



## **Community Engagement Committee**

### **Community Engagement**

How individuals and organizations can make a difference is what can define the meaning of Community Engagement.

Al Falah University is committed to advancing faculty involvement in active community service and to generate support for the University from external stakeholders, by identifying specific needs that can be filled by faculty and staff competences, whether these needs are articulated or not, and by encouraging faculty and staff members to meet these needs in ways that can generate recognition for AFU.

Community engagement is a practical way used in active process of implementing change. It is a process to emphasis that honest relationship building is for the benefit of the community.

AFU fulfills its core vision of aiming to achieve local and international recognition for academic programs, research and community engagement and services. The university supports any member of the AFU team to become engaged in all types of community service and engagements activities, as this practice enrich faculty, staff and students experience and open the doors towards understanding voluntary services, further research areas, and more academic, social and intellectual activities.

AFU goal is to reach beyond campus walls and contributes to a synergy and interaction among community engagement initiatives that extend from the academic colleges and administrative units to community members and organizations.

### **AFU Community Engagement Committee**

AFU Community Engagement Committee was formed and approved by Deans Council in 2015 to develop the sense of participation and responsibility towards the community.



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### **The decree to establish the community engagement committee focused on the main responsibilities the committee should adhere to:**

- Identify specific community needs that can be filled by faculty and staff competences
- Encourage faculty and staff members to meet these needs in ways that can generate recognition for the University
- Develop a time-table of community engagement activities
- Ensure implementation of agreed community engagement activities
- Meeting with all designated community engagement members and head of the committee based on twice a month and approved schedule

### **The steps for AFU Community Engagement Committee need to follow for effective outcomes:**

- To determine plans goals
- To plan out who to engage
- To develop required strategies to apply those plans for internal and external individuals and community in general
- To prioritize demanded activities
- To create and implementation plan
- To monitor activities progress if short or long term ones
- To build up ongoing relationships with all community categories and maintain those relationships

### **Annual Budget and Reporting:**

- AFU annual budget is consistent with all university colleges and units, Community Engagement Committee as all other committees is provided with an approved annual budget which is administered through an allocated cost study set by the Finance Unit at AFU.
- Community Engagement Committee will report on all activities takes place on an annual semester basis, and any financial matters related to any activity to be measured as well towards quality assurance for successful outcome and level of cooperation between AFU and its partners.



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## Proposed Future Plans:

### **AFU Community Engagement Committee will oversee the following:**

- To guide AFU in promoting excellence through educational initiatives and developing a comprehensive community engagement plan.
- To promote and coordinating services, learning opportunities and research form communities traditionally underserved by the AFU.
- To collaborate with Community Partners on projects that serve communities traditionally underserved by AFU.
- To support critical engagements around the languages, cultures, histories, and IT technology for certain community categories.
- To cover activities from all AFU academic Colleges, Departments and Admin units.
- To establish a standards and policies that lead to professional learning and level of leadership.
- To encourage AFU students to participate in corporate and social responsible activities.
- To ensure that AFU engagement with the external community supports and aligns with AFU strategic goals.

## Implementation:

- At the beginning of the academic year, members of board trustees confirm and announce the community Engagement Committee representatives.
- CEC Document Controller plans the committee's meeting schedule based on representatives' availability. (Twice a month)
- All faculty members are assigned to accomplish two Community Engagement activities and one Professional Development activity each semester and make sure all activities are applicable and linked to AFU strategy, mission and vision. Based on that they plan their activities schedule and hand them to their college representatives, to get the approval on each activity from AFU Vice President for Academic Affairs – Dr. Sameer Al Bargouthi.
- Representatives submit their approved scheduled plans for the upcoming semester, and submit them to Ms. Zaina Al-Fraihat.
- During the meeting, representatives discuss their scheduled plans with Prof. Nasr Abbas – Head of Community Engagement Committee and set all the requirements for the approved activates.
- Every month the committee issues a report for all the achieved activities during the month, to:



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1. Evaluate how effective the activities were.
2. The risks and difficulties they faced and how to avoid them next time if they want to conduct similar activities.
3. Add their suggestions, advices and notes on all the achieved activities.

## Conclusion and Recommendations

- Community Engagement Committee will maintain an upgrade with all latest demands for improvement in order to compete with internal and external community demands.
- It will work on developing activities with clear targets and goals in the beginning of each academic year. Those activities will be revised monthly for any demanded updates based on changing circumstances and conditions.

## Chairman

**Prof. Nasr Abbas**

Dean

*Student Affairs*

## Members

N	Name	Position
1	Dr. Ashraf Jahmani	Representative, College of Business Administration
2	Dr. Ahmed Kamel Ahmad	Representative, College of Mass Communication
3	Dr. Nadia Yas	Representative, College of Law
4	Ms. Aysha Ehsan	Representative, General Education Department

**Meeting Schedule: Once every two (2) weeks**