

Damages to University College of Applied Sciences

January 24, 2009

Dear Sir/Madam,

Greetings from the University College of Applied Sciences (UCAS) in Gaza. As you may know, the Gaza Strip was bombarded by thousands of tons of Israeli bombs from air, sea, and land for more than 20 days. The bombs resulted in a devastating damage to thousands of homes and buildings throughout the Gaza Strip.

UCAS, the largest college of its kind in Palestine, was one of the educational institutions suffered during this attack. The College was shelled several times during the multiple Israeli incursions to the College's neighborhood. This resulted in partial and total damage to classrooms, labs, offices, facades, etc. The initial estimate of our losses due to the barbaric attack on our College is about \$690,000.

The College family: students, faculty, and staff are calling upon your generous donations to contribute to the rehabilitation and rebuilding of the College.

Please feel free to contact us for further information and details.

Sincerely,

Dean Yahya R. Sarraj, Ph.D.

The University College of Applied Sciences

CALL FOR HELP

Life in Gaza did not stop when the first Israeli missile hit Gaza City on Dec. 27th, 2008. As the smoke of bombs was finally disappearing, Gazans discovered the harsh reality of the widespread destruction of houses, schools, universities, hospitals, worship places, among other civil infrastructure in Gaza.

Like other Palestinian institutions in Gaza, the University College of Applied Sciences (UCAS) could not escape the Israeli machine of destruction. The Israeli forces need no excuse to hit the largest college providing technical and vocational education in Palestine. The barbaric attack on the College resulted in partial and total damage to our classrooms, labs, offices, equipment, and building facades and walls throughout our main campus. The initial estimate of our losses is about \$690,000.

The College family: students, faculty, and staff are calling upon your assistance and generous donations to contribute to the rehabilitation and rebuilding of the College.

UCAS IN BRIEF

The University College of Applied Sciences (UCAS) in Gaza, which until recently was known as the Community College of Applied Science and Technology (CCAST), is the largest college of its kind in Palestine, whether in terms of number of enrolled students or programs of study it offers to those students. The College is the proud winner of the 2007 International Palestine Award for Excellence and Creativity, an honor awarded by the Palestinian President.

UCAS enrolls approximately 7,000 students and offers associate degrees in more than 40 different academic programs and just starting to offer bachelor degrees in a few distinguished programs. Our students enjoy a well-equipped campus, especially for students with disabilities. Our mission is to provide the various sectors in Palestine with its needs for highly-qualified and skillful professionals, mainly in technology and applied science fields. The College awards its associate degree to about 1,200 graduates every year. Many of these graduates find jobs in the local and regional job markets shortly afterwards.

SUMMARY OF UCAS LOSSES

Though our College was not directly bombarded by the Israeli Jetfighters, UCAS was shelled several times during the multiple Israeli incursions to the College's neighborhood. This resulted in partial and total damages to classrooms, labs, offices, facades, etc.

The following table details the damages and summarizes the costs for fixing these damages:

Item	Estimated Costs in US Dollars
Concrete Works	\$20,000
Finishing (stone, plastering, floors and tiling, and painting) Works	\$123,000
Doors, Window, and False Ceiling and Partition Works	\$103,000
Electrical Works	\$25,000
Sanitary and Mechanical Works	\$72,000
Miscellaneous Works	\$87,000
Furniture and Equipments	\$165,000
Animation and Cartoon Production Unit	\$65,000
Other Unforeseen Works	\$30,000
Total	\$690,000

UCAS DAMAGES IN PICTURES



FIGURE 1 UCAS ADMINISTRATION TOURING THE CAMPUS WITH AN INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION.



FIGURE 2 DAMAGE IN 5TH FLOOR OF EASTERN STUDENT BUILDING.



FIGURE 3 DAMAGE IN THE OFFICE OF SOME OF OUR INSTRUCTORS.

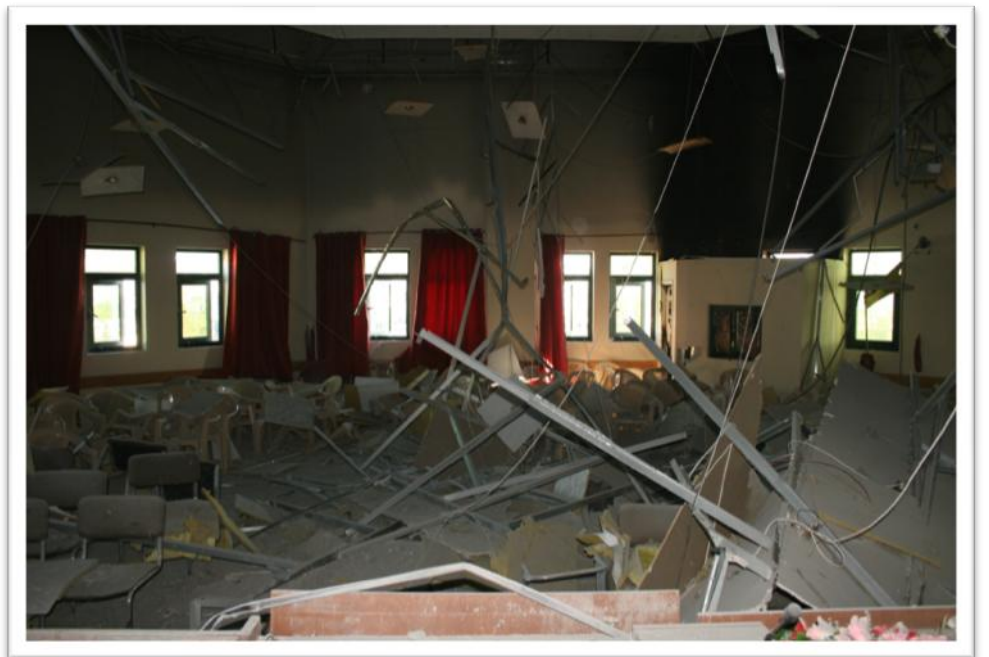


FIGURE 4 COMPLETE DESTRUCTION OF THE MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM.



FIGURE 5 TANK SHELLS HIT THE 6TH FLOOR OF THE EASTERN STUDENT BUILDING.



FIGURE 6 DAMAGE TO THE OFFICES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS.



FIGURE 7 DESTRUCTION OF THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT UNITS.



FIGURE 8 BURNED ANIMATION AND CARTOON DEVELOPMENT UNIT.



FIGURE 9 SOME OF THE DAMAGES IN THE WESTERN STUDENT BUILDING.



FIGURE 10 DAMAGES IN A CLASSROOM IN THE WESTERN STUDENT BUILDING.

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