



Registration Started for Elites Conference

Arya Alasti, deputy of Culture in the National Foundation of Elites, mentioned that the registration to participate in the 10th National Conference of Elites has started and would go on up until September 26. According to the PR Office of the National Foundation of Elites, Alasti, the deputy, said: "The audience that this foundation will address, as in before, is those who have won prizes for education, given out by the Foundation. The people chosen to participate have been informed by a short message and are invited to register and attend this national conference. The important point is that only people invited by this short message could finalize their registration which would be done by going on the website and completing the related forms."

Alasti continued: "Along with the main programs of the conference, those interested in attending the programs could take advantage of the event which will be held on the third day of the conference; these people could go through a specific registration process which started on September 10."

It should be noted that enthusiasts could visit the website of hamayesh.bmn.ir for further information and also for finalizing their registration.

POINT OF VIEW



Pre-clinical Vet Test Held in Garmsar Branch

Dr. Akbar Mohammadi, deputy of Education and Graduate Studies in Garmsar branch of the Islamic Azad University, says that the 27th pre-clinical vet test was held in this branch for Ph.D. students of veterinary program. Dr. Mohammadi, the deputy, stated: "The 27th pre-clinical vet test was held in Garmsar branch on September 10 for the doctoral candidates of veterinary program. The test was held simultaneously in other veterinary departments."

Mohammadi said that this test has been held for the third time the current year and that the authority in charge has been IAU's Center for Evaluation and Admission of Students. He continued: "Up to this point, IAU's deputy of Education and Graduate Studies was responsible for holding this test. This test is held twice a year, in January and September, in IAU branches which offer Ph.D. program of veterinary. Students, after passing courses worth of 127 credits with an average higher than 12, are allowed to take this exam. Of course it should be noted that these credits have to be taken from courses other than 'Heritage of Imam Khomeini', 'Introduction to Quran', 'Introduction to Computer', also pre-college courses."

CONTACT US

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

Supervisor of Sarbandan Research Center Announced

Sarbandan Research Center to Work 24/7



Agriculture Research Center of Sarbandan Recently Inaugurated by Ayatollah Hashemi-Rafsanjani

Dr. Vahid Zarin-nia, Supervisor of the Agriculture Research Center of Sarbandan under the supervision of Science and Research branch of IAU, says that this center which was recently inaugurated at the hand of Ayatollah Hashemi-Rafsanjani, head of IAU's founding council and board of trustees, is going to offer its services 24/7. He said: "The students, researchers, companies and universities, both inside Iran and outside of it, could take advantage of the services of Sarbandan center 24/7. This center is supervised by Science and Research branch of IAU which has made a name for itself in the field of knowledge production and application. Also, the department of agriculture and natural resources in this branch has made its mark in the agriculture industry of the country."

Sarbandan Research Center
Zarin-nia referred to unique features of Sarbandan center such as its advance equipment and

said: "The mission of this center is to focus on targeted research projects, support the entrepreneurs and new ideas, also backing proposals which are showing potential of commercialization and solving a part of the issues that the country is facing in the field of agriculture and natural resources."

According to him, establishing incubator centers active in the field of agriculture, pursuing research projects in line with the development plans and the needs of the country, also cooperating in documentation of science, research and technology plans and strategies are other responsibilities of this center. Zarin-nia went on: "Improving the research capacities through recruiting university and industry researchers, forging link between the universities and academic centers of Iran and other countries through exchange of information and carrying out joint projects, also admitting graduate students especially in research-oriented doctoral programs are of high importance for Sarbandan Research Center."

He explained that 11 labs of photochemistry, agricultural microbiology, wood and paper industries, nematology, aquatic and processing, genomics and proteomics, texture cultivation, husbandry, gardening, water and soil sciences, also botany clinic have been envisioned for this center. He continued: "Considering the vast cultivable area in Damavand and the diversity of agricultural, garden and greenhouse products in this region, we decided to establish a botany clinic which would offer attending and online services to the farmers, orchardists and the like. These people could receive consultation and products such as pesticides from this clinic."

He further mentioned the texture cultivation lab and the approval for establishment of a knowledge company in this field, adding: "This lab could study the cultivation method of rare plants with the help of small samples and based on this ability, we are going to start a knowledge company to produce around 90,000 saplings through texture cultivation."

Iran's News

IAU Operates over 40 Medical Research Centers



Dr. Ali Abtahi, deputy of Medical Sciences of IAU, says: "According to the agreement between the university and the research deputy of the ministry of Healthcare and Medical Education, we are authorized to consider the proposals of the branches qualified for establishing a research center in terms of faculty members, activity type and so forth; in case of approval, they would receive permit to begin their work." Abtahi added: "The proposal of 48 research centers has been submitted thus far, 35 of which have met with the approval of the development council, and the remaining 13 are working on preparing the required equip-

ment. Amongst the 35 approved cases, a majority of 25 centers have been showing significant results and good performance." The deputy of Medical Sciences continued: "The branches which have non-operational research centers, or those who have failed in meeting with the set standards, would receive a notice; if they show no progress during the given ultimatum, the license would be rescinded to be granted to other branches. We hope that these branches increase their activities regarding interdisciplinary courses, in addition to gradually directing the research centers towards knowledge activities and turning science into wealth."

IAU Students to Receive Marriage Loan



Dr. Morteza Ehsani, deputy of Finance and Administration of the Islamic Azad University, referring to the activities pursued in this deputy, demanded from all the branches of IAU to use all that is at their disposal for carrying out the plans of the deputy. Dr. Ehsani, the deputy, stated: "Fortunately, our financial index showed positive trend back in 2015. Compared to 2013 and 2014, this is equal to an increase of 70 and 65-percent, respectively. Even though the number of the students has dropped, and despite the issues we faced in increasing the salary of the faculty

members and the staff, also the inflation and economic problems in the country, IAU was able to achieve a positive balance." Ehsani, talking about the activities of the previous year, said: "In the past year, 417 bl. worth of facilities were given to the staff and the faculty members. Also, more than 874 bl. were granted upon the staff and the faculty members in the past two years." He further talked about the marriage loan for IAU students and said: "IAU is going to grant marriage loans of 100 million Rials to its students. So far, 1.2 trillion Rials have been loaned to around 12,000 students of IAU."



MEDALISTS OF 2016 OLYMPICS OF RIO MET WITH AYATOLLAH HASHEMI-RAFSANJANI, HEAD OF IAU'S FOUNDING COUNCIL AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND DR. MIRZADEH, CHAIRMAN OF IAU.

IRAN UPDATES

IRGC Showcases Fast Cruising Vessel



The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy has unveiled a domestically-designed and -manufactured long-range and fast cruising vessel with a helipad on its deck to accommodate a helicopter gunship. The watercraft, named Shahid Mohammad Nazeri, was showcased for the first time during a ceremony in Iran's southern port city of Bushehr on Tuesday morning. IRGC Navy Commander, Rear Admiral Ali Fadavi, Commander of the IRGC's Second Naval Zone, Rear Admiral Ali Razmjou, and several other senior Iranian military figures were in attendance of the unveiling ceremony. Addressing the ceremony, Rear Admiral Fadavi said the 55-meter fast cruising vessel is 14.1 meters wide, with a height of 13 meters. He said the craft, which has been designed, manufactured and equipped indigenously, has an operating range of 10,000 kilometers (6,213 miles), and is capable of carrying 100 military personnel and a helicopter on board in all weather conditions.

Pakistan-Iran to Ink Free Trade Deal



Pakistani officials say Iran has agreed with the initial draft of a bilateral free trade agreement, paving the way for the start of formal negotiations to finalize the agreement. The two countries signed a "strategic action plan" to raise their trade to \$5 billion in the next five years when President Hassan Rouhani visited Islamabad in March. "We have recently got back the initial draft that we shared earlier with the Iranian authorities; they have given their input and agreed to push ahead with the plan," Pakistani media quoted a senior official at the country's Ministry of Commerce as saying. According to the unnamed official, a Pakistani delegation will visit Iran "most probably by next month" to start formal talks on the free trade agreement. A preferential trade agreement has been in force between the two neighbors since September 2006 but financial transactions have not surpassed \$1.3 billion which they recorded in 2012 when US-led sanctions on Iran brought them down to \$432 million.

Azerbaijan Delivers 22 Inmates to Iran

Azerbaijan has delivered 22 Iranian inmates to the Islamic Republic in line with an agreement on swap of prisoners already reached between the two countries. The inmates were handed over to Iranian officials through Astara border checkpoint in northern Iran on the auspicious occasion of Eid al-Adha (the Feast of Sacrifice). Head of the consular affairs office at Iran's embassy in Azerbaijan, Nasser Mir-Jamali, told reporters that the released men will be kept in quarantine in a prison in northern Iran and will be then handed over to Iranian judicial and security officials. He added that these individuals had been kept in Azerbaijan prisons mostly on a charge of drug smuggling and will have to serve the rest of their prison sentences in Iran. The official noted that this was the 24th round of exchange of inmates between the two neighboring countries and said that 155 Iranians are still serving their sentences in Azerbaijan prisons.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Inside IAU

Karaj Branch to Offer Archery Equipment



Ahmad Haqiqi, head of the Professional Sports Council of Alborz's IAU, talked about the sports facilities and equipment of this university, saying: "The three branches of Karaj, Nazar-abad and Hashtgerd are located in Alborz province. Hashtgerd branch does not have any spaces dedicated to sports, thus it has to rent gyms in the city; Nazar-abad branch has an outdoor, multipurpose sports field, and also uses the city's gyms for holding matches. Karaj branch enjoys proper sports facilities and equipment such as 2 indoor gyms, each built in an area of 2,500 sq/ms, in addition to a sports field in an area of 3,500, dedicated to the female populace of the university. The women's sports complex has specialized fields for ball games, Frisbee, cycling and a hiking area. In the beginning of this educational year, archery would also be added to offered courses at this complex." He referred to Karaj branch hosting the national football matches, saying: "Considering the equipment and capacities of Karaj branch, we gained the right to host the matches; the prime, first and second leagues of IAU's student were held previously with 7, 8 and 11 participating teams, respectively." Haqiqi noted the sports potential of Karaj branch, adding: "Karaj is known for its taekwondo, the prime example of this is Kimia Alizadeh and her coach, who is a graduate student in this branch. We would like to put her talents to work and foster the taekwondo course of this university." The sports manager of Karaj branch mentioned the formation of the Professional Sports Council of IAU and went on: "As the result of establishing this council, the decision-making process with regards to the academic sports has become orderly and specialized. This council has also paved the way for elevating the province's sports through forming a collaborative relation between the branches."