

Issue 1

Diary of the Week

Preparing University Packs

We have already sent packs to 50 universities in the Arab region and which include:

- A PowerPoint presentation about the Competition and its different rounds
- Posters to be hanged on campus
- Flyers to be distributed to students

Recruiting Jury Members

We are recruiting jurors from all over the Arab world. So far, we have jurors from Bahrain, Dubai, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Tunisia.

The two newly recruited jurors are:

Ms. Cherine Al Maghraby from Saudi Arabia and Mr. Riad Bsaibes from Dubai.

Facebook Group

We created a Facebook group, MIT Arab Business Plan competition, which we encourage you to join and invite your friends to do so.

Calling All Volunteers

We are always in need of help for all of the items listed above. You can recommend a juror, advise on a specific issue, or propose new ideas. We appreciate whatever you are willing to bring in. Please contact the people below:

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IN THE NEWS

Global Entrepreneurship Week

The MIT Enterprise Forum of the Pan Arab Region participated in the Global Entrepreneurship Week which was held from November 17-23, 2008 in over 75 countries over the world in an effort to inspire people to embrace innovation, imagination, and creativity.

In Lebanon, many organizations took part in GEW, and the MIT Enterprise Forum of the Pan Arab Region gave a presentation on the MIT Arab Business Plan Competition on Tuesday, November 18 at RootSpace offices in Beirut.

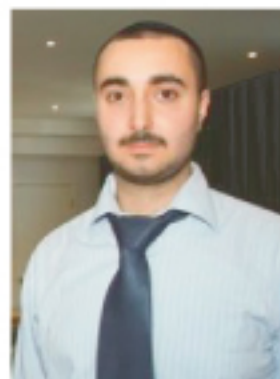
The Launching Ceremony of MIT Arab Business Plan Competition 2008-2009,



supported by Abdul Latif Jameel Community Services Programs, took place on November 13 at Monroe Hotel Beirut. The announcement came during a press conference where Hala Fadel, Chair of Forum, gave a presentation on the structure of the Competition, its different rounds, and the calendar of events. Last year's competition had its share in the conference; Edu Lab, last year's winning team represented by one of its members, shared their experience with the audience and spoke about the added value the Competition

brought in as well as the doors it opened to them.

Samer Rasbeih joined us as a full-timer.



Samer(samer@mitarabcompetition.com) will be located at the Bader offices (Thank you Bader!) and will work with our Project Manager, Joelle Yazbeck (jyazbeck@baderlebanon.com).

In this regard, Samer says: "The main attracting point in the Competition is its uniqueness and its tendency to work on improving the socio-economical situation in the Arab countries by enhancing young graduates to bring their innovative ideas and skills into reality, by encouraging them to prepare professional business plans to be judged by experienced jurors and putting them on the right track. Three weeks have passed since I joined the team, and I really like the professional and friendly environment which motivates and challenges me to perform better."

COMPETITION CALENDAR - REMINDER



10 November 2008

Website opens for online application forms

8 January 2009

Deadline for submissions

Applicants should sign up for a username and password and are advised to save their entries as many times as necessary to duly fill the form before they finally hit the "Submit" button.

TELEVISION COMMERCIALS

Since the opening of the website, television commercials have been running on Al-Arabiya, MBC 1, and MBC 2 at an average rate of 6 times per day. The commercials were also uploaded on the Facebook group.

In this regard, we extend our gratitude to Abdul Latif Jameel Community Services Program for their generous support!