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Nargis Jamal, founder of the Women’s Empowerment International Foundation named a Distinguished Alumni

Edmonton—MacEwan University is proud to announce that Nargis Jamal, one of the founders of the Women’s Empowerment International Foundation (WEIF) has been named a Distinguished Alumni.

In her six years as president of a not-for-profit organization, Jamal has, through hard work and a positive spirit, been a driving force for WEIF, accomplishing amazing feats with limited resources. Jamal’s compassion and determination have enabled her to touch thousands of lives and take permanent steps toward alleviating poverty and promoting gender equality.

Jamal helped establish WEIF in 2004, fulfilling a life-long dream to lead an organization devoted to improving the lives of marginalized individuals in the poorest corners of the world.

In 2009, Jamal established a microcredit program for women in Northern Pakistan, a project with numerous risks that has enabled WEIF to assist women and their families escape poverty. In two short years, WEIF has supported over 300 women in Pakistan by providing micro-loans. Even more impressive, all the borrowers consistently demonstrate 100 per cent loan repayment.

Already a successful accountant, Jamal returned to school and completed the Voluntary Sector Management program at MacEwan University with exemplary academic achievement. Her outstanding character and leadership has been instrumental to helping WEIF establish credibility and strong partnerships in the regions where there are WEIF projects. WEIF has already undertaken their first educational infrastructure project, the construction of a girl’s school in Rahimabad, Pakistan.

Jamal approaches each challenge with impressive courage and grace, and develops innovative solutions by creating an environment of cooperation and creativity with her colleagues.

Founded in 1971, MacEwan University is a comprehensive university offering more than 60 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training. Its philosophy of inspiring minds, providing career opportunities and opening the doors to academic excellence, continues to be its guide as it serves the educational needs of students across Alberta, Canada and the world.