

SQU Professor Bags Distinguished Arab Researcher Award

The Association of Arab Universities selected **Prof. Imaddin Ali Al-Omari**, Professor in the Department of Physics of the College of Science at Sultan Qaboos University, for the “**Distinguished Arab Researcher Award**” in the fields of science and engineering for the year 2014. The award was announced in Amman, Jordan, during the meeting of the executive council of the Association of Arab Universities which was held on 5 January. Prof. Al-Omari received the award during the General Conference of the Association of Arab Universities which was held on 25 March 2015 in Beirut, Lebanon. The award includes a certificate from the Association of Arab Universities and a cash prize of 7,500 US Dollars.



Prof. Al-Omari has been working in Sultan Qaboos University for 14–years and this award is based on his achievements in teaching, students’ training, research, service to the scientific community, and for the development of science in the Arab world during his entire academic career, especially in the past 10 years. In addition to teaching physics for undergraduate and postgraduate students for the past 19 years in Sultan Qaboos University, University of Nebraska–Lincoln (USA), and Jordan University of Science and Technology (Jordan), Prof. Al-Omari has published 103 scientific research papers in international referred, indexed, and recognized journals. He has also presented 40 papers in an international conferences and delivered several seminars at an international institutions. He also served as principal investigator of more than 10 research projects and as member of the editorial board of the two international Journals.

The main research interest of Prof. Al-Omari focuses on the preparation characterization, and the development of different magnetic materials, using different techniques. These materials including but not limited to thin films, alloys, nano-crystalline and nano-particles powders and thin films, and ribbons. His research aims are to improve and develop the different properties of materials such as thermal, magnetic, resistance to corrosion, and to cut the energy cost, the preparation cost and save the environment. The results of his studies have greatly helped to understand the properties and hence applications towards the industrial and technological development of the magnetic materials, superconducting materials, and materials for nanotechnology. For example, these materials play a dominant role for high density magnetic recording, high coercivity permanent magnets, permanent magnets for high temperature applications, materials for high energy products, batteries, solar cells and others.

The **Association of Arab Universities**, also called the *Union of Arab Universities* is an organization working within the framework of the Arab League. It is based in Amman, Jordan. The objective of the organization is to support and connect universities in the Arab world, and to enhance cooperation among them. Two member institutions, the Arabic Academy in Denmark and Alhuraa University in the Netherlands, are outside of the Arab world. Members of the AAU are Universities that are from the Arab world (280 Universities) from 22 countries.