

# **The Extent to Which The Palestinian Universities Fullfill The Needs of The Industrial Sector From the Prespective of The Boards of Directors of The Palestinan Indusrial Federations**

## **Abstract**

The goal of this research, which was conducted in 2011, is to find out the extent to which the Palestinian universities fulfill the needs of the Palestinian industrial sector from the perspective of managers in the industrial federations- the Palestinian institutions representing the industrial sector that burden upon themselves the development of different industrial sectors and solve their problems.

In order to achieve these objectives the researcher had adopted the descriptive analytical method, he used the questionnaire as a tool for data collection, where it was distributed to all members of the research community (comprehensive survey), who are 87 .all of the questionnaire have collected ,as well as all were valid for the analysis and only one was excluded. Later on the researcher used the SPSS to analyze the data.

The results showed that only (2.3%) of the members of the boards of directors of the industrial federations hold a postgraduate degrees (Masters or Doctorate), while the percentage of bachelor degree holders is (53.2%), also a 57% of industrial enterprises do not offer training opportunities for their employees and only 44.2% of these enterprises are capable to export.

As well as the results showed that the degree which the industrial enterprises allocate part of their budget for research and development, supporting the establishment of laboratories in universities or providing scholarships for university students was a small degree.

Results indicated also that the degree to which the university programs fulfill the needs of the industrial sector was moderate, and two-thirds of the study population 66.2% indicate the importance of launching new university programs to fullfil the needs of the Palestinian industrial sector.

The respondents indicated at a moderate degree that the graduates of the Palestinian universities own scientific knowledge and different technical skills. While the degree that they have the ability to perform multiple functions within the facility was small. The results also show

that the degree of harmonization of research done in universities to the needs of the industrial sector was small, as well as the contribution of the output of scientific research in the production of new products, minimize production costs, or building marketing plans.

The results showed also that the design of training programs in Palestinian universities are not based on the needs of the industrial sector (small degree), as well as the benefit of the industrial enterprises from the universities in the training and building the capacities of their human resources was a small degree. Finally The most important result that the researcher pointed to was the lack of coordination between universities and institutions of the industrial sector, which attributed to the majority of other results.

The researcher concluded a number of recommendations, the most important of them are, establishing a coordinating academic-industrial council representing all universities and industrial federations, developing the legislation that regulates and encourages scientific research, stimulate the private sector to contribute to the financing of scientific research in universities by offering tax breaks, creation of a contact units with the industry in each university, implementing a comprehensive surveys of determine the needs of the industry from different disciplines and programs, and also to identify the training needs of workers in the industry, the need for the industrial enterprises to cooperate with universities to provide a working environment for researchers and academics from the universities to exchange experience , and finally the universities must take advantage of industrial staff in teaching and lecturing according to their qualifications.