Isreali President Moshe Katsav, the second prominent figure from the Middle East to visit the University during a very troubled time in that region, was presented with an honorary degree on June 3 at a ceremony in Millard Auditorium. Just six weeks earlier, the University honored Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan.

Katsav received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree before a crowd of about 250, including faculty, staff, regents, students, and members of the Greater Hartford Jewish community. The Israeli president’s visit came less than 48 hours after the tragic suicide bomber attack that killed 20 young people outside a Tel Aviv nightclub.

“There should be no compromise in fighting terrorism,” Katsav said at the honorary degree ceremony, drawing applause from the audience. “It is a destructive force, and terrorism can never be a legitimate tool for political gains.”

Despite the escalating violence in the Middle East, Katsav said he remains optimistic that peace can be achieved. “I believe that the road of making peace is irreversible, and I promise you to devote myself to reach real peace, permanent peace, in the Middle East.”

After the honorary degree ceremony, Katsav held an impromptu press conference outside Millard Auditorium and attended a private luncheon at The 1877 Club. His visit brought extremely heavy security to campus, along with a large number of reporters and photographers and scores of protesters and counterprotesters.

The University chose to honor Katsav for three reasons: his personal achievements, his leadership of the State of Israel, and his championing of the Bethsaida Excavations Project. This important archaeological project in northern Israel is being led by University of Hartford Professor Richard Freund and a colleague from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. It is being sponsored by a consortium of colleges and universities, including the University of Hartford and its Greenberg Center for Judaic Studies.

Katsav, an Iranian-born Jew, is the youngest president in Israel’s history and the first to have been born in an Islamic country. Katsav and his family emigrated from Iran to Israel when he was five years old and the nation of Israel was just
three years old. There they lived together in a rudimentary tent camp for new immigrants. From those humble beginnings, Kat-
sav went on to have a distinguished career in public service, cul-
minating in his election as Israel’s eighth president in August 2000. He served as a mayor, as a member of the Knesset (Israel’s parliament), and in a variety of cabinet posts before ascending to the presidency.

“Your personal history symbolizes in a very real sense what Israel means to millions of Jews around the world today: a bea-
con of hope against persecution, poverty and prejudice,” Univer-
sity President Walter Harrison said to Katsav at the honorary degree ceremony.

As president, Katsav has vowed to focus on healing the rifts between left- and right-wing Israelis, between Ashkenazi and Sephardic Jews, between religious and secular Jews, and between Jews and Arabs.

Katsav’s connection with the University of Hartford began when he served as Israel’s minister of tourism in the late 1990s. In that post, Katsav was influential in promoting the archaeolog-
ical excavations at Bethsaida, thereby putting the University and the Greenberg Center in the middle of significant archaeological, historic, and tourism activities in Israel. Katsav’s work in that role helped bring national and international recognition to the Bethsaida excavations, and over the years, the Ministry of Tourism has provided significant planning advice and financial support for the project.

The excavations, on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee, are uncovering the ancient city that is believed to have been home to Saint Peter and other apostles and that is said to be the site where Jesus performed the miracles of feeding the multitudes and restoring sight to a blind man.

“Our experience at Bethsaida has taught us that tourism, archaeology, and history bind people together far more than they divide them in Galilee,” said Freund, director of the University’s Greenberg Center. “And if there is any place on the planet where peace might emerge, perhaps Galilee is that place.”

He noted the efforts under way by the Henry Luce Forum in Abrahamic Religions, sponsored by the University of Hartford and the Hartford Seminary, to create an Interna-
tional Center for Coexistence in Israel in the Afula-Gilboa-Jenin region of Galilee.

“Our efforts are only beginning there, but we hope that our friends in Israel—and especially our Arab Christian, Arab Muslim, and Jewish partners in Galilee—will continue to see the University of Hartford as a place where true dialogue between substantive partners will take place,” Freund said.

Katsav’s visit to the University was part of his first trip to the United States as president of Israel. After the bombing in Tel

President Katsav was kept informed of matters back home.

Aviv, he considered cutting his trip short and returning to Israel to join his country in mourning. He consulted Israeli Prime

Minister Ariel Sharon, and together they decided that it was important for Katsav to continue his U.S. visit and urge Ameri-
cans to denounce terrorism strongly.

Katsav had harsh words for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, but he said that the search for peace would continue.

“I believe that the peace process is in the national interest of the Palestinians, of the Israelis, and this trend of bloodshed should be stopped,” he said at the press conference following the honorary degree ceremony. “We must continue to negotiate. The issues are very complicated, very serious. We still have many obstacles, but we have made dramatic progress in this field of making peace with the Palestinians.”

Praising President George Bush for taking a hard line against terrorism, Katsav said that other international leaders have been too slow in condemning recent terrorist acts against Israeli civilians. He met with President Bush twice during his U.S. visit.

“It is a pity that it took such a long time—eight months of bloodshed—until international leaders decided to be dedicated to this matter,” Katsav said. “In the beginning of the third mil-
lennium, there is no compromise. We must, all of us, not give any legitimization to terrorism.”

Harrison said that the University is working to play a role in promoting international peace by stimulating thoughtful dialogue and debate on important world issues and encouraging understanding and tolerance.

“When we bestowed an honorary degree on Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan six weeks ago, Her Majesty challenged the University of Hartford to become a leader in seeking world peace and understanding,” Harrison told Katsav. “We eagerly embrace that challenge, although we know the solutions are not easy and the road is long. And we recognize you as a leader of Israel and of the world in seeking that peace and understanding.”
Protesters and Counterprotesters

by Michelle Godin ’00

emotions ran high at the University’s main entrance on the rainy Sunday morning of Israeli President Moshe Katsav’s visit.

Students and groups opposed to Israel’s policies toward the Palestinians had publicly denounced the University’s decision to honor Katsav, and their protest had been expected. The surprise was the appearance of counter-protesters singing Hebrew peace songs, waving the Israeli flag and carrying signs welcoming Katsav. Nearly 70 people from the Young Israel of West Hartford synagogue gathered at the campus entrance to show their support for the Israeli president. Rabbi Daniel Cohen, who organized this Israel Solidarity Rally, led the group in prayer for peace in the Middle East.

“We are very concerned about the violence in Israel,” he said.

Meanwhile, almost 100 students and other Katsav protesters gathered at West Hartford’s Elizabeth Park on the morning of the Israeli president’s visit and made their way to the University’s Bloomfield Avenue campus. As the voices of those protesting Katsav’s visit began to be heard from the University entrance, Cohen reminded Katsav supporters that all confrontation should be avoided.

Activists from the University’s Progressive Student Alliance, the Middle East Crisis Committee, and the Connecticut chapter of the Palestinian Right to Return Coalition were chanting slogans and carrying banners protesting racism as they approached the campus. Security tightened as the protesters assembled on the left side of the entrance, opposite the Katsav supporters.

Josh Blanchfield, a University senior majoring in history, distributed flyers that quoted statements made by Katsav. Blanchfield said that Katsav has expressed racism toward Palestinians and that such comments have helped fuel increasing violence in Israel. Stanley Heller, director of the Middle East Crisis Committee, condemned Katsav for his country’s failure to comply with United Nations sanctions that require Israel to leave Palestinian territories.

On one side of the University entrance, Katsav supporters prayed and expressed sympathy for those in Israel, while on the other side protesters chanted the names of some of the hundreds of Palestinian victims who were killed during the past eight months of violence.

Protesters wore black armbands in memory of the 20 Israeli youths who were killed in a suicide bombing in Tel Aviv. The attack took place less than 48 hours before Katsav’s Hartford visit. Mazin B. Qumsiyeh, a Yale University associate professor and a member of the Connecticut chapter of the Palestine Right to Return Coalition, said, “We do not stand for any violence, we stand for human rights.”

While there were many political and religious positions expressed at the University on the day of Katsav’s visit, everyone involved shared concern for the safety of those in Israel. The groups began to disperse just as the honorary degree ceremony was ending, but the ring of their voices still lingers, as violence continues in the Middle East.
A Royal Degree

Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan, a champion of equality, human rights, and social justice, arrived at the University on April 27 to help support the King Hussein Endowment Fund. She was presented with an honorary degree by University Regent Stephen F. Moseley ’67 and honored that evening at the King Hussein Endowment Fund Dinner, held at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford. The dinner was made possible through the generosity of United Technologies Corporation. Funds raised by Queen Noor’s visit will support the King Hussein Endowment Fund that benefits graduates of Jordan’s Jubilee School who wish to study at the University of Hartford. The Jubilee School is an independent, coeducational school for Jordan’s most gifted high school students. Following are excerpts from the address Queen Noor delivered after receiving her honorary degree.

It is a great privilege to be with you all today and to receive this honor....

First, I would like to thank you all, all of you who have initiated the King Hussein Endowment Fund, which will benefit a Jubilee School student wishing to attend the University. My husband would have been delighted with the scholarship and the opportunity it will provide young scholars from our part of the world. I only wish that he were here to express his own appreciation. I feel very much that he is....

He would have wanted to share his own experiences and insights but would have been even more eager to share those of students here at Hartford, your aspirations and goals and how you plan to contribute in our world. He had an abiding belief in the idealism and energy of youth, and he loved to see the ways in which young people tackle challenges with optimism and energy. The endowment that has been initiated in his honor speaks volumes about Hartford’s commitment to cross-cultural understanding and the value of education as a tool for progress and peace.

This is a subject—or one could even call it a mission—that has shaped my own path from my undergraduate years at university to the present day. I was raised on both coasts of this country as a young Arab American, and I was conscious of the struggles and prejudices faced by my own and other minorities. My father’s appointment as an FAA administrator in the Kennedy administration, which broke new ground for minorities in the civil service, gave me the courage to believe in myself and to have faith in the infinite possibilities afforded by idealism and hard work. From his great pride and his public service I was inspired to work for the larger public good as the ultimate fulfillment of personal and professional aspirations. Joining the Peace Corps was my great hope at the time.

My social and political consciousness was also shaped during the turbulence of the 1960s civil rights and antiwar movements, which disrupted even the very traditional tranquility of my own university campus. While for many, marches with Martin Luther King and teargas-fogged sit-ins may seem a strange starting point for a journey to a palace, the same ideals and concerns that sparked my involvement with the movements for social justice, peace, and environmental conservation here in the ’60s and ’70s have continued to motivate my work in the Middle East over the past two-and-a-half decades.

With a degree in architecture and urban planning and work experience in the United States, Australia, and Iran, I headed for the Arab world prompted by my desire to explore my heritage and to put my education to work on some of the basic problems confronting people in the land of my roots. While after a few years my journey took an unexpected turn, my goals and commitments never wavered. My marriage to His Majesty King Hussein afforded extraordinary opportunities for me to try to serve as a humanitarian bridge between cultures. I felt a strong responsibility, almost a moral obligation, to try to correct grossly distorted Western stereotypes of Arabs and Muslims, especially women. For I had seen how media stereotyping could set the emotional and political stage for policies that resulted in chronic misunderstanding, suffering, and conflict. It is that kind of cross-cultural bridge that the King Hussein scholarship can provide, opening a door to new understanding between parts of the
world that have previously touched each other only through images—unfortunately, too often grossly sensationalist...on a television screen. Two years ago, we established the King Hussein Foundation to serve as a living monument to my beloved husband’s humanitarian vision and legacy. A national and international nonprofit, nongovernmental organization, the foundation sustains and builds upon his lifelong commitments to education and leadership, environment and health, and democracy and peace. The KHF's main focus will reflect my husband’s greatest source of inspiration and hope for the future, our young people.

As we see with bitter clarity in the ongoing tragic events in my region, it is very hard—at times it can seem almost hopeless—to hold out one’s hand to an old enemy. But it is, it must be, possible. Education is the key that can open the door to peace. Often the only way to overcome the enmity of previous generations is to enable the next generation, our young people, the future guardians of peace, to meet and interact in an atmosphere of trust and security. I have seen the success of this approach in programs which promote cross-cultural understanding and conflict resolutions, such as the Seeds of Peace program initiated here in the United States in 1993. Among the participants are several from our Jubilee School. Seeds of Peace brings together children from former Middle East adversaries and now other post-conflict regions of the world to a summer camp in Maine.... At the camp they learn cooperation rather than confrontation. They see the faces that have been obscured by etiology. They work through their differences and often form strong friendships across national, religious, and cultural divides. They overcome the political rift and emotional traumas of their shared history, begin to break down the barriers of ignorance and prejudice, and promote mutual respect, even a sense of solidarity....

My husband knew so well that peace is built in the minds of people before it can be built anywhere else. Educational programs like these permit students from around the world to meet, away from the political constraints of prejudice and ancient enmity, to make contact in a far more real and immediate way with those they once thought were irretrievably alien. Where once they saw hostile strangers, they now see equals or partners or even friends.

Education can impress upon young people the importance of resolving conflicts without violence and teach them the skills with which to do it. It brings together students of different beliefs, backgrounds, even cultures at a time in their lives when their minds are most open and receptive and lets them learn from each other. It can give them the tools to make their voices heard on issues that affect them.

The best example to mention today, perhaps, of education in the service of peace, because of its new connection with the University of Hartford, is our Jubilee School in Amman. The school—a key educational project of the King Hussein Foundation, which places special emphasis on bringing together students from less developed areas of Jordan and, ultimately, of the region, on a merit and scholarship basis—provides a unique educational environment which promotes creative thinking, leadership and conflict resolution skills, scientific and technological expertise, and social responsibility.

Educational institutions like Hartford can also foster international understanding and cooperation by providing a forum to study the root causes of conflict, including economic disparity, ethnic and religious conflict, the scarcity of natural resources, irresponsible leadership, human rights abuses, violence in the media, and many more. This sort of multidisciplinary, multicultural approach can be most effective in tackling the complex global issues that know no national borders, such as cultural identity; environmental degradation; political, social, and economic security; and sustainable development. If schools like the University of Hartford, the Jubilee School, and so many others can bring to education for peace the same level of commitment, expertise, and resources that previous generations devoted to their military academies, we will be well on the way to achieving a more lasting security than any of the arsenals of war could ever provide.

This ethos of studying peace is part of what is behind the scholarships set up by the King Hussein Endowment Fund, and...
A Majestic

Queen Noor (center) with University Regent Richard Cardin ’62 and his wife, Lucy, at a pre-dinner champagne reception.

Stephen Finger, president of Pratt & Whitney Military Engines, and his wife, Sharon, with Queen Noor at the reception.

Queen Noor chats with President Walter Harrison (center) and University Regent Peter Eio, president of LEGO Systems Inc.

Donald Jones, human resources manager of the South New England District of United Parcel Service, and his wife, Jeannette, with Queen Noor at the champagne reception.

Karl Krapek, UTC president and chief operating officer.

Queen Noor was honored at a gala dinner held the evening of April 27 at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford. The dinner was made possible through the generosity of United Technologies Corporation (UTC). The King Hussein Endowment Fund was supported by the generosity of UTC, United Parcel Service, LEGO, Alumni Richard Cardin ’62 and Hakan Uzan ’88, and guests in attendance. Shown are some of the 210 guests at a pre-dinner reception in the Atheneum’s Morgan Great Hall.
When Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan made her historic visit to the campus, two of the University's Jordanian students were already familiar with her commitment to education.

“Queen Noor is dedicated to her work, and her speech reflected that,” said sophomore Ghaith Hammouri, who also spoke at the honorary degree ceremony.

Sophomore Sameh Awaideh, a computer engineering major, and Hammouri, an electrical engineering and physics major, are both graduates of Jordan's highly acclaimed Jubilee School for gifted students in Amman. It was there they met Queen Noor and her husband, the late King Hussein. In fact, the students have conducted computer presentations for the royal couple.

“This scholarship fund will allow another student like me to experience what I have found in common between the Jubilee School and the University—exceptional faculty members who sincerely care about their students and the quality of their education,” said Hammouri. “I can assure you, a Jordanian like myself feels at home here, thanks to President Walter Harrison and the University of Hartford community.”

Awaideh was previously enrolled at Michigan State University as a freshman and was overwhelmed at the sheer number of the school's students. “It was culture shock; I couldn’t adapt,” said Awaideh. He now feels at home at the University's College of Engineering. “Here, professors are dedicated to their jobs and go the extra mile to help you,” he said.

Both Hammouri and Awaideh plan to return home to Jordan after earning master's degrees at the University of Hartford and work in their country's booming technology and computer industries. So with the knowledge gained from the University of Hartford, both students plan to follow Her Majesty's advice.
Yet that decade also gave us some encouraging examples of conflict resolution and a series of United Nations conferences on children, the environment, human rights, population, social development, women, food, and human settlements. These conferences have emphasized a historic and integrated compact for security and progress, emphasizing the critical importance of women’s empowerment and democratic values. These, of course, are key to the importance of sustainable development. These positive developments represent an unprecedented consensus among governments, activist groups, and concerned citizens around the world, both about what needs to be done and the importance of the will to do it, in order to address a host of the most pressing human needs.

Two years ago, I joined the UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan; several Nobel Peace Prize laureates; and hundreds of representatives of governments, international organizations, and civil-society institutions to launch the Hague Agenda for Peace and Justice in the 21st century, through which more than a thousand organizations reaffirmed these principles and enhanced them by providing a strategy for a new culture of peace. We pledged to abolish war and weapons, replace the law of force with the force of law, and find creative ways to prevent and resolve conflict. Now our, and your, most urgent task is to set into motion realistic strategies to put these ideals into practice, among them a new emphasis on development rather than armament and equitable participation in a global community.

As we see all too vividly in our region, where spending on armaments is the highest per capita in the world, the arms race is a colossal waste of valuable resources—monetary, material, and human. If channeled into human priorities instead, such resources would provide more sustainable forms of...defense against violence. The presence and availability of these vast arsenals, rather than acting as a deterrent, actually make it harder to establish a lasting peace.

Land mines, for instance, pose one of the chief threats to that recovery—conflict recovery—because they continue killing long after the conflict has ended. When peace is declared, the guns and mortars are stilled, but no one turns off the mines. Because they are small and destroy lives one by one, the horrific consequences go as unnoticed as the mines themselves, but the picture becomes starkly clear in the statistics. Some 300,000 people around the globe are living with shattered limbs and lives, and the number is growing. Every month, around 800 people are killed and 1,200 maimed by land mines...a new tragedy every 20 minutes. Often the victims are children, attracted by the toy-like shapes and colors of so many of the land mines that are in use. Eight to ten thousand children are killed or maimed by land mines every year....

Progress toward a global ban, since the initial signing of the Mine Ban Treaty in December 1997 in Canada, has been impressive. To date, 139 countries have signed the treaty and 121 have ratified—all of the Western Hemisphere except for Cuba and the United States; and all of NATO, now that Turkey has begun accession procedures, except the U.S. The United States finds itself in a rather different club, that of notable treaty holdouts including Russia, China, India, Pakistan, and a number of countries in the Middle East. Anyone who cares about civilian safety and lasting peace must do their utmost to convince the United States and others to join and eradicate this menace permanently.

Encouraged first by progress in banning weapons of mass destruction and then by the unprecedented success of the movement to ban land mines, the Red Cross and other concerned groups are now launching similar initiatives against small-arms proliferation. Controlling such arms is essential to any lasting peace anywhere in the world, but it is by no means simple. As British commentator Martin Amis as put it, “Weapons are like money. No one knows the meaning of enough.” What is more, in many cases, weapons are money. The arms trade, both legal and illicit, is a source of tremendous profit, from military industrial giants through the gunrunners down to the decommissioned soldier who sells his weapon on the black market.

Often, ironically, a declaration of peace in one conflict will lead to an escalation of violence in neighboring countries, as weapons filter from former combatants to informal militias or criminal gangs. Small arms are cheap, easy to obtain, difficult to trace, and they hold a place in the psyche of many cultures that makes them almost impossible to dislodge. From rural America to Albania to Northern Ireland to Kosovo, the unwillingness to give up...guns among those who feel they are their only protection is one of the greatest threats to peace. The real issue in that is security. As long as a nation or a community or an individual feels threatened, violence and recourse to weapons are.

But like so much else, the definition of security is changing. Threats to security today come not only from war but also from economic and social inequities, human-rights abuses, marginalization, and, of course, poverty. True security is not only a matter of protecting borders from military aggression but also one of providing a stable environment for all citizens—able and disabled, women and men of all races and creeds—to participate fully in commercial and political life.

Peace is not merely the absence of hostilities. It must emanate from a positive human security founded in equity, tolerance, and understanding. As King Hussein once put it, What is the real purpose of peace? In our view, it is to promote the security and prosperity of peoples. Without security there can be no assured prosperity, and without prosperity there can be no assured security. If we are to build peace based on this positive definition of security, we must strengthen the mechanisms to resolve disagreements peacefully, to make their resolution by force unworkable, and ultimately unthinkable, by ensuring that the basic needs of every individual are met and by...
never easy; I know that well. But it is possible. To
balance a successful career with service to the larger world. It is
evident in the international economy, in worldwide health and environmental problems, as well as
cal issues, such as violence, poverty, gender and racial inequality, human economic growth, human rights, and peaceful relations among nations. The decades that have separated my college
years from yours have emphasized that any one country’s success
will enter when you leave here, unemployment remains the lowest it has been in 30 years, the econ-
omy is still relatively prosperous, and people are becoming healthier and living longer. With your energy, your education, and your intelligence, you have so much more to offer, not only to the world of work but to the world at large. Those qualities are needed now more than ever. In addition, there are a multitude of new ways to address these problems. As technological innovation increases the
interconnections between people, new networks are forming, providing those with a dedication to service with a wealth of tools and opportunities to join with others of like mind. The Ottawa Land Mine Ban Treaty, which came into force faster than any other international arms treaty, is a perfect example.

Never before have concerned world citizens had such unprecedented power to do good. Today’s realities, both the challenges of the world beyond the campus gates and the possibilities of your world, herald the call to service, and there is evidence that thousands of students like you are heeding that call. According to a study by UCLA, more students are becoming activists now than at any time since 1966. Forty-six percent of U.S. college freshmen joined in protest activities the year before last, many of them directed at inhuman working conditions and garment industry sweatshops, for example. It is sobering to think that the issues that galvanized my class into action three decades ago still confront us today—critical issues, such as violence, poverty, gender and racial inequality, humane economic growth, human rights, and peaceful relations among nations. The decades that have separated my college years from yours have emphasized that any one country’s success in these areas is deeply intertwined with developments in other parts of the world. This is evident in the international economy, in worldwide health and environmental problems, as well as international terrorism, ethnic tensions, and intolerance.

University of Hartford students in the year 2001 are particularly well prepared to contribute because you are empowered with an unprecedented combination of knowledge, access, and global awareness. You can be catalysts for change. Ubiquitous as it seems today, change is not some natural process, overwhelming, inexorable, and beyond our control. Change is the result of human ideas and actions, the cumulative consequence of the visions, needs, fears, and dreams of well over 6 billion people like ourselves around the world. I urge you to find your own way to balance a successful career with service to the larger world. It is not easy; I know that well. But it is possible.

King Hussein, for one, held onto his ideals in the midst of pursuing what was—to put it mildly—a very demanding job. The challenge is not only to develop professional skills to suc-
cceed in your own lives but also to redefine a set of common val-
tures that can guide our global quest for progress, security, and human dignity. Students, don’t ever let anyone tell you you’re too young to change the world. Entrepreneurs barely of driving age have become cyber millionaires, but think about how much more important it is to harness that energy, enthusiasm, and alternative thinking in the service of others. My husband assumed the throne of Jordan at the same age most of you matriculated at the University, and his life was, among many other achievements, a supreme example of the way a committed individual can make a difference. He was a devoted public servant, led his country from a pre-industrial state to a modern model of political, economic, and social progress in two generations, accomplishing these extraordinary achievements by advancing universal education, an exemplary health care system, the role of women, and a partici-
patory and pluralistic system of governance—all within the framework of traditional Arab and Islamic principles. By mak-
ing his humanitarian ideals the hallmark of his policies, he was able, in spite of our limited resources, to promote national develop-
ment and international cooperation to an extent that confounded those pragmatists and cynics who constantly predicted his failure. He devoted his life to making the Middle East and the world more peaceful, progressive, and prosperous.

Time and time again, he was willing to sacrifice and to risk all to achieve those goals, and by personal example, he inspired the different peoples of our region to understand what he felt so deeply—that real peace is made among peoples and must grow through trust and confidence in the hearts of those who live side by side. He understood that to build peace among neighbors, we must build peace within countries by providing the tools for all citizens to help themselves to forge new lives and to end the vicious cycle of poverty and war.

There is no life more well lived than that spent in service to others. Your professors know that. Teaching is one of the most dedicated professions known to humankind. The donors of the
King Hussein Endowment Fund know that, and I hope they know what a difference their generosity will make in the lives of young Jordanians who hope themselves to make a difference. In that spirit of dedication and generosity, I wish you success and fulfillment in your time here and in whatever you may pursue in the world.

God bless you all.