

February 18th, 2021

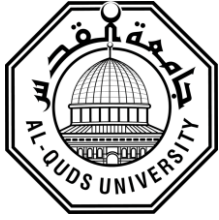
Chevening Selection Committee
British Consulate General
Jerusalem

I am writing this letter to give my highest possible recommendation for Dr. Raghad Saleh. I know Raghad through her last 3 clinical years at the Faculty of Dental Medicine/Al Quds University (AQU).

Raghad first approached me three years ago about the possibility to work with me in community service projects that I supervise as the head of Oral Health Research and Promotion Unit at AQU. At our first meeting I described the community projects that she might work on. She asked good questions and appeared intelligent. In our second meeting, she already prepared ideas and programs that she might implement with me in the unit. She did this independently - I did not ask her to do this and I was quite impressed at her motivation and independence. In addition, Raghad was good in proposing and obtaining small funds to finance her ideas.

During my work with her, Raghad demonstrated the ability to work independently with great creativity and enthusiasm. Raghad has strong leadership skills, she was able to recruit more student to help implementing her proposed ideas. She worked with me in many oral health education and awareness campaigns such as Pre-school Oral Health project during the years 2019-2020 and Refugee OH project during the years 2020-2021.

Raghad showed great communication skills where she got along well with all the team and pulled her own weight on the project. I was especially taken by Raghad's great passion and serious commitment to community service.



Raghad was one of the leaders in the Palestinian Student Dental Association (PADS). She excelled in leading this organization with her colleagues and represented PADS nationally and internationally very well.

I also have taught Raghad “Evidence Based Dentistry” during her final year in the DDS training program. Most of the assignments in this course were group work. Raghad was organized, efficient, extremely competent, and has an excellent rapport with her classmates. Her communication skills, both written and verbal, were excellent. She was excellent in formulating research questions, reading and critiquing articles and weighing the strength of evidence in different scientific articles. She also showed great skills in using SPSS software and in accessing the literature through specialized scientific databases.

Towards the end of the course. Raghad approached me asking for more involvement in my research projects. I worked with her on two research projects in the year of 2020, the use of dental floss among AQU dental students and the mental health of AQU dental students during the COVID-19 pandemic, both published as conference proceedings at:

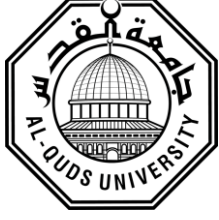
<https://dspace.alquds.edu/handle/20.500.12213/6269>

and one of them is in press in the Journal of International Journal of Dentistry and Oral Science.

On October, 2020, Raghad and her colleagues won the 1st place in the Medicine and Dentistry section for their oral presentation about the dental floss use among AQU dental students in the Palestinian Undergraduate Research Conference.

Using these research skills, Raghad also, with her colleagues, led the Student Research Club in AQU College of Dentistry and helped students with different research capacity building activities to start forming their own research clusters.

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



Deanship for Scientific Research

عمادة البحث العلمي

Dr. Elham Kateeb

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In summary, I think Raghad would be an outstanding asset to your program. I give her my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,

Elham Kateeb, BDS MPH PhD

Scientific Research, Dean

Al-Quds University

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