



REGIONAL INTEREST IN UDST

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Message from the President

Dear students, faculty, and staff,
Welcome to the eleventh issue of our UDST POST.

We are starting a new semester after a well-deserved Eid break. Nevertheless, when our time off comes to an end, we experience mixed emotions. We can feel wistful and anxious or energetic and excited. It is important to recognize and understand those feelings and be able to manage and deal with them. If we truly understand our value beyond the tasks or jobs that we need to do, we will definitely overcome any challenge and keep thriving.

This month, the UDST Post brings a lot of news that will keep your spirit up. We were honored to welcome a delegation from the Ministry of Education for Research and Innovation (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) headed by the Deputy Minister, His Excellency, Prof. Nasser Bin Mohamed Al-Aqeeli. We also felt proud to see our students from Deen Club and Volunteering Club join hands with Qatar Charity to serve meals for 450

workers on campus during Iftar time. Furthermore, the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) has made the decision to approve UDST's Bachelor of Business Administration in Applied Accounting for the ACCA Exemption Accreditation.

This newsletter has shed light on several more stories, and I invite you all to share with us your news and accomplishments so we can feature them in the next issues.

I would like to end my message by reminding all of us to celebrate and honor UDST's spirit that recognizes the unique skills and abilities of each member of our community and I wish everyone a happy and productive term.

Dr. Salem Al-Naemi
President
University of Doha for Science and Technology



University of Doha for Science and Technology welcomes a Saudi Delegation from the Ministry of Education for Research and Innovation

University of Doha for Science and Technology was honored to welcome a delegation from the Ministry of Education for Research and Innovation in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia headed by the Deputy Minister, His Excellency, Prof. Nasser Bin Mohamed Al-Aqeeli. The delegation toured the campus and its facilities and got acquainted with its five colleges, which are the College of Engineering Technology, the College of Computing and Information Technology, the College of Business Administration, the College of Health Sciences and the College of General Education.

The delegation was briefed on the University's state-of-the-art workshops, simulators, and oil and gas pilot plants, in addition to the first educational trading room in the Middle East and advanced technical laboratories in artificial intelligence, cyber security, health, and others. The delegation was also briefed on the University's various facilities. The sports facilities were of special importance since the University of Doha for Science and Technology is the only University in the Middle East and North Africa that was granted the Healthy Campus Platinum Label by the International University Sports Federation. The delegation's visit affirms the great interest it attaches to the overall education sector in Qatar, and to the university in particular and what it offers as the only applied national university in the country.

His Excellency, Professor Nasser bin Muhammad Al-Aqeeli, Deputy Minister for Research and Innovation, Ministry of Education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, expressed his sincere gratitude and appreciation to the leaders of the University of Doha for Science and Technology for the

warm reception and hospitality he and the accompanying delegation received. He said we have various practices and experiences in research and innovation, programs and joint initiatives that can be activated and benefited from by the two countries.

Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of University of Doha for Science and Technology, said: "We are proud to have the opportunity to receive this high-level delegation and share our aspirations and future projects, particularly, our educational strategy and the ways we can benefit from Saudi expertise in this field and exchange experiences in this context. We hope that this visit will culminate in a close cooperation that serves both parties and contributes to supporting education and developing a generation of innovators."

At UDST, students are placed at the center of the learning process. The University aims to give them as many real-life learning experiences as possible, so they can extend what they acquired in the classroom to their workplace and actively contribute to the economy. Curriculums have been designed based on the International and National Academic Qualifications Framework. All programs are delivered using hands-on applied experiential learning methodologies and include 40-70% applied components and practical experience related to one or more occupational field(s) of practice. UDST offers high-quality programs led by qualified instructors in technology-rich classrooms, workshops, laboratories, and simulated environments. The University is a destination for technical and vocational education and training, and for developing highly competent graduates.



UDST students distribute Iftar meals to workers on campus in collaboration with Qatar Charity

Students from Deen Club and Volunteering Club at University of Doha for Science and Technology have joined hands with Qatar Charity to serve meals for 450 workers on campus during Iftar time.

This initiative aims to reach workers at UDST from different campus divisions such as safety and security, housekeeping, maintenance, civil and more.

Students had the pleasure to organize the packed boxes and distribute them to workers who were seated at the University's cafeterias. Such initiatives engage the youth, teach them valuable skills and help them understand the true meaning of Ramadan and the importance of volunteering in providing a sense of community.

Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST, said: "The University supports all acts of kindness that our students practice and that can be greatly rewarding to them and to those who receive them.

While many of us gather at home to share Ramadan Iftars, for many shift workers it is not that simple to break their fast. We wanted to show our appreciation to UDST's workers and to all the hard work and efforts they put into their jobs even during fasting hours. We also extend our appreciation to Qatar Charity and our student volunteers who made this event possible."

For his part, Mr. Yousuf bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari, CEO of Qatar Charity, praised the efforts of UDST students and

their initiative to contribute to lessening the burden on workers and bringing joy to them in the month of Ramadan, the season of giving, multiplying rewards, and revitalizing the spirit of solidarity in the community.

He noted that this comes in coordination with Qatar Charity's 'Ramadan: Leave Your Mark' campaign. He indicated that this initiative familiarizes the students with charity work and community service, encourages them to make them part of their future lives, acquires them new skills that enhance their belonging to the community.

He underlined Qatar Charity's keenness to cooperate and partner with all bodies and institutions to contribute to voluntary efforts that serve the community and promote a culture of volunteerism among their members.

Suhoor and Iftar are two elements of Ramadan that have great significance to all worshippers. It is a manifestation of solidarity and fellowship. UDST has always been committed to the community causes and has worked relentlessly to encourage volunteering and actions that make a difference.

It is worth noting that this event falls under the Ramadan initiatives organized by Qatar Charity. The projects implemented by the organization in Qatar during Ramadan target more than 900,000 persons.

These projects include the mobile Iftar, which contains Iftar meals and food baskets for workers and drivers, in addition to Ramadan supplies for families with limited income.



Ghabga Night at UDST

The University organized a special night on campus where all employees gathered to experience the traditional Ghabga. The latter is a term used in the Khaleeji dialect and refers to the late Ramadan dinner that precedes the suhoor meal.

The setup was dazzling with traditional seating, many interactive activities, games such as “kairam” and “dama”, local shows and authentic food.

The attendees shared memorable moments and were immersed in the local culture and all the beauty it has to offer.





UDST graduates are exempt from ACCA courses

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) has made the decision to approve UDST's Bachelor of Business Administration in Applied Accounting for the ACCA Exemption Accreditation. The ACCA has agreed that the University's College of Business Management accounting students - who will graduate on or after January 1, 2023 - will be exempt from eight ACCA courses (where a maximum of nine exams are eligible for exemption to gain the ACCA qualification).

This decision is a real recognition of the quality of our accounting program, and also of our college and our education provision as a whole. This accreditation along with the CFA and CMA that were recently acquired highlight the strength and quality of our programs, it also brings our students closer to the certifications and skills needed to compete in the job market.





UDST hosts a panel discussion on integrating Artificial Intelligence into teaching and learning

University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) hosted an insightful panel discussion on 'Integrating AI into Teaching and Learning', as part of its Foundation Program Webinar Series. The online forum, comprised of education strategists, and faculty from major universities in Qatar, addressed the challenges and opportunities presented by the rapidly evolving field of artificial intelligence (AI) in education – with particular emphasis on the ground-breaking AI-powered chatbot ChatGPT, developed by OpenAI.

The panel featured education innovators from Via Strategists, and prominent educators from UDST and Qatar University, who explored their own perspectives on the disruptive potential of AI in education. The experts discussed practical applications of ChatGPT in classrooms, and shared their thoughts on how AI could be used to reduce instructor load, while augmenting student learning by engaging them more deeply.

The panellists also highlighted AI's ability to support individualized learning, and streamline administrative tasks for teachers. The conversation touched upon the ethical implications of using AI, and that while it is important to embrace game-changing tools supporting pedagogy, there is a need for a responsible, transparent approach to their integration into the education system.



UDST holds intensive leadership training workshops on disruptive thinking in the workplace

University of Doha for Science and Technology's (UDST) Continuing and Professional Education (CPE) Directorate organized two intensive leadership-training workshops on disruptive thinking in the workplace.

The workshops were arranged in collaboration with Management Center Europe (MCE), part of the American Management Association (AMA) global network of professional partners. As part of CPE's commitment to community engagement and education, the sessions aimed to train leaders on developing and promoting a disruptive mindset in their organizations – a mindset to generate innovation, and help achieve new and sustainable growth.

The workshops were delivered to a total of 31 participants representing a diverse range of organizations, including government entities and private corporations. All attendees were at director or senior manager levels in their respective institutions. Over the course of the workshops, participants learned the definition and key principles of disruptive thinking and attended sessions on agility, trend-scanning and the concept of courage in leadership.

Learning was facilitated by engaging activities and group discussions, while participants also benefited from an organised networking session at the start of the day. By the end of the workshop, attendees left with practical tools and actionable insights to implement at work, and each received a recognized certificate from MCE.



UDST organizes a certificate distribution ceremony for ASHGHAL administrative staff

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UDST participates in MEF23

The College of Health Sciences (CHS) at University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) participated in the Middle East Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare 2023 (MEF23) Exhibition – Knowledge Zone. Through an interactive booth, the College presented the academic programs and courses offered at the University and the commitment of the College of Health Sciences at UDST to the development of a competent and confident healthcare workforce. Students at the CHS are prepared to work and integrate into an interprofessional team who works collaboratively to meet patient and family needs.

The College is also engaging in research for healthcare related issues identified by the healthcare industry and is providing services to support and give back to the community.

The Middle East Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare (MEF23) is hosted by Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), in collaboration with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI). The theme of the forum was Healthcare Resilience in Extraordinary Times with learning tracks focused on the following: improvement science and capacity building, person-centered care, flow, safety and value improvement, population health, leadership, resilience and sustainability.

The forum included in-person and virtual programs featuring leading international experts as well as regional and local guest speakers addressing the latest trends in quality and safety improvement methodologies and practices.



UDST's Foundation Program: A Hub for Teaching Practicums

Meet Weam Ibrahim, a visiting Master's student from Mount St Vincent University, Halifax, Canada. Weam has recently completed her teaching practicum here in UDST's Foundation Program. We had the opportunity to speak with her in between her teaching sessions and know more about her experience at UDST.

Why did you choose UDST to complete your workplace practicum?

Well, UDST has a long-standing partnership with CNA, so I wanted to ensure my training would comply with TESL Canada standards (Teaching English as a Second Language). I also wanted to experience students from a different demographic than those in Canada.

Tell us about your teaching practicum with the Foundation Program.

I observed the instructors in the Foundation Program for 30 hours and I taught for 20. I was also observed many times during my teaching as part of the learning process.

What surprised you about the students in the Foundation Program?

Students in Qatar are driven by their end goal - they want English for their job or program studies. In Canada, students want to be able to use English to communicate in the community and to travel.

What did you learn about English Language Teaching (ELT) during your time at UDST?

Language teaching and learning occur in more places and in more forms than you would imagine. There are lots of ways to do things. I've observed a lot of different instructors doing the same thing in different ways and that is the beauty of teaching.

What was the most rewarding aspect of your time with UDST?

Seeing the 'click' when students suddenly understand something I have taught! Also, the students themselves. They are very respectful and welcoming.

What had the biggest impact on your learning?

Miss Sandee and the students. I've learned more from Miss Sandee in this practicum in the past week and a half than I did in my CELTA (Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults). She gave me lots of one-on-one and instant feedback. The students are also very welcoming and that made the classroom experience enjoyable.

What are some takeaways that you could share with the UDST community?

You need to take the good out of every opportunity! The students have a lot to learn from the instructors here and the instructors have a lot to learn from the students. There is so much diversity here. For example, different instructors use British words and others use North American. But they mean the same thing. This is good for students.

And what do you think of UDST as a workplace?

Everyone is so friendly. The instructors in the Foundation Program have popped in to say hi and welcome me and ask me what I plan to do after my graduation. The students are kind and welcoming as well.

Anything you would like to add?

I'm grateful for this opportunity. I've learned a lot. Doing my practicum in a different country means I am learning different ways to implement ELT.

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