
PALESTINE ACADEMY *for* SCIENCE *and* TECHNOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 1

November 2001

Editorial

Palestine Academy for Science and Technology (PALAST) is an autonomous, non-profit organization that is mandated to represent the Palestinian national instrument for making strategic investment in Palestine's capability and potential in science and technology, in that science and technology should impact the Palestinian national economy and improve the quality of life for all Palestinians. As such, the Academy represents the Palestinian commitment to respond to the science and technology, and R&D needs of the Palestinian private and public sectors. In this role, the Academy represents the focal point to a wide scientific and technological Palestinian network that is geared towards capacity building of the Palestinian R&D; promotion and application of science and technology as a tool for socio-economic development; in addition to advising the government on science and technology issues. The academy aims at institutionalizing scientific and technological research in Palestine, **promoting** scientific discovery and innovative technological advances in addition to **fostering** the use of science and technology in various

Continued on page 2

Mabrouk (مبروك) from US-NAS

Prof. Michael Green

Policy and Global Affairs, the US National Academy of Sciences

It is one of the remarkable things in our world that good people continue to do good things in bad times. The appearance of a newsletter and the list of workshops and other projects supported by the Palestine Academy for Science and Technology is, at this writing, a rare bit of bright news coming from the region. We are impressed that **PALAST** remains an active participant in the association of Scientific Academies of Councils of the Middle East Region, producing national papers for activities on biodiversity, water resources, and nutrition. We look forward to the newsletter, which will enable the international scientific community to remain abreast of the scientific activities of the Palestinian academy. My colleagues and I wish to offer our congratulations. *Alf Mabrouk!*

A Message from the President of PALAST

Dr. Fathi Arafat

This is the first issue of our Newsletter that we hope will shed some light on **PALAST** previous and recent activities, in addition to the forthcoming 2001 activities. Since its inception in 1998 by a presidential decree (No. 114), **PALAST** has developed its bylaws that bind and govern its work and help implement its mission and objectives. **PALAST** constitutes an important body within the national frame through coordinating, promoting and developing directive scientific and technological research and development, which are considered to be the main tools to developing the civil society and all national sectors. We intend at **PALAST** to invite all relevant bodies; governmental, non-governmental and academic institutes to become partners in its standing higher council, which has the mandate to approve **PALAST** general policies in harmony with the national needs and priorities in addition to satisfying the directive coordination with all relevant national institutes. On the other hand, the Science Council, which is part of the Academy structure will be comprised of distinguished members from relevant national institutes in addition to eight distinguished Palestinian scientists, who are known for their recognized scientific achievement. The Science Council will set mechanisms and guidelines to support the scientific research in Palestine through the National Science Fund (NSF). In addition, the Science Council will help pool money into the NSF ascertaining its sustainability. **PALAST**'s Fellows, who are Palestinian distinguished scientists, will certainly have a very important role to play especially in activating and enhancing scientific publications in addition to developing and initiating essential projects and programs. Not to forget our well-qualified staff members whom, in the last year, have worked day and night: They have drafted **PALAST** policy and all associated action plans, they have also conducted a survey study in cooperation with other national institutes to identify the status of scientific research and how to develop and promote it, in addition to conducting studies on the status of water and biodiversity research and initiating several important cooperative projects and programs. Their efforts are highly appreciated. Despite **PALAST**'s "young" age, we are highly proud of having laid the foundation towards fostering strong relations with many national and international institutes. In this regard, **PALAST** would like to indicate the distinct cooperative relation with the US National Academy of Sciences and other regional

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1(Editorial)

domains. Furthermore, it plays a fundamental role in coordinating scientific efforts between the private and the public sectors in order to foster a strong national economy that is globally competitive through the support of the Palestinian science and technology base and through partnership with governmental, non-governmental, local and international bodies.

In the current arena of globalization, science and technology have become the most important factor for national economic growth and a source of competitive advantage. Recognition of this fact has led technologically progressive nations and firms to invest substantial resources in research and development (R&D), technology acquisition and adaptation, S&T education and training, and S&T infrastructure.

The Academy National Standing Council and its President have identified science and technology (S&T) to have the means to fuel the nation's economy and ensure the well being of all Palestinians. In line with this, PALAST will pursue programs and activities guided by the principles of competence, competitiveness and conscience.

PALAST policy related to S&T presents the three-pronged approach, which shall be adopted to realize its vision. *Firstly*, by implementing 3 major tracks to develop competence and competitiveness and address the needs of the Palestinian community. *Secondly*, by strengthening and giving sharper focus to continuing programs in science and technology to make them more relevant to the goals and thrusts of the current situation. And *thirdly*, by improving S&T governance and management including institutional reforms for a more productive and efficient science community. In pursuit of its vision, PALAST will work with the S&T community on the urgent task of addressing the needs of Palestinian society in proportion to their importance. In so doing, the Academy enters into a new socio-economic contract with the Palestinian people❖

Continued from page 1(A message from the President)

Academies. We are happy to see that these cooperative relations are strengthened day by day❖

News from Academies around the World

NOBEL PRIZES (Sweden)- Early October the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced the Nobel Prizes in Physics and Chemistry as well as The Bank of Sweden Prize in Economic Sciences in memory of Alfred Nobel. The schedule for this year's Press Conference was as follows:

- **Medicine** - Monday 8 October: The Nobel Prize for Medicine has been awarded Leland H. Hartwell (USA) and Timothy Hunt and Paul M. Nurse (UK), for their discoveries of key regulators of the cell cycle.

- **Physics** - Tuesday, October 9 at 11.45 a.m. The Nobel prize has been awarded to Eric A. Cornell (USA), Wolfgang Ketterle (GERMANY) and Carl E. Weiman (USA) for the achievement of Bose-Einstein condensation in dilute gases of alkali atoms, and for early fundamental studies of the properties of the condensates.
- **Chemistry** - Wednesday, October 10 at 11.45 a.m. The Nobel Prize has been awarded to William S. Knowles (USA), Ryoji Noyori (JAPAN) for his work on chirally catalysed oxidation reactions and K. Barry Sharpless (USA) for their work on chirally catalysed hydrogenation reactions.
- **Economics** - Wednesday, October 10 at 3.15 p.m. The Nobel Prize has been awarded to George A. Akerlof (USA), A. Michael Spence (USA) and Joseph E. Stiglitz (USA) for their analyses of markets with asymmetric information.

More information is available at: <http://www.nobel.se>

NORTH-SOUTH RESEARCH CO-OPERATION

(the Netherlands) - The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (RNAAS) will be organizing a conference on 'North-South Research Co-operation' on Monday December 3, 2001. The main goal of this conference is to increase the understanding of aims and objectives in the case of North-South Research, of perceptions and interests of those who are involved with international research co-operation. Furthermore, the conference aims to give better insight in the different models in north-south research co-operation. Co-organizers of this conference are the Netherlands Foundation for the Advancement of Tropical Research (WOTRO), the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) and the Netherlands Development Assistance Research Council (RAWOO). For more information please contact Mr. Henk van den Heuvel, RNAAS Department of International Relations and Quality Assessment:

Henk.van.den.Heuvel@bureau.knaw.nl,

HUMAN SECURITY - The Permanent Mission of Chile to the International Organizations in Austria will be organizing a conference on 'Human Security and Science and Technology' in Laxenburg, Austria on October 10, 2001. Chile is the present Chair of the Human Security Network. The Network is a body of 13 countries from the America's, Africa, Europe and Asia, which meets twice a year at Foreign Minister level. Subjects of discussion are small arms, landmines, civilians and children in armed conflicts and security, development and education. Venue of the meeting will be the International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Laxenburg, Austria. Time: 9.30 till 17.30. Information: echileat1@chello.at

(ALLEA, issue 8 - 2001 October)

Continued on page 6

Scientific Research in Palestine and the Role of PALAST

Due to the utter importance of Scientific Research in Palestine, PALAST took the initiative to conduct a study to assess scientific research in Palestine including its current status and obstacles. To that end, Dr. Ayman Haj Daoud had conducted multiple focus meetings with the targeted parties ranging from governmental to non-governmental and private educational institutions in order to attain a diverse and comprehensive view on the status of scientific research in Palestine and to hear the recommendations and experiences of people directly involved in research.

Following that, on the 17th April 2001, a preliminary meeting entitled “ The Growth and Development of Basic Scientific Research in Palestine” took place simultaneously on the premises of Palestine Academy for Science and Technology in Ramallah and Gaza.

The meeting extended over the span of 4 hours and was attended by a consortia of representatives from various Ministries, Universities and Research Centers.

The meeting basically tackled the current status of Scientific Research in Palestine including the obstacles present and the suggested solutions needed to surmount the obstacles and activate research through cooperation and coordination between various national parties.

A major topic raised was the foundation of a National Science Fund, that is to provide certain funds for Scientific Research in the aim of ameliorating its status in Palestine.

After the workshop, a questionnaire prepared by the Academy was circulated in the aim of preparing the first report of its kind on research. A full report is to be ready after the second workshop that is to take place on the 8th November 2001 which aims at discussing the results of the questionnaire and getting the participants’ final recommendations pertaining to the role that the Academy could play in ameliorating the status and scope of Scientific Research in Palestine❖



2001 Upcoming Events

Event	Place	Date
Workshop “Towards a Consensus S&T Policy in Palestine”	Ramallah & Gaza	November 8 th 2001
Workshop “Status of Water Research in Palestine”	Ramallah	November 2001
Workshop “Biodiversity and Ecosystem in the Rift Valley”	Ramallah	November 2001
Opening PALAST New Offices	Gaza	November 2001
Inauguration of Academy Science Council	Ramallah & Gaza	November 2001

Biodiversity and Water Research in PALAST

PALAST has Hosted the third meeting of Scientific Academies and Councils of the Middle East Region in May 1999, in association with the US National Academy of Sciences. The participants included presidents, officers, and technical experts representing the Royal Scientific Society of Jordan, Palestine Academy for Science and Technology, Israel Academy of Science and Humanities, and the United States National Academy of Sciences and Institute of Medicine. At this meeting, the Presidents approved 4 workshops as initiatives for scientific and technological collaboration for the years 1999 and 2000. The approved 4 workshops included the following: A workshop on research priorities on water; a workshop on **micronutrient** deficiencies and nutrition; a workshop on bio-diversity and; a symposium on opportunities in Tele-medicine.

Following that a regional workshop on bio-diversity was held during the period of 22nd -23rd May 2000 at Blaustein Institute for Desert Research in Sede Boqer, where the heads of Science academies in Palestine, Israel, Jordan and USA have agreed that each academy, excluding the US National Academy, shall prepare a collaborative country proposal which may consist of an operational network, such as a network of monitoring sites, or a pilot project for long term ecological research on a common site, such as the Rift valley. The aims of the country proposals are to increase the availability of regional data on biodiversity, evaluate options for enhancing the role of biota in providing ecosystems, and to identify opportunities for regional approaches to the conservation of biodiversity.

The second country report is to tackle the issue of water highlighting the ongoing research in the field of water and wastewater in the Palestinian areas with emphasis on the constraints, gaps and opportunities for developing research properly in the future. The research also sheds light on the existing research infrastructure and institutions and tries to address the needs of the research infrastructure in a way that enables proper research to be accomplished in Palestine. It also defines the research gaps in the field and lists a number of proposed pieces of research to be conducted.❖

Cooperative Initiatives and Agreements

Towards establishing contact and exploring various areas of cooperation and future collaboration, the Secretary General escorted by the Public and International Relations Officer have conducted various visits to agencies in addition to having received visitors wishing to establish cooperation with the Academy.

In a visit to the **UNDP**, several initiatives have been submitted for funding or co-financing including “The Environmental Awareness program” in which interest was expressed. Moreover, providing volunteers to the Academy through the UNDP TOKTEN Program is currently being followed up.

As for the meeting with the **British Council**, Mr. David Martin, Director General, expressed his interest in the project entitled “Training Palestinian Lawyers in Environmental Advocacy”, thus offering the possibility of cooperating with the Academy in the implementation of the project by bringing a British trainer with the necessary expertise to give the training, in addition to the Academy being able to access information about British Environmental Legislation through the library of the British Council.

In another meeting with **TAMKEEN**, a USAID partner organization, it was agreed that the Academy would submit the following project: Project Managers.

In a meeting with the Consul General of Britain; **Mr. Geoffrey Adams**, the proposal for establishing “Journal of **PALAST**”, and the Workshop proposal “Towards a Consensus Master Plan for Scientific Research in Palestine” were submitted to see whether there is a possibility for funding through the consulate.

Moreover, towards preparing the National Food Security Strategy and Action Plan for the **Ministry of Supply**, the Minister has directed a letter to the President of the Academy expressing the ministry’s desire to cooperate with **PALAST** in preparing the strategy and action plan. As a result, a steering committee from both **MoS** and **PALAST** was established to draft the Terms of Reference.

Moreover, cooperation and partnerships agreements with **Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS)** have been developed in the area of strategic development of PRCS ambulance services in addition to the implementation of the proposed project of Tele-medicine.

Finally, connections have been established with Dr. Jihad Qarashuli, secretary general of the **Palestinian National Commission for Education, Culture and Science** founded in 1994 in coordination with the **UNESCO, ISESCO and ALECSO** in order to explore several issues of cooperation❖

Projects in the pipeline

- Researching the Effectiveness, Efficiency and Impact of the Current Iodized Salt Program and the Feasibility of Implementing Future Food Fortification with Iron.
- Center for Information Technology and Tele-medicine Network Services which aims to set up and build Information Technology Center in Palestine to provide university graduates with Hi-Tech training, software product development and IT services to private and public sectors.
- Building Environmental Leadership and Activism among School Children and the Community through Creating an environmental curriculum and materials to be taught in model schools in order to facilitate both the discussion of relevant issues and the instruction of the related activities.
- Training Palestinian Lawyers in Environmental Advocacy which aims at raising the awareness of Palestinian lawyers and the civil society to environmental legislation.

Knowledge & Attitude of Palestinian Health Professionals towards Human Cloning

To date, the issue of biotechnology in general and cloning in particular as part of this technology is being discussed only at the media level in the Arab world.

As a direct result of the immediacy of this issue, Palestine Academy for Science and Technology was a pioneer in deciding to touch on this issue in affiliation with Ms. Sumaya Sayej MSN, Ph.D. Candidate through a qualitative study investigating the Palestinian Health Professionals’ Knowledge and Attitude towards Cloning. The study also aims at exploring and identifying views and opinions regarding the religious aspects and morality of this issue. This assessment allows the Academy to raise awareness to biotechnology techniques and to develop strategies for future investment in human biotechnology❖





News from Palestinian Universities



Palestine Polytechnic Hebron

The Renewable Energy and Environment Research Unit (REERU) of Palestine Polytechnic University (PPU) has finalized an environmental awareness and maintenance campaign funded by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The campaign focused on assessing the quality of water in addition to water leakage in five locations within the Hebron District. The UNDP has furnished REERU's water quality laboratory with devices to measure the biological pollution of water.

In a cooperation program with Save the Children, REERU has conducted a water quality-testing program in Al-Thahria.

The PPU, the American University of Beirut (AUB) and the Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE) have collaboratively submitted a proposal to the U.S. Department of State Citizen Exchange Program. The proposal focuses on researching the utilization of solar energy in relevant applications and energy efficiency issues. Part of the program will be implemented in cooperation with the Florida Solar Energy Center in USA ❖

Al Quds Jerusalem

Al Quds University is going to grant its annual awards for excellence in research or creative activity which consists of an honorarium of 1,000 \$ to be given to Al Quds University faculty member professional for a single significant contribution or an accumulation of significant contributions recognized nationally or internationally.

More information can be attained through the Al Quds Website:

http://www.alquds.edu/or/news_events/research_office/excellence.html

In other news, the environmental faculty at Al Quds University is currently involved in several ongoing projects such as "Water Quality along the Jordan River" and "Water as a Source of Cooperation". As for the agricultural sector, Dr. Mustafa Khamis is coordinating two projects entitled "Sustainability and Optimization of Irrigation with Waste Water" and "Plant Nutrition Physiology Aspects" dealing with salt toxicity and Harvest Quality.

In the sector of National and Technological Sciences, and in cooperation with An Najah University, Al Quds University is involved in investigating "Advanced Technologies for Reuse of Treated Water in Irrigation". Moreover, the following three surveys have been conducted:

- The First National Nutritional Survey: Analyzing food in terms of Micro and Macro nutrients.
- National Diabetes Survey: Investigating diabetes type 2.
- Hypertension and Obesity.

These three surveys are currently in the process of analysis and report writing.

Finally, a research has been conducted in the field of Leshmaniasis basically tackling the problems and the preventive measures. Following that, findings have been disseminated in the **INTERNATIONAL PAPERS**, for those who are interested please contact the Dean of Research at Al Quds University through the following E-Mail Address:

alqudsu@planet.edu ❖

Al Aqsa University Gaza

A Workshop entitled "Environmental Problems in Gaza" took place in Al Aqsa University on the 31st June 2001 tackling the current environmental hazards in Gaza and ways to cut back their effects ❖

Continued on page

News of NAS

By Prof. Michael Greene
Policy and Global Affairs, US National Academy of Sciences

The United States National Academy of Sciences is an independent, non-governmental organization founded in 1863 to provide independent advice to the U.S. Government "in matters of science and art." Today, the NAS, its two sister academies, the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine, and its operating arm, the National Research Council have a staff of 1,100 and publish about 250 study reports a year for the government and other sponsors. Each year more than 10,000 leading scientists, educators, and business people serve on hundreds of NRC working committees (receiving no compensation for their work). Topics range from health to engineering to agriculture to basic sciences; all reports are available to the public at our website www.nationalacademies.org.

One of the primary interests of the NAS and its president, Bruce Alberts, is mobilizing other science academies of the world to jointly address some of the most pressing problems of peace, world health, and international development. The NAS has taken a leadership role in the creation of the InterAcademy Panel for International Affairs (IAP), which has issued several pronouncements on population growth, housing, biotechnology, sustainable development, and other topics on behalf of the world scientific community, and the InterAcademy Council (IAC), which will carry out independent, peer-reviewed studies on world problems like science capacity building and food security.

In the Middle East Region, the National Academies have helped to create the association of Scientific Academies of Councils of the Middle East Region, including Palestine, Israel, Jordan, and Egypt, which has produced a widely acclaimed report on Water for the Future and has an active program of scientific collaboration in nutrition, water resources, biodiversity, and other areas. Palestine Academy for Science and Technology has been an active founding member of the Middle East group, and we are hoping it will become active as well in the IAP and IAC.

After the tragic events of September 11, a message of sympathy from Drs. Fathi Arafat and Imad Khatib of Palestine Academy for Science and Technology was the first of many messages gratefully received from science academies around the world. (Many of these appear on our website.) The U.S. National Academies are bringing together groups of scientific experts to advise the government on anti-terrorism measures, and on longer-term actions to deal with the root causes of terrorism in the world. In this endeavor, we will be calling on our friends in the Middle East Academies for advice and assistance, and we look forward to further consultations with Palestinian colleagues ❖

International Workshops

In July 2000, under the supervision of the Academy and in cooperation with **The Permanent Mission of the State of Palestine to the Arab League and Al-Najah University**, a training course entitled "Non-Destructive Testing in Industry" took place in Tunis and was attended by Academy Representatives in order to study the ability of implementing non-destructive testing in Palestinian Industries.

Dr. Ayman Haj Daoud has represented the Academy in the First Meeting of the Mediterranean and Regional Perspectives Steering Committee which was held in Brussels. The meeting brought together eminent leaders of the S&T communities in Mediterranean Partner Countries to discuss techno-economic initiative/strategies for the Euro-Mediterranean region. The committee has put some priorities for future work which included the following: The development of Mediterranean Region Foresight; the role of S&T for the sustainable development of the region; the impact of S&T on trade, small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), foreign direct investment (FDI), tourism, and health; the drivers of change and how they will affect society around the Mediterranean area such as Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), Biotechnology, Demographic and social change, trade agreements, and management of scarce resources.

On another occasion, in the field of **Systematic Review in the Rational Use of Drugs**, Dr. Ghandi Tamimi represented the Academy in reviewing the Effectiveness of Rotavirus Vaccine in Preventing Rotavirus Infection under the supervision of D. Karla Soares from Cochrane Collaboration. Moreover, in the aim of having a well trained team of reviewers; an idea welcome by Professor Paul Garner, two candidates being Dr. Tamimi and Mr. Anis Mahareek were sent to Liverpool Tropical School of Medicine to attend the Critical Appraisal Module and get in direct contact with Prof. Garner and his team. It is planned to keep a close relation with the Cochrane and to establish new lines with INRUD and WHO.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK MEETS IN PARIS

By Carol Corillon, Executive Director

The French Academy of Sciences hosted the fifth biennial meeting of the International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies in May 2001. This Network addresses grave issues of science and human rights, particularly the unjust detention or imprisonment of colleagues throughout the world. Some 60 academies and scholarly societies sent their presidents, foreign secretaries, or prominent members to this event, making it the most well attended meeting since the Network's creation in 1993.

Speakers at the semi-public symposium, *Human Rights and the Scientific Community*, included Bernard Kouchner, Minister of Health, France and former Special

An-Najah University Nablus

A project in the field of Solar Energy has been initiated and submitted to the French-Palestinian Universities' Union Association in cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education, in addition to another project entitled "Electroluminescent Organic/Inorganic Hybrid Material Film.

In other news, there has been active involvement of the University Staff in national and international conferences such as the Chemical Engineering Conference held in Amman, and the conference for improving the quality for Agricultural Industries held in Spain in October 2001 ❖

The Academy National Science Fund (NSF)

It is an independent fund created and administered by PALAST in fulfillment of the academy's mission. The mission states the purpose of the NSF is "to promote the progress of science; [and] to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare" by supporting research and education in all fields of science and engineering." NSF funds research in most fields of science and engineering. It does this through grants and cooperative agreements to colleges, universities, science organizations and R&D centers throughout Palestine. NSF is administered by PALAST's Science Council and helped by advisors from PALAST's fellows who serve on special committees or as *ad hoc* reviewers of proposals.

PALAST is underway preparing all relevant documents including "NSF – Grant Proposal Guide", which will offer guidance for Palestinian researchers who want to apply for a grant. It is anticipated that NSF will start calling for research proposals during spring 2002 ❖



Continued from page 7 (Int'l Workshops)

Representative and Head of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo; Peter Anyang' Nyong'o, Member of Parliament, Kenya National Assembly and fellow, African Academy of Sciences; Flora Brovina, Director of the Center for the Rehabilitation of Women and Children in Pristina and President, Albanian Women's League; Nasrin Mosaffa, Director of the Center for Graduate International Studies Faculty, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Tehran University; and Barbara Ibrahim, Regional director for West Asia and North Africa, Population Council, and wife of imprisoned Egyptian sociologist, Saad Eddin Ibrahim. Speakers were introduced by Nobel Laureates François Jacob (France), Torsten Wiesel (USA), and Max Perutz (UK). Closing remarks were made by Pieter van Dijk, President of the Netherlands Council of State, Chair of the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights, and member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. Speakers addressed a broad range of issues in various geographic regions including the promotion of democracy and strengthening of civil society, human rights and the medical community, and human rights education and the scholarly community.

The day and a half-long meeting that followed the symposium was restricted to current and potential members of the Network. It gave participants the opportunity to discuss various interests and activities, to raise issues and instances of grave violations of human rights within the world scientific community, and to review cases of unjustly imprisoned colleagues in whose behalf the members of the Network had privately intervened during the past two years, as well as current cases of particular urgency or concern. Discussion topics included human rights and the scientific vocation, the promotion and protection of the independence of academies and scholarly societies, human rights dialogue and exchange in regions in which political relations are strained (Dr. Imad Khatib, PALAST and Dr. Yuan Lee Nobel Laureate and President of the Academia Sineca in Taiwan) ; and development assistance and the strengthening of civil society in terms of whether lessons learned could help guide the methods and objectives of the Network. There was an open exchange of ideas and concerns, relations were strengthened and trust was built among the delegates, and greater collaboration on human rights issues among academies in various regions of the world was encouraged.

The Council of Swiss Scientific Academies will host the sixth biennial meeting of the Network in May 2003.

For those interested to write to the Network:
**Secretariat, Committee on Human Rights
The National Academies
20101 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20418, USA**

ATT: Ms. Carol Corrillon, Executive Director
URL **Address:**
<http://www.nationalacademies.org/oia> (human rights)
E-Mail Address: chr@nas.edu

WHO'S WHO AT PALAST

Imad A. Khatib, Ph.D, M.Phil, M.Eng.

Acting Director General, got his B.Sc. in Mechanical Power Engineering from Egypt, his M.Phil. in Energy Engineering from the U.K. and his Ph.D in Environmental Technology from Germany. Dr. Khatib is the Director of Scientific Research at Palestine Polytechnic University.

Abdulraheem Abusaleh, M.D., M.P.H,

A physician with M.P.H. form Emory University in the USA. He has specialized in primary health care, directed several primary health care programs in the West Bank and served as a consultant to UNICEF. He serves as a director to the Policy Development Unit at Palestine Council of Health and as deputy to the Director General of the PCH. Lately, he has been assigned to run the S&T Policies Department at PALAST.

Ayman Al Haj Daoud, Ph.D, M.Sc. B.Sc.,

Director of Publication and Education Division, has finished his B.Sc. in physics from Al Najah National University. His M.Sc. in Solid State Physics from the University of Jordan. He worked as a physics instructor in Palestinian Schools for three years. Then he joined the Institute of the Experimental Physics of the Ruhr-Universitaet-Bochum, Germany where he got his Ph.D. degree.

Osama El-Mimi, Ph.D. Cand., M.Sc., B.Sc.,

Director of R&D Cenetr's Affairs division, Earned his B.Sc. in Physics from the University of Jordan, his M.Sc. in atomic and molecular physics from the University of Manchester in England. He worked as a school principle for one of the Arab - American Schools in Jerusalem and as a lecturer in physics at Al- Quds Open University. He is a Ph.D. candidate in Physics Education.

Irene Akra, B.A.,

Director of Public and International Relations division, finished a double major in Sociology/Anthropology and English Literature in the year 2000 from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She is a member of the Human Rights Committee and Youth Club at the YWCA in Jerusalem.

PALAST DIVISIONS

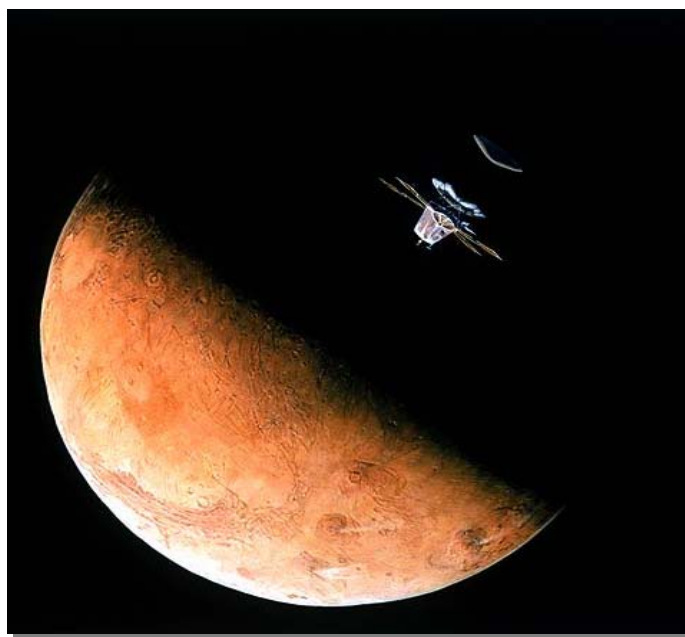
Science and Technology Policies
Division

Research and Development Centers
Affairs

Public and International
Relations

Publication and Education

Information Technology



DIRECT ALL CONTACT TO:

PALESTINE ACADEMY FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 66839

JERUSALEM, 95908

RAMALLAH OFFICE
JERUSALEM-RAMALLAH ROAD
TEL: +972(0)2-2960524/6
FAX: +972(0)2-2960525

GAZA OFFICE
TAL-ALHAWA, PRCS BUILDINGS
TEL: +972(0)8-2835594
FAX: +972(0)8-2835599

E-MAIL: INFO@PALESTINEACADEMY.ORG
WEB: [HTTP://WWW.PALESTINEACADEMY.ORG](http://WWW.PALESTINEACADEMY.ORG)