

WKU, Internews Continue Partnership In Jordan

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Bowling Green, Ky. - Western Kentucky University continues the partnership with Internews® Network to improve the capacity of community radio in Jordan as a second community radio station nears completion.

WKU and Internews cooperate through the International Journalism and Media Management Training (IJMMT) program at WKU. The IJMMT interconnects WKU's Public Broadcasting, WKU's School of Journalism and Broadcasting, and Internews Network, an international non-profit organization that supports open media worldwide. WKU and Internews have previously trained broadcast and print journalists, editors and managers from Indonesia, Cambodia and Egypt.

In the coming months, the IJMMT will complete a second community radio station in Amman, Jordan. WKU will host staff members from the new community radio station for a multi-week training session to include management and newsroom operations.

This phase follows the creation of AutoStrad, an Amman-based youth radio production unit, and Yarmouk FM in northern Jordan. WKU also provided Yarmouk University guidance in curriculum development to integrate the campus radio station into a new set of radio courses.

Since July of 2001, the IJMMT has been a premier international exchange for working journalists and media managers engaging in an intensive program of journalism study and internship. The IJMMT program offers a combination of strong U.S.-based and in-country training components.

Follow-up work in the partner country fosters effective advocacy and continuing education for the larger media communities.

WKU's Department of Educational Telecommunications manages the IJMMT. This current program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY) recognized the collaborative possibilities of WKU and Internews and was instrumental in bringing the partners together and in the continuing support for this program.

More WKU news is available at www.wku.edu. If you'd like to receive WKU news via e-mail, send a message to WKUNews@wku.edu.

For more information, contact Jerry Barnaby, 1-800-599-2424, or email jerry.barnaby@wku.edu.

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Office of Media Relations

Western Kentucky University

1906 College Heights Blvd., Bowling Green, Ky. 42101-3576

Phone: (270)745-4295 - Fax: (270)7455387 - E-Mail: western@wku.edu