National Mechatronics Day

Date: 23 April 2013

Time: 9:00-15:30

Place: Philadelphia University, Jordan

The National Mechatronics Day Event combined three activities: TEMPUS-JIM2L Work Package 5; The 8th Engineering Day at Philadelphia University (PU); and the 11th Anniversary of the Mechatronics Department Establishment.

Objectives

The event objectives were:

- Spread awareness about mechatronics engineering as a discipline and profession.
- Spread Awareness about Tempus programs.
- Launch the double-degree M.S. Program as part of the JIM2L project.
- Implement cooperation between PU, German Jordanian University (GJU), and Higher Technological Institute (HTI) in Egypt.
- Build strong links with the Industry in the area of training and research as a base for the activities of the centre for training and life-long learning.
- Publicize the Jordan Mechatronics Network (JMN).
- Build personal and professional mechatronics-related connections.
- Strengthen PU’s role in serving and interacting with the community.
- Focus on the research areas in Mechatronics.

Program:

The program was composed of an opening ceremony and two sessions.
The opening ceremony included talks from the University President, Mechatronics Chair, Tempus local office, and Jordan Engineers Association (JEA)

The first session focused on the mechatronics education and it included the following presentations:

- PU Mechatronics Department and Tempus JIM2L by Dr. Tarek Tutunji / PU.
- Research Trends in Mechatronics by Prof. Kasim Al-Aubidy / PU
- Mechatronics activities at the Higher Technological Institute by Prof. Yehia Hindawy / HTI-EG
- Jordanian Mechatronics Network (JMN) by Dr. Nathir Rawashdeh/GJU

The second session focused on mechatronics applications in the industry and it included the following presentations:

- Mechatronics applications in the pharmaceutical industry by Dr. Shireen S. Al Hourani / Hikma Pharmaceutical.
- Mechatronics and Industry by Eng. Mustafa Sha'aban / Technical Center of Industrial Services.

Bio of the speakers:

Prof. Kasim Al-Aubidy is the PU Faculty of Engineering Dean. He obtained his PhD from University of Liverpool and has extensive research in real-time control systems.

Dr. Tarek Tutunji is a founder of the PU Mechatronics Department. He has a PhD in Industrial Engineering and MS in Electrical Engineering, both from the University of Oklahoma. He has practical experience where he worked in manufacturing and design. His research interest is in the identification and design of mechatronic systems.

Dr. Nathir Rawashdeh is the current chair of the Mechatronics Engineering Department at German-Jordanian University.
Prof. Yehia Hindawy is a founder of the PU Mechatronics Department. He has PhD in Mechanical Engineering and currently works at the Higher Institute of Technology (HTI) in Egypt.

Dr. Shireen Al-Hourani is currently the Engineering Director at Hikma Pharmaceuticals. She has an MS in mechatronics engineering and PhD in mechanical engineering, both from the University of Jordan.

Eng. Lara Jewinat is the sales manager at Technology Integration. She has a MS degree in mechanical engineering and has extensive experience with National Instruments products.

Eng. Mustafa Sha’ban has extensive experience in the regional industry. He has worked in several regional companies, such as FESTO. He currently works as a consultant and heads an engineering training center.

**Attendees:**

The attendees were about 200 people and they included a good combination of university professors, engineers, industry experts, and students as indicated below:

- JIM2L steering committee members: 3
- Industry and Jordan Engineers Association: 20
- Jordanian Universities’ academic staff: 20
- PU academic staff: 30
- PU administrative staff: 10
- Mechatronics Department Alumni: 15
- Engineering Students: 100

**Outcomes:**

The event was a success because it generated much interest within the audience. As a result, it was able to accomplish the following outcomes:

- The main objectives were fulfilled where a better awareness of mechatronics and its related research were made known.
- The cooperation between EU, JO, and EG was well disclosed.
• Industrial representatives announced their needs and willingness in building a better link with the academic institutions.
• Industrial representatives showed their readiness for supporting applied research that can benefit their companies.