

Communication Studies Training Seminar in Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Training Dates: Sep. 21-28, 2018

Location: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Partnership Objective:

This academic capacity building program/visit was part of the partnership between Kabul University and the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). Through this partnership, the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), as U.S. partner institution, was assisting Kabul University in establishing a new Department of Communication Studies.

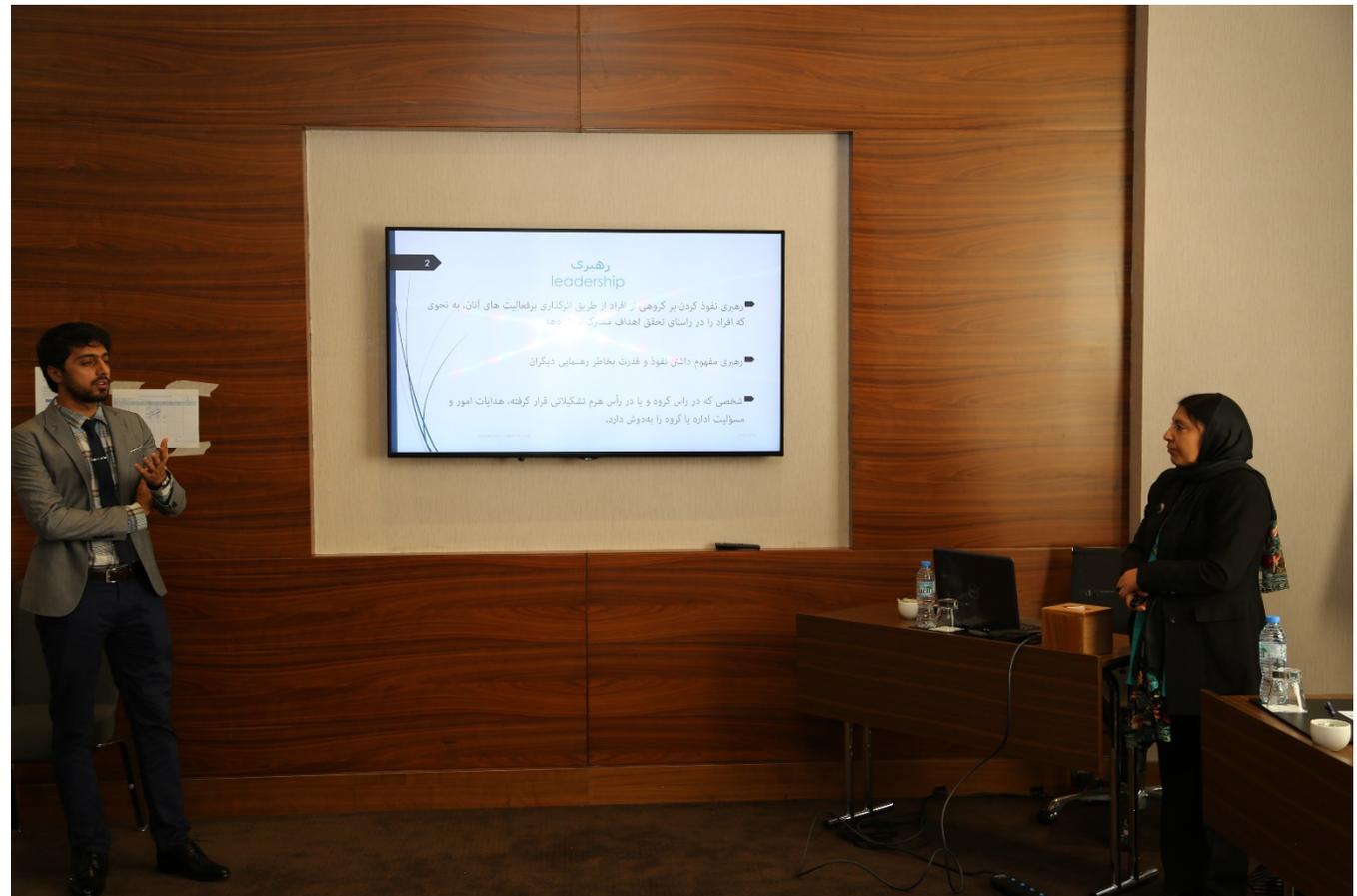


The Dubai training seminar was part of our third country training initiatives that were planned in lieu of the Afghan faculty's visit to the United States. Both Afghan and American faculty met at a third country location such as United Arab Emirates for trainings and meetings.

The purpose of this academic training in Dubai was to assist Kabul University faculty to finalize the requirements for the academic and administrative programs and activities required to establish the department of Communication Studies at their university.

The agenda for this training included:

- Finalize teaching materials for the 6 identified subject course materials
- Listen to and critique mini-lectures by KU faculty members to improve presentation and lecturing skills
- Conduct ongoing consultation and program management
- Conduct further training in research methodology for KU faculty members
- Conduct a session on student learning outcomes and assessment
- Finalize the mentor relationship between KU and UNO faculty members.
- Finalize the KU curriculum and celebrate the successful transfer of knowledge.



As planned, eight faculty members from Kabul University attended this training program. Eight UNO team members who traveled to Dubai conducted the training. UNO team members offered power point presentations and lead group and one on one discussions concerning the topics mentioned above.

One of the biggest achievements is that one of the KU professors by the name of Zia Rafat has written a book in Dari about intercultural communication. This effort was made possible by the support of USAID. The book is called Social Influence and is translated in Dari and Pashto.

This accomplishment was possible because the KU faculty have really taken the initiative to learn or grasp the information that is being taught to them. They have shown how eager they are to succeed in this endeavor and to make sure that the communications program is a success.



Another notable achievement is the work done in the mentoring process by UNO and Kabul faculty to make sure that they are utilizing each other as a resource. In one such case, Dr. Ana Cruz worked diligently to make sure that all materials that she had, were shared with the KU faculty. She did so by organizing a folder with the instructor's manuals, test banks, syllabus, class lectures, journal articles, and assignments for a class that Prof. Fanoos will teach.

This seminar was very successful. The faculty of Kabul University attended 6 full days of seminars covering a wide array of material. Afghan and American faculty who attended the seminars were able to learn a lot from each other. It was a great learning and team building opportunity for the attendees. The feedback received was that this seminar was very helpful to the attendees and they appreciated the time spend together.

