My name is Ahmed Osman Mohamed Abu-Khadra, and I am a student enrolled in the Civil and Infrastructure Engineering Department at Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan.

In life, most people want to achieve their goals and overcome all of the obstacles that stand in their way. One of the most inspiring moments that I have ever experienced is the time when I was working with my father in a construction field, and I realized that I wanted to become a civil engineer. Almost immediately, I began mentally devising the path that would enable me to reach this aspiration, thinking of the means through which I could become an engineer in one of the large projects.

For my first step, following one of the general requirements of most university-level civil engineering programs in Jordan, I enrolled in the scientific stream of the General Secondary Education Certificate "Tawjihi." Unfortunately, I did not meet the required grade that would have qualified me to enter the CE bachelor program; however, rather than give up, I sought upon finding another way to reach my goal, applying to a community college.

I began studying at the College of Wadi Sir, and I was one of the proficient students who completed his studies while working in one of the several projects nearby the college campus. In that time, I struggled a lot with juggling my work and my studies, having only a limited time available for school. Ultimately, however, while maintaining an even balance between studying at the college and working at the construction sites proved to be an exhausting effort, it also managed to increase my motivation towards my studies, as I was able to link the theoretical topics I was taught with the practical approaches



through which they were applied. Eventually, I earned my diploma and passed the official comprehensive exam with the required grade that would qualify me to enroll at a university. Finally, I was back on track and the news filled me with joy. Unfortunately, however, due to certain circumstances at that time, particularly the financial difficulties, I was forced to postpone my studies.

I first started working in a laboratory that specialized in the study of the raw materials used in construction. I was one of the exceptional people at my job due to both my interest in the field and my penchant for detail. After some time, I moved to work at a quality control department in a company that specialized in the manufacturing of precast concrete as a laboratory technician. My tasks involved the sampling and testing of raw materials in order to monitor the quality of the concrete. I eventually got promoted to become the main laboratory official. I was responsible for coordinating team activity, ensuring the implementation of management orders, following up on all tasks related to quality control, and solving any technical issues that arose within the company or on field projects.

Even after more than four years of continuous work, my desire to return to my studies and attend university did not wain. After gaining approval from the management at my work to adjust my hours, I started searching for the university that would best suit me. I eventually landed on Al-Zaytoonah

University, choosing it for its distinguished faculty members, high quality education, and convenient location.

I started university in the first semester of the academic year 2017 to 2018. I am proud to be a student at Al-Zaytoonah and able to benefit from its amazing teaching staff. This university is helping me in my efforts to one day become a civil engineer and I am thankful for the opportunity.