former share of the global oil market. The report noted however that the rise has been less dramatic than Iranian officials had predicted, but it is still a "notable increase" as former buyers return to the market.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Inside IAU

Inauguration of 2 Technology Parks in Chalus and Babol Branches



Director of Mazandaran branch of the Islamic Azad University announced the inauguration of two technology parks in Chalus and Babol, saying: "We have considered the plan for establishing SHAFA project in an area of 70 hectares, located in Amol branch. In case of receiving the approval of the head office of the university, we would start the construction of the park which is going to be the third technology park in Mazandaran province." Dr. Kiumars Niaz-Azari, talked about the development plans of the Mazandaran branch of the Islamic Azad University for this year and added: "Mazandaran branch has one academic center and 13 branches, 10 of which have been in the red for the past two years. Fortunately, in the managing term of Dr. Mirzadeh and due to his policies and serious efforts in the head office, the number of unprofitable branches has decreased to 4. We intend to decrease this number further to zero in the coming year." He stated that 136 higher education centers are active in this province and continued: "The academic rivalry in the province, with a population of 3 million, is more notable and difficult compared to other provinces. Despite the hardships, we have been able to recruit new faculty members and expand our graduate programs." He noted that this university enjoys the services of 1,600 full-time faculty members and went on: "We have succeeded in decreasing the number of unprofitable branches through developing graduate studies. Also, we are working on filling the vacancies in the scientific board, for the purpose of realizing the required quota for the master and doctorate classes and resolve the financial issues of the branches." This academic official also discussed the idea of raising revenue through non-tuition means and stated: "In his first year of taking office, Dr. Hamid Mirzadeh declared a fixed amount for the non-tuition budget. This creative movement has motivated the academic branches to work harder towards realizing this goal."