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## **The First at the State Level, Al Ain University Gets the International Certification in the College of Pharmacy**

The College of Pharmacy at the Al Ain University of Science and Technology held the international certification from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), which is established in the United States, making it the first and only university at the level of the United Arab Emirates that received the international certification of pharmacy programs.

The college initiated the certification procedures in 2013, and permeated this period the field visits of the evaluation committees and reviews for precise objectives, learning outcomes, courses at hand and practical training at the college. In addition to interviews at the college, the teamwork of the administration and students has been crowned with success.

On this occasion, Dr Noor Aldeen Atareh, the AAU Chancellor, stated that this reliance was the culmination of efforts and hard work at the college and university level, and typifies the most important and unique accomplishment achieved by the university in order to improve the academic programs and a guarantee of quality pharmacy education. He even mentioned that the certification is due to the mainstay and complement efforts in the final appropriation stages of the college by the CAA in the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research in the United Arab Emirates.

Dr. Atatra added that Al Ain University of Science and Technology is proud to be proactive in obtaining this certification as being the first and only College of Pharmacy at the state level to

get this achievement, since it enhances the university's academic standing, which has great impact on the students' confidence and their parents, in general.

And for his part, Dr. Ghaleb Al-Refae, the AAU President, congratulated the Deanship of Pharmacy, its academic and administrative members, current students and graduates for obtaining the international certification from (ACPE), as this achievement is of paramount importance that the college has achieved the international certification standards, which focuses on the quality of Pharmacy program outputs posed by the university.

As Dr. Refae, on behalf of all the staff in the College of Pharmacy at Al Ain University of Science and Technology, thanked all strategic partners represented by the employment and training companies as well as hospitals that embraced the college students who took part in attaining this certification. He, likewise, added that the certification has several dimensions: the first dimension is the faculty members who were given admittance to the certification standards and worked through them; the second dimension is reflected in the students by helping them in increasing employment opportunities and graduate study opportunities.

And Dr Khairi Mustafa, Dean of the College of Pharmacy at Al Ain University of Science and Technology,

declared that this accomplishment and the obtainment of the US Accreditation Board for the Pharmacy

Education Program of Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy are the most important achievements of the

college and university for the year 2014/2015, which puts the college in the ranks of colleges that offer

the program specifications, world-class quality standards and conformity to one of the most difficult

criteria in the world of credit standards.

Dr. Khairi also said: "It is a pleasure to dedicate this achievement for all scholars, faculty members and administrators, supervisors and research labs for their outstanding and sincere efforts during the period of crediting preparation and during the follow-up visit of the Commission," he even stressed, "This accomplishment was the outcome of the collective oeuvre of the loyalty of the administration, the Presidency of the University, the college and the university supporting actors. You all have our thanks, admiration and respect."

For their part, the college students expressed their happiness and pride in this great achievement for the College of Pharmacy, where the student, Aseel Mohammad, in the fourth year at the College of Pharmacy stated, "I am so delighted that the college which I study in, the College of Pharmacy, has got this international certification, which would open up various career prospects." As the graduate student, Fadi Abdallah, who graduated from college last

year was pleased with this achievement and said, "I and all other students with Bachelors in Pharmacy were faced with some difficulties in being accepted to some prestigious universities to pursue with our higher education, but after obtaining the certification, several doors were open for the completion of graduate studies."

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