

April 8, 2021

Opening ceremony of WISHEPP-V "Special edition"

Honourable Guests, Colleagues, Partners, Friends and Students

Good Evening to you All,

Monsieur Rene Trocaz, Consul General de France a Jerusalem, et ses collegues du Consulat General, Nos Collegues de l'universite de Paris Saclay en France, Nos Partenaires a CERN en Suisse, et L'agence Universitaire de la Francophonie , Bonsoir a Tous, Colleagues and Friends from Jordan, Lebanon, Italy, Germany Guten Abend Buonasera

I will say a few words in Arabic then immediately switch to English

زميلاتي وزملائي الأستاذة والعلماء والخبراء من فلسطين ومن حول العالم، الأخوات والأخوة في دائرة الفيزياء وشركائنا في "المدرسة الشتوية الخامسة لفيزياء الطاقة العالية"، أعزائي الطلبة، إنه لشرف كبير لنا جميعاً أن نطلق المدرسة الشتوية الخامسة في فيزياء الطاقة العالية رغم الجائحة وتداعياتها الكبيرة على كافة الأصعدة. فمجرد نجاحنا في الاستمرار بهذا المشروع الريادي في ظل كل الظروف المحيطة بنا إنما يبرهن على أننا نتصدى للمسؤولية الملقاة على عاتقنا في بناء إمكانيات الطلبة وصقل مهارات البحث العلمي وتعزيز التعاون الدولي. إن المدرسة الشتوية لا تشكل فقط جدول أعمال علمي وأكاديمي بل نموذجاً نسعى إلى تعميمه ليشمل تخصصات ودوائر أخرى أيضاً. إننا نسعى إلى إحداث تغيير عظيم الأثر، بعيد المدى، يُطلق طلبتنا إلى فضاءات جديدة من الإبداع العلمي والعملية. أشكر الطاقات والخبرات المحلية والدولية التي اجتمعت لتصنع حدثاً سنوياً هاماً وواعداً، وأتمنى للطلبة رحلة علمية ثرائية طموحاتهم الكبيرة.

I am honored to be among this very special group of scientists, academics and brilliant young minds. I would like to thank my colleagues from the physics department and our esteemed partners for realizing this project and providing every possible support for it to be sustainable and resilient, as we gather today to see the "Winter School of High-Energy Physics" enter into its fifth year with the same momentum and success.

An-Najah National University feels extremely proud to be the first university in Palestine to join the global trend to switch to E-learning. As a growing digital platform, and at the onset of the pandemic, we shifted from blended to fully online learning. In parallel, all our conferences and workshops were made digital and online. The special edition of "WISHEPP" is at the heart of our earnest efforts; its activities will be online and virtual, utilizing technologies to reach our goals and build on the success of the previous years. We have made it our collective responsibility to cultivate innovation and high performing students.

Many achievements have been associated with this school. Tens of scholarships have been offered to our students since 2016, a Centre of Excellence in High Energy Physics in Palestine is established. The success of the "Winter School of High-Energy Physics" opened doors for funding from the European commission; a new funding will generate 100 new scholarships and numerous opportunities for staff and student mobility.

This year we celebrate a new achievement by hosting the "Young Researcher Conference" for high school students. An interactive platform will be created for them to share their passion for science and connect with scientists and researchers both locally and internationally. We do hope that this conference will be a building block for further expansion and internationalization.

We are glad to see our international relations thrive and produce such an inspiring and rewarding project, which continues on accumulating success. We do look forward to replicating this ambitious experience into other disciplines in Palestine and in NNU in particular.

Again, I thank our partners: the French consulate, CERN and Paris-Saclay University. I am confident that with your valuable participation and collaboration, WISHEPP-V will be extremely enriching and informative. And to those brilliant young minds enrolled in the winter school: good luck, knowledge breaks boundaries and unlocks all doors.

Thank you, welcome, bienvenue, willkommen, Benvenuto, اهلا وسهلا