Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohammad Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council, Ruler of Sharjah and President of American University of Sharjah (AUS), and the attendance of His Excellency Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed bin Sultan Al Qasimi, Crown Prince and Deputy Ruler of Sharjah, AUS celebrated the 46th UAE National Day, on campus on November 21, 2017.

Organized by the Emirati Cultural Club, in collaboration with the Office of Student Affairs (OSA), the celebrations began with a live performance of the national anthem by a musical band from the Police Academy of Sharjah. His Excellency Sheikh Sultan visited the booths comprising the Emirati Heritage Village, which highlighted various aspects of Emirati culture and diversity.

AUS holds Hult Prize Competition on campus

Students from the Student Leadership Program (SLP) at American University of Sharjah (AUS) organized the local round of the Hult Prize Competition (2017-18) for the third time on December 7, 2017.

The Hult Prize is the world’s largest student competition and start-up platform for social good. In partnership with former US President Bill Clinton’s initiative, this innovative crowd sourcing platform identifies and launches social ventures that aim to solve the planet’s most pressing challenges. Student teams compete...
Dean of Students’ Column

The Office of Student Affairs is committed to supporting programs that enrich students’ leadership experience and develop their leadership acumen. The Student Leadership Program (SLP) is well-recognized at AUS thanks to the enthusiasm, dedication and efforts of all students affiliated with this program. SLP engages students in valuable leadership activities and programs, such as campus leadership development workshops and events, and various local, regional and international conferences, such as MUN. AUS students are able to adapt, grow, inspire and lead through leadership programs.

Fall Semester 2017 began with the Peer Leaders adopting new students and assisting them during their first weeks of university life. SLP students also took part in the International Youth Leadership Conference in Cape Town, South Africa, which was aimed to develop their leadership and cultural understanding. After announcement of NMUN 2018, the AUS delegation was selected and training began to prepare them for this prestigious, competitive conference.

SLP students took an active role in organizing the local round of The Hult Prize Competition, which is the world’s largest student competition and start-up platform for social good. Held in partnership with former US president Bill Clinton’s Global Initiative, the competition identifies and launches disruptive and catalytic social ventures that aim to solve the world’s most pressing challenges. Student teams from around the world compete for a chance to secure US$ 1 million in startup funding to launch a sustainable social venture. This year’s topic was “Energy” and students had to build a scalable, sustainable social enterprise that harnesses the power of energy to transform the lives of 10 million people by 2025. The Hult Prize Competition is run entirely by student directors on each participating campus. At AUS, 12 AUS student teams competed to tackle the topic. Each team had six minutes to present, followed by a discussion between judges and the student teams. I am impressed by the winning team’s idea, called U-Light. It is a wonderful project; if implemented, it will change the lives of millions of people around the world.

Peer Leaders and Team Leaders shared their expertise off campus by presenting insights and experience about assisting freshmen during orientation weeks at the Peer Into the Future event at Zayed University, Dubai. SLP, in collaboration with Dubai Silicon Oasis, organized the Happiness Lab. Students also engaged in varied local conferences and symposiums, such as the Women’s Economic Empowerment Global Summit in Sharjah, Emirates Foundation Youth Summit in Ras Al Khaimah, Arab Youth Startup Marketplace in Dubai, Alleem Marketing and Branding Congress in Sharjah and much more.

I encourage students to look out for upcoming events such as Edutainment Day, Disc Analysis Workshop, World Business Dialogue, AUS Student Lecture Series and many more opportunities for your leadership development.

I wish you a great semester!

Dr. Moza Al Shehhi
Dean of Students

Sharjah Crown Prince and Deputy Ruler attends... continued from page 1

tradition. The celebrations also included a display of colorful UAE folk dances and songs. The AUS plaza was decorated with UAE flags and lights representing the national colors of the country.

Dr. Björn Kjerfve, Chancellor of AUS, congratulated His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the UAE President, and His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan and other UAE leadership and the UAE people on the occasion of the National Day. He expressed his pride in the efforts of the Emirati Cultural Club in bringing the heritage of the country and the region to the campus community.

Dr. Moza Al Shehhi, Dean of Students, thanked students of the Emirati Cultural Club for organizing the two-day event on campus and members of the AUS community for joining in the celebrations. She said:

“The National Day celebration is to celebrate the spirit of the nation, its people, and their efforts in etching an expression of happiness and living together with tolerance and amity. I thank the Emirati Cultural Club for putting together a host of activities on
Sharjah Crown Prince and Deputy Ruler attends... continued from page 1

campus. In addition, I commend this year’s celebration theme ‘The Sons of Zayed.’ This theme is to inspire the attendees by showing what the new generation has accomplished.”

Sultan Al Tarifi, President of the Emirati Cultural Club at AUS, also congratulated the country’s leadership and said that by organizing these celebrations, Emirati students wanted to share the pride they feel in their country as well as to share its rich traditions and heritage with the many nationalities present on campus.

The celebrations were also attended by His Excellency Thabet Al Tarifi, General Director of Sharjah Municipality, senior university officials, students, faculty, staff and members of the AUS campus community.
around the world for a chance to secure US$ 1 million in startup funding to launch a sustainable social venture. A total of 12 AUS student teams competed to tackle the topic of “Energy.” The teams were tasked to propose a scalable, sustainable social enterprise that harnesses the power of energy to transform the lives of 10 million people by 2025. Each team had a total of six minutes to present, followed by a discussion between the judges and the student teams. A team comprising Omar Khattab, a mechanical engineering major; Omar Mansour, a chemical engineering major; Omar Ghanem, a marketing major; and Ahmed Kamel, an electrical engineering major, won this year’s event with their project entitled “U-Light.”

Explaining the winning project, Omar Khattab, said: “U-Light’s main goal is to enlighten people’s lives, literally. We are providing a very cheap light source through converting mechanical energy to electrical energy and storing it, through a rotating handle. We will be selling our product at a very cheap and reasonable price, while making a profit at the same time to keep the project sustainable.”

Commenting on the event, Dr. Moza Al Shehhi, Dean of Students, said: “We are pleased to see students eager to change the world with their brilliant ideas. The Hult Prize is run entirely by student directors on each participating campus. The idea behind the challenge is to encourage the youth to think of ways of resolving the world’s toughest challenges, starting in their own communities. Good job to all the teams that participated in this competition and special thanks to the judges who joined us this year.”

“The experience that I gained while organizing this event is priceless. I learned how to work in a team and be responsible for logistics, dealing with judges, guests and much more. Despite the fact that we were busy with exams and projects, I felt proud that we were able to pull together a great event like this,” said Mayadah Farah, Campus Director of the Hult Prize Competition (2017-18) and a senior civil engineering major.
Palestinian singer performs at AUS Palestinian Woman’s Week

A US hosted a scintillating performance by the popular Palestinian singer Manal Al Mousa as part of the Palestinian Woman’s Week (PWW), held at the Main Auditorium on November 24.

Organized by the Palestinian Cultural Club (PCC) and the Office of Student Affairs (OSA), Al Mousa’s performance represented the strength of Palestinian women as she performed a number of classic patriotic songs in her silken voice, brilliant technique and impeccable skills. Senior AUS officials, faculty and staff, students, parents as well as the public attended the concert of the singer, who attained fame as a participant in the popular Arab Idol.

Commenting on the event, Heba Afana, Executive Assistant, of the PCC said: “I’m so proud to be part of something so meaningful. The main aim of this charity event was to support and highlight the role of the Palestinian woman, who is the caretaker of our rich heritage and traditions, and I believe tonight’s contributions will make a big difference towards this goal.”

The show also included a fashion show. Students wore traditional Palestinian gowns, representing every city in Palestine.

The Palestinian Woman’s Week ran until November 27 at the Student Center, and provided free henna for the ladies, self-designed T-shirts, and a workshop to teach students traditional embroidery. The aim of the PWW was to raise donations for charity.

AUS volunteers lead art programs for Sharjah City of Humanitarian Services

A US student volunteers helped lead art programs for students at the Sharjah City of Humanitarian Services (SCHS) on November 14, 2017. Through workshops on mosaic art, ceramic art, pottery and clay arts, the participating students made beautiful jewelry, frames and other art pieces that are sold to raise funds for the SCHS Masarat Center for Development and Empowerment I.

SCHS is a local non-profit organization that works to empower persons with disabilities through education, therapy, rehabilitation and job placement. The AUS project was organized by Community Services, and more than 15 AUS volunteers participated.

Salma Abdel Fattah, an active AUS volunteer said: “The Sharjah City of Humanitarian Services event was lovely in every aspect, as it allowed us to interact with very talented people, develop new skills, and learn how to easily communicate with others by just putting a little effort.”
AUS cricketers win second place in intercollegiate T20 cricket tournament

The Student Athletics and Recreation Department at American University of Sharjah (AUS) organized the 10th edition of the AUS Intercollegiate T20 Cricket Tournament held at the university cricket ground November 29–December 6, 2017.

A number of universities from across the UAE participated in the tournament. These included Emirates Aviation University Dubai, Skyline University College Sharjah, Szabist University Dubai, BITS Pilani Dubai, Bath Spa University in Ras Al Khaimah, Manipal University Dubai and Amity University Dubai.

AUS played their first match against Bath Spa University on and won it by nine wickets. In the semi-finals, the AUS Leopards overpowered Emirates Aviation University Dubai by a big margin of 100 runs to enter the finals. In the final encounter of the tournament, Manipal University got the better of AUS to emerge as tournament champions.

AUS batsman Syed Talha Tariq Farooq received the “Batsman of the Tournament” award while Clive Alphonso of Manipal University was declared the “Bowler of the Tournament.”

In the post-match presentation ceremony, Dr. Moza Al Shehhi, Dean of Students, presented the trophies and medals in the presence of Dr. Mohamed Helal, Director of AUS Student Athletics and Recreation.

Dr. Moza thanked all players and officials for their active participation in the tournament and promised that AUS will continue its efforts to provide more opportunities for cricketers by organizing more intercollegiate cricket tournaments on campus.
Schoolchildren from all across Sharjah as well as members of the American University of Sharjah (AUS) campus community attended the university's first Charity Bazaar, held on November 21, at the Student Center. Organized by the Community Services division of the Office of Student Affairs, the event featured stalls set up by a number of organizations selling a variety of items to raise funds for charity. Attending the event were senior AUS officials, including Dr. Björn Kjerfve, Chancellor of AUS, and Dr. Moza Al Shehhi, Dean of Students. Commenting on the event, Dr. Al Shehhi said:

“The purpose of the AUS Charity Bazaar was to aid local charitable institutions and generate funds for AUS charity initiatives through fundraising activities in an event on campus. The event brought various local humanitarian and charitable organizations together with members of the AUS community to exhibit and sell items such as baked goods, books, fashion accessories, sports goods, crafts, plants and more.”

The organizations that took part in the day-long event included:

- AUS Community Services Student Volunteers
- Althiqah Club for Handicapped
- Sharjah Police Headquarters – The Punishment and Correctional Institution Department
- AUS Student Council
- University City of Sharjah
- Sharjah City for Humanitarian Services
- Sharjah Empowerment Foundation (Tamkeen)

Along with these organizations, AUS student Dalal El Kurdi also put up a stall at the event to raise funds for charity.
Seven students from the AUS Student Leadership Program (SLP) took part in the Emirates Foundation Youth Summit 2017, held October 31–November 1 at the Ras Al-Khaimah Exhibition Center.

The Youth Summit was inaugurated by His Highness Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah. The summit, held under the theme “Guide-Empower-Future Leaders,” aimed to create a knowledge-sharing platform and an opportunity to learn about the latest thinking in youth empowerment and development. The two-day event consisted of various discussion panels, interview sessions, interactive workshops, and entrepreneurship and volunteering opportunities.

Speaking about the importance of leadership and the role of SLP, Dr. Moza Al Shehhi, Dean of Students, said, “The significance of this summit emerges from the UAE government’s initiative to invest in the youth and develop its leadership skills. Our Student Leadership Program aims to empower students to be future leaders by engaging them in various areas such as innovation, creative science and social entrepreneurship.”

Commenting on the experience, Maryam Ghadi, a design management major said, “The Youth Summit was an interesting experience that presented young adults with opportunities for internships and how to get involved in the community. It is probably one of the best feelings to know that you have put a smile on the face of a person in need and that’s what I hope to be doing in the future.”

AUS students take part in Women’s Economic Empowerment Global Summit

Six students from the AUS Student Leadership Program (SLP) participated in the Women’s Economic Empowerment Global Summit (WEEGS 2017), December 4-5, 2017, at Sharjah Expo Center. The summit was inaugurated by His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Member of the UAE Supreme Council and Ruler of Sharjah.

The summit attracted more than 1,000 participants who discussed ways to enhance gender-responsive procurement, female entrepreneurship opportunities and women’s integration into global economies. The panels and workshops explored a myriad of topics pertaining to learning for 21st century skills, information and technology, financial innovation and sustainability. The summit also shed light on the potential and possibilities of the Emirati women in the economy.

“The summit was an excellent initiative run by the government and the NAMA Women Advancement Establishment. The main aim was to elevate women’s positions in the job market globally through proposing solutions to this issue. The wide range of speakers gave helpful insight with their experience and different backgrounds. I became more aware of my role as woman and hopefully in the future, I’d be able to fulfill this crucial role for me, for my family and for my country,” said Jawaher Bin Butti Al Mheiri, a freshman economics major.

Commenting on the event, Dr. Moza Al Shehhi, Dean of Students, said: “The Student Leadership Program at AUS always encourages students to take part in different opportunities catering to female students through its Women’s Leadership and Enrichment Program. The Women’s Economic Empowerment Global Summit aimed to educate students on the role of women in the UAE workplace and economy, and the various career leadership development opportunities available to them women in the UAE.”
The AUS Student Council conducted the third AUS Arabian Night at AUS Main Plaza on November 14. The event was held in collaboration with Emirati, Bahraini, Iraqi, Jordanian, Lebanese, Palestinian, Saudi and Syrian Cultural Clubs, along with Power Hit Radio and Photography Club.

To showcase the Arabian culture in detail, each Arabian cultural club had its own tent that was decorated with the theme of the country. The main theme of the overall event was an Arabian souk or market. Each club performed on stage, and there was also traditional food provided by food vendors.

Commenting on the event, Dr. Moza Al Shehhi, Dean of Students, said, “The Student Council has made it a custom to conduct cultural events in collaboration with AUS cultural clubs on campus, bringing students with different backgrounds to one setting. I encourage all students to take advantage of these programs to gain cultural and social knowledge.”

Abdullah Abdeen, an electrical engineering junior, said, “The diversity in showcasing Arabian cultures was very impressive! The most enjoyable part of the program was the traditional performances.”
Leopards win fourth consecutive title in the AUS Intercollegiate Bench Press Competition

American University of Sharjah (AUS) Leopards won the Fourth AUS Intercollegiate Bench Press Competition, retaining the trophy for the fourth consecutive time. The AUS lifters enthralled the audience with their powerful performance while overcoming stiff competition from participants of other universities.

The competition, which was held at the Sports Complex on November 20, had eight categories and saw participants fighting for the title in a very competitive atmosphere. Apart from AUS, the other participating universities included Emirates Aviation University, Skyline University College, New York University Abu Dhabi, Manipal University, Ajman University, Middlesex University Dubai, Dubai Men’s College, University of Sharjah and American University of Ras Al Khaimah.

AUS competitors Salem Herzallan, Mohammad Wajih, Jaafar Mohssen, Ahmed Omer and Ahmed Khater secured first place in their respective categories while Danil Atallah received the silver medal in his category. Jamal Hamadeh, Karim El Ahwal, Nasser Odtallah, Abdul Wahab Wessem and Saad Khaled won the bronze medals.

AUS came first in overall ranking with 85 points, followed by University of Sharjah with 78 points and Ajman University with 37 points.

Dr. Moza Al Shehhi, Dean of Students, congratulated the winners and thanked the participants and other officials. She said:

“Bench press competitions are rare in the university sports arena and we are happy to promote such events among the universities where the youth can exhibit their skills and talents.”

Dr. Mohamed Helal, Director of Student Athletics and Recreation at AUS, presented the awards to the winners.
Student volunteers learned important tips on handling emergencies during the First Aid Training workshop held November 14–15, 2017 by Community Services in collaboration with UAE Red Crescent. These hour-long sessions gave the 66 volunteers in attendance essential knowledge and skills in basic first aid techniques to provide immediate medical response in emergency situations until professional help arrives.

The First Aid Training workshops are held every semester due to the high level of interest from AUS volunteers. Since the sessions are held in collaboration with the UAE Red Crescent, all volunteers are provided with certification for the training they receive.

Haroun El Mir, a volunteer who attended the training session, said, “The session I attended was very engaging, fun and really informative. The demonstrator was very helpful and the lively atmosphere of the students participating added a special taste to this as well.”

Peer leaders and team leaders from the Student Leadership Program (SLP) of the Office of Student Affairs at American University of Sharjah (AUS) participated in the “Peer Into the Future” symposium held on November 9, 2017 at Zayed University in Dubai and delivered presentations about their experience as peer/team leaders.

The purpose of the symposium was to bring together various types of peer support programs around the world that have been successful in their own ways and to establish a global network of peer support systems. The symposium discussed a wide range of topics, including various ideas of peer support, importance of establishing a peer support program in a learning institution, and sustainability of the program.

Talking about the experience, Abdulghani Soucar, a senior civil engineering major, said:

“I went to the symposium to learn more about peer leadership and its benefits. The symposium was a chance for AUS students to learn and also share our experience of using our own leadership program structure. Through this exchange of ideas and thoughts, we were able to understand what was effective about our own program and how we could improve it further.”

“The Peer into the Future Symposium was a great and exciting experience for me, as it gave me the opportunity to share my own experience as a peer leader at AUS. Through my speech, I wanted to motivate other universities to integrate a peer support program by showing them how useful it is for both the freshmen and the peer leaders themselves,” said Hawazen Diab, a junior majoring in industrial engineering.

Commenting on the event, Dr. Moza Al Shehhi, Dean of Students, said:

“We are proud of our students who delivered presentations at the Peer into the Future Symposium. Sharing their views and experiences as peer leaders and team leaders was insightful. We thank them for a job well done and encourage them to continue to contribute positively to their communities.”
AUS women’s swimming team takes title for the eighth time

AUS women swimmers dominated the pool at the Eighth AUS Women’s Intercollegiate Swimming Competition held at the university’s Sports Complex on November 27. The AUS team won the overall championship for the eighth consecutive time, with teams from the University of Sharjah and American University in Dubai winning second and third places, respectively. Around 35 swimmers from various universities including University of Sharjah, American University in Dubai (AUD), Manipal University Dubai (MUD), United Arab Emirates University, Al Ain (UAEU), and Ajman University took part in this annual event along with the hosts AUS. Fifty-meter races in various categories including backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly stroke and freestyle were conducted along with a 4x50 meters freestyle relay. Rawan Salah, Dina Alam and Danya Khafaga of AUS secured silver medals for the university in the 50-meter breaststroke, 50-meter butterfly and 50-meter freestyle, respectively. Beesan Hussein, Judi Hashem and Mariam El Shazly secured bronze medals in 50-meter butterfly, 50-meter freestyle and 50-meter backstroke. The AUS swimmers emerged victorious in the 4x50-meters freestyle relay to win the gold medal. AUS came first in overall ranking with 62 points, followed by University of Sharjah with 43 points and American University in Dubai with 36 points. The event was organized by the Student Athletics and Recreation Department of the Office of Student Affairs. Dr. Moza Al Shehhi, Dean of Students, presented the awards to the winners in the presence of Dr. Mohamed Helal, Director of Student Athletics and Recreation, and thanked everyone who was involved in making the event a huge success. Dr. Al Shehhi congratulated the AUS women’s swimming team for their continuous success in the intercollegiate swimming and expressed her gratitude to the various universities that participated in this year’s competition.

AUS students volunteer at Al Thiqah Club for Handicapped

Community Services recently organized a volunteer program at Al Thiqah Club in Sharjah. About 22-25 volunteers participated in the program at the club, which provides recreational and educational programs for people with disabilities. The volunteers lead programs in learning English, public speaking, and Microsoft Office skills two days a week from 5:00-7:00 p.m. In addition to the teaching, a bond was established between the volunteers and the students at the club, which made the experience all the more fruitful.
Although students living in the residential halls participate in a number of activities that lead to self-development and life lessons, during Fall 2017 the Student Residential Life management and staff decided to focus on its Quit Smoking Awareness Program. Along with posters and a multimedia display highlighting the dangers of smoking, the campaign asked smokers to take their commitment to quit the habit to the next level by signing the voluntary Tobacco-Free Pledge. The pledge form helped smokers set goals for either reducing or quitting smoking, and also included an option of having a witness to help the smoker to keep the pledge. Many smokers demonstrated concern for their health and a desire to quit the habit, and more than 80 students signed the pledge form. An event was held in each dorm to recognize those who had committed to quit, with those in attendance who had signed the pledge receiving T-shirts bearing the slogan “First Step is the Hardest, Just Make it.”

The campaign focused on a habit that is not only a health concern, but which is also a fire hazard. The pledges demonstrate that the concerned students wanted to quit the habit and start afresh, and therefore need encouragement. It is our department’s hope that this campaign will be carried forward through monitoring and encouraging the concerned students to stick to their pledges until they finally quit the habit.

Other Fall 2017 events:

- The Resident Idol Initiative continues to encourage students to share their talents as they provide entertainment during farewell ceremonies for graduating students. Apart from the valuable service they give by providing entertainment during farewell ceremonies for graduating students. Apart from the valuable service they give by providing entertainment during farewell ceremonies for graduating students.

- In the women’s dorms, residents held National Day celebrations featuring Khaleeji music and Emirati food. All 12 residential halls were decorated to mark the National Day celebrations.

- Several other social, recreational and cultural engagements were held. For example, a social gathering and BBQ Live event was held in KL Men’s Dorm on December 10, where more than 50 students attended.

- The Student Residential Life Association organized a trip to Global Village, which was enjoyed by 85 students.

- The Charity Bake Sale participants continued with their initiative to support charitable organizations and to complement funds for AUS charity initiatives. The pancake-selling event in the MN Men’s Dorm, held in coordination with Community Services, aimed at helping orphans.
Echoes reflects student opinions about the services offered by the Office of Student Affairs. The section provides an opportunity for students to express their views and experiences with student extracurricular activities at AUS.

**Sultan Alshamsi, Junior, Accounting**
When we celebrate National Day, it is a sign of our national pride in what has been achieved in the past four decades and the pursuits made in urbanizing the seven emirates. The leaders played a crucial role in the country's development by setting visions, missions and goals, and for that they deserve the utmost respect and admiration from us.

**Yara Jitan, Sophomore, International Studies**
The Adopt an Orphan for a Day initiative's trip to Ski Dubai was a delightful experience as we got to spend a lot of time with the orphans from Sharjah Social Services and Human Appeal International. After playing, talking and eating lunch with the children, I realized just how much joy we could give and receive when we put aside a little time for those around us. The instant bond that we made with the children made the day very fun but also made it very hard to say goodbye.

**Nidal Sherif, Junior, Mechanical Engineering**
Being able to attend and present at the Peer Into the Future Symposium was a great honor and experience. Not only was I able to represent the peer leadership program at AUS along with my two colleagues, but I also was able to share and discuss ideas with others who had experiences in this field. It was also interesting to discover the leadership programs at different universities and the different aspects that they have to offer to students.

**Nasser Odtallah, Senior, Civil Engineering**
On November 21, I took part in the Fourth AUS Men’s Intercollegiate Bench Press Competition 2017. The event was very organized and competitive with the presence of universities from all over UAE. I successfully attempted lifting 160 kgs, which guaranteed me third place as an individual and first place as a team. Under the supervision of my coach, I am now preparing for the upcoming HESF competition, where I shall attempt lifting 190 kgs.

**Ibtisam Sadiq Abeid, Junior, Management Information Systems**
African Night was a really good opportunity for us to promote Kenya and also an amazing experience through the collaboration with the Sudanese, Nigerian, Egyptian, Moroccan and Algerian cultural clubs. We could show the diversity of Africa to AUS students and we all enjoyed it.

**Ahmad Ibrahim, Senior, Mechanical Engineering**
Teaching at the Al Thiqah Club for Handicapped has been a heart-warming and amazing experience. In today's society where everyone is always in a race, we had the chance to meet a group of people who are not competitive but cooperative towards each other and society. Spending time with them and teaching them on a weekly basis has allowed us to help these handicapped people and simultaneously spread happiness to them and us.
Hossam Shets, Junior, Industrial Engineering
I enjoyed the variety of games that every club offered during Arabian Night. It wasn’t only an entertaining experience, but also a learning experience, because every game had informative questions about every country’s culture.

Mohd Al Atallah, Senior, Computer Engineering and Mathematics
Through my participation in the Hult Prize Competition (2017–2018), I learned how to develop an idea to make it marketable with respect to its production cost and feasibility. I also met talented and energetic friends with whom I had the opportunity to improve my research and public speaking skills.

Mehdiraza Asaria, Freshman, Finance
In the 10th AUS Intercollegiate T20 Cricket Tournament, our team competed against the most prominent universities in the UAE and performed as a well-knit unit to bag the runner-up trophy in this prestigious tournament. I am immensely happy that my contribution with the bat and ball along with my teammates enabled AUS to touch the podium on this occasion.

Manal Machou, Junior, Multimedia
African Night brought together such incredible diversity and along with my board members, I was glad to bring forth the Algerian culture and represent it as best as we could. From the smiles on everyone’s faces, you could tell that this joyful event was one to be remembered.

Mariam El Shazly, Graduate Student, Civil Engineering
The Eighth AUS Women’s Intercollegiate Swimming Competition 2017 was held on November 17, with the participation of UOS, AUD, AU and UAEU in addition to AUS. The competition was tough but thanks to God we managed to get the first place and retain the title for AUS for eight years in a row, continuing the journey of success for the AUS women’s swimming team. I would like to thank all those who have made this achievement possible.
On November 27, the Student Council joined hands with the Egyptian, Nigerian, Kenyan, Libyan, Moroccan and Sudanese Cultural Clubs and presented the first AUS African Night.

The event celebrated the unity of the African countries despite the differences in languages, culture and traditions. Each club had the chance to display its culture, traditional costumes and food in decorated tents. Members of the Student Council and the cultural clubs performed traditional dances, fashion shows and songs that highlighted the beautiful diversity of the clubs.

Awards were given at the end of the event to the best dressed female and male, the best performance and the best booth.

Dr. Moza Al Shehhi, Dean of Students, pointed out the importance of multicultural programs and events in the life of students and urged them to get involved in the extracurricular opportunities offered at AUS.

“I really enjoyed being a part of the first African Night to be held at AUS. It was a wonderful experience and students enjoyed the African culture that was portrayed through the various performances and booth designs. This was all thanks to the efforts of the Student Council and the cultural clubs that took part in this night,” said Ahmed Elbokhary, a senior in chemical engineering.

Ritu Singh, a finance student, added, “I really enjoyed the performances and the whole concept of the African Night. I see it as the best way to celebrate and promote cultural diversity here at AUS.”