



# UDST POST

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2023

جامعة الدوحة  
للعلوم والتكنولوجيا  
UNIVERSITY OF DOHA  
FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



## AI: CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

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## Message from the President

**Dear Wolves,**

Welcome to the sixteenth issue of our UDST POST.

Welcome to a new year and a new story that we author collectively. I greet each one of you, especially our new students joining us for the winter semester. This year promises to be a vibrant and dynamic chapter in the UDST journey, filled with an array of events and activities that surpass the excitement and achievements of the previous year.

As we look forward to a promising year, we also reflect on the past. Our recent Qatar National Day was marked by an agreement with Education Above All to stand in solidarity with the students affected by the atrocities in Gaza. It was a time to remember that our pursuit of knowledge and progress is also grounded in empathy and compassion.

In this edition of the UDST Post, we offer a comprehensive roundup of the key moments from November and December 2023. A major highlight

was the AI Conference, the Academic Awards, the Career Fair, the Diabetes Symposium and much more. All our events are fundamentally anchored in our values and our continuous drive to exceed expectations.

Looking ahead, the future is always shrouded in uncertainties. However, the essence of discovery and progress lies in our willingness to embrace these unknowns. We may not know what the future holds, but our journey towards it is marked by our continuous efforts to excel and innovate. Let's step into 2024 with the resolve to try, to learn, and to triumph.

Wishing you all a year filled with success, growth, and excellence.

**Dr. Salem Al-Naemi**

**President,**

*University of Doha for Science and Technology*



## University of Doha for Science and Technology Hosts Landmark Artificial Intelligence Symposium

Under the patronage of Her Excellency Mrs. Buthaina bint Ali Al-Jabr Al-Nuaimi, Minister of Education and Higher Education, and in the presence of a high level delegation, University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) recently hosted its international symposium dedicated to the advancements and applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Sponsored by the Commercial Bank, the ground-breaking two-day symposium was organized by the University's College of Computing and Information Technology, and strongly reflected Qatar's commitment to staying at the forefront of embracing AI.

The symposium's primary goal was to demystify and highlight the potential of AI as a multifaceted discipline that influences every aspect of daily life. By bridging the gap between knowledge and application, the symposium aimed to ensure that individuals understand both the capabilities, and limitations, of the AI technology. Attendees of the symposium comprised of university students from across the GCC, AI practitioners and ICT professionals holding particular interest in the topic.

Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST, said: "AI is not just another technological advancement, it is a powerful force reshaping the world and our future. Here at UDST, we understand the potential of AI and are committed to preparing our own community to engage with it effectively, and equip students with the right knowledge, tools, and opportunities. The country is positioning itself to harness AI's huge potential across several different disciplines, and I believe this will be possible thanks to Qatar's education



system and advanced technical infrastructure. We are proud to be part of this development."

During the conference, Dr. Salem Al-Naemi unveiled UDST's AI roadmap, outlining the university's ongoing journey to embrace AI and leverage its capabilities across various facets of education, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Mr. Raju Buddhiraju, EGM and Head of Wholesale Banking at Commercial Bank said: "Innovation has always been rooted in Commercial Bank's strategic vision. Through sponsoring this year's International Symposium on Artificial Intelligence, we strive to continuously provide our customers with the latest technologies in banking."

The event featured workshops and panel discussions that explored in-depth the pivotal role of AI in business. Commercial Bank's EGM and Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Leonie Lethbridge delivered a presentation on the first day



of the event discussing the significance of driving value from Artificial Intelligence in financial services.

In her comment, Dr. Leonie stated: “Commercial Bank constantly seeks pioneering solutions and breakthrough technologies to stay ahead of the curve. We are currently looking for ways to employ the potential that Artificial Intelligence holds to innovate our banking solutions. This will enable us to further cultivate an advanced banking ecosystem that empowers individuals to achieve their financial goals.”

On the first day of the symposium were several engaging presentations from a blend of local and international AI experts and keynote speakers, followed by an interactive panel discussion. There was a particular focus on the importance of educating the wider public about AI in order to dispel the myths surrounding it. As part of UDST’s applied approach, the second day took a different turn, with attendees diving into hands-on tailored AI workshops, including one targeted specifically at finance professionals, that presented a unique opportunity for participants to experience AI’s practical application first-hand. The interactive workshop element of the symposium set it apart from other AI-centered events.

The two days brought together a diverse audience, fostered cooperation and enabled knowledge exchange. It also underscored Qatar’s readiness to embrace AI applications in several sectors of the economy, and CBQ as the main event sponsor simply reinforced the significance of AI in the financial sector. UDST’s symposium set a high standard for future AI-related events, both regionally and internationally. With its focus on education, hands-on experience, and collaboration between attendees, the event marked an important step in Qatar’s journey towards AI excellence.





## University of Doha for Science and Technology Organizes Successful Career Fair with over 80 Participating Companies

University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) recently hosted their much-anticipated Career Fair 2023. The opening ceremony was attended by H.E. Dr. Mohammed bin Saleh Al-Sada, Chairman of UDST's Board of Trustees (BoT) and former Minister of Energy and Industry; Dr. Mohammed Yousef Al-Mulla Vice Chair of UDST's BoT and Managing Director and CEO of Qatar Petrochemical Company (QAPCO); Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of University of Doha for Science and Technology; H.E. Ms. Isabelle Martin Ambassador of Canada to the State of Qatar. The event also witnessed a visit from H.E. Dr. Ibrahim bin Saleh Al-Naimi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

The two-day event, organized by UDST's Student Central Services Department, took place on the University's vibrant campus and was well-attended by current students, alumni and graduating high school nationals. The career fair gave attendees invaluable opportunities for networking, exploring career paths, and connections with potential employers, and gave the participating companies unparalleled access to talented students from UDST.

Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST, said: "Our University has always been at the forefront of educational excellence in Qatar, and our commitment to both students and alumni extends beyond the classroom. The UDST Career Fair 2023 is a testament to our dedication to their professional growth and success. I am thrilled that we can provide a platform for them to interact with industry leaders, opening doors



to promising career opportunities, while forging valuable partnerships with industry players."

Over 80 companies and organizations were represented at the career fair including government, semi-government, and private sector organizations spanning a range of industries including energy, banking and finance, and technology. The event reflected UDST's solid commitment to fostering connections between its students and industry leaders, and empowering the wider University community by bridging the gap between education and employment.

To prepare attendees for the networking and career exploration opportunities at the event, a series of career-related workshops and preparatory sessions were held on campus in the three weeks leading up to the career fair.



Facilitated together by UDST and several prominent companies. The workshops helped prepare students to get the most out of the career fair and equipped them with the competencies and knowledge necessary to interact with, and impress, potential employers.

The UDST Career Fair 2023 successfully built on the University's strong track record in facilitating meaningful connections and career growth for its community. Success this year was seen not only in its impressive array of participating companies, but in the event's sustainability, inclusivity and innovative use of technology. The event was paper-free, reinforcing UDST's commitment to environmental responsibility, and ensuring every student, alumnus, and high school national had the same access to networking opportunities and resources. UDST also introduced an innovative AI-driven platform that served as a useful tool to assist attendees in exploring the career options on offer. The platform reflects the strong emphasis that UDST places on cutting-edge technology and helps participants match opportunities with their interests.

UDST offers its students 64 programs in the fields of Business, Computing and Information Technology, Engineering and Technology and Health Sciences. The University has graduated thousands of students who are contributing to the needs of Qatar's growing and changing economy. All programs are developed with input from local industry and business stakeholders and are taught by top-notch instructors with extensive industry experience.





## UDST Honors Top Performing Students in Distinguished Annual Awards Ceremony

The most outstanding students from University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) were recently celebrated at the University’s prestigious Annual Academic Awards ceremony. The awards honored the exceptional academic achievements of its students and recognized a total of 49 undergraduates and graduates. The event was attended by Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST, and guest speaker Mr. Rachid Al-Sulaiti, Deputy General Manager of Qatar Shell.

There were eight Academic Award categories through which students were recognized: Academic Excellence Award, Academic Merit Award; Academic Distinction Award; Foundation Program Award; Industrial Trades Dean Award; Achievement Award; Applied Research Award; and Innovation Award.

The University proudly awarded the Academic Excellence Awards to final-year students with the highest weighted averages in their respective programs. The Academic Excellence Award for the Master’s Degree was presented to Ameera Fatima Anaz, a student in the Accounting and Finance program at the College of Business; for the Bachelor’s Degree the award was presented to Aivan Aves, a student in the Electrical Engineering – Automation and Control Systems program at the College of Engineering and Technology; for the Advanced Diploma the honor was given to Abdulaziz Khaled Azazi, a student in the Chemical and Processing Engineering Technology program at the College of Engineering and Technology, and the Academic Excellence Award for the Two-Year Diploma was presented to Reem Omar, a student in the Pharmacy Technology program at the College of Health Sciences.



Commenting on the occasion, Dr Salem Al-Naemi said, “These awards do not just represent academic excellence, but also the values of continuous learning and innovation. We are committed to making a positive impact on the community in Qatar. The achievements of our students reflect the high standard of education at UDST and the value our faculty members place on nurturing future leaders. The Awards Night is not just a celebration of individual achievements, but a testament to the collective spirit and ambition that characterizes our University.”

UDST places a high value on research and innovation, giving students the opportunity of hands-on, practical projects, and exposure to real industry experience. Special recognition was given through the Applied Research Award to Nihala Moosa Panangat, a student in the Pharmacy Technology program. Nihala has participated in two funded research projects, under two calls, UREP 29 and UREP 30 through which she has published and presented a paper and two posters. At the recent International Conference on in-silico Trends and Approaches in Drug Discovery and Development, her work



entitled ‘Computational Assessment of Pharmacokinetics for three desert plants with promising antibiotic potential’ was an important research area. With the growing global resistance to antibiotics, research is now looking to find new antimicrobial medicines from natural sources. Nihala presented her work to international experts who were impressed with the quality and defense of her research.



the Innovation Award, was presented to Sumaiya Rizwan, a student in the Data and Cyber Security program who represented the University in Huawei’s Seeds for the Future competition in Dubai. The product is Tactobraille, an innovative smart glove designed to enhance the accessibility of information for those who are blind or visually impaired. The Tactobraille glove functions by seamlessly converting text into real-time Braille patterns, which are then tactually displayed on the user’s fingertips. This ground-breaking technology has the potential to revolutionize the way users access written content by eliminating the need for traditional Braille production. These awards demonstrate UDST’s dedication to driving innovation, growing entrepreneurship, and supporting the exploration of new technologies.



All recipients of the Academic Excellence Awards and Academic Merit Awards were offered monetary awards, and all winners received a University certificate, with the Distinction noted on their official transcript. Through its Annual Awards Night, UDST remains focused on fostering an environment of academic excellence and innovation. The event is not only a celebration but also a symbol of the University’s commitment to recognizing and encouraging outstanding academic achievements, alongside valuable contributions to society.





## On the occasion of World Diabetes Day 2023 University of Doha for Science and Technology organizes a Symposium on Diabetes Care

The University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) recently hosted the 2nd Symposium on Diabetes Care: Empowering Global Health through Life-Changing Research, in support of World Diabetes Day 2023.

The symposium was organized with the participation and support of several esteemed health institutions in Qatar including the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC), Sidra Medicine and Qatar Diabetes Association (QDA), in cooperation with the leading global healthcare company, Novo Nordisk.

Present at the symposium were Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST, Dr. Sheikh Mohammed Al Thani, Director of Non-Communicable Disease Prevention Programs (MoPH); Dr. Abdelatif Al Khal, Director of Medical Education at HMC; Prof. Abdul-Badi Abou-Samra Co-Chair, National Diabetes Committee (MoPH) and Director, Qatar Metabolic Institute (HMC); Prof. Shahrhad Taheri, Chair, Diabetes Research Sub-Committee National Diabetes Strategy (MoPH) and Assistant Director, Qatar Metabolic Institute (HMC); Dr. Rayana Ahmed Bou Haka, official representative of the World Health Organization (WHO) office in Qatar; Mr. Venkat Kalyan; Vice President and General Manager of Novo Nordisk Gulf; and a multitude of researchers, distinguished guests, faculty and students.

The symposium sessions aimed to deepen healthcare

professionals' understanding and expertise in diabetes care, prevention and education, while also promoting the exchange of knowledge and innovation across the global medical community. The symposium goals are aligned with Qatar's National Vision 2030, and continues the work set out by Qatar's National Diabetes Strategy. This includes increasing public awareness of diabetes and developing the world's best workforce, infrastructure and research in this field.

During his welcoming remarks, Dr. Salem Al-Naemi said, "It is once again an honor for UDST to organize the Symposium on Diabetes Care. Excellence in diabetes care and management is a huge priority for our country. The National Diabetes Strategy in particular aims to improve health and quality of life in Qatar, by preventing diabetes and its associated complications. This is no easy feat. Collaboration, education and research are key to promoting diabetes awareness, and to advance methods used to manage and treat the disease. UDST's Master of Science in Diabetes Care and Patient Education was established to enhance the standard of diabetes education and care in the country. We have successfully graduated two cohorts of professionals, who are now adeptly addressing the essential requirements of the healthcare industry. Furthermore, by hosting the Diabetes Care Symposium, we can also provide a platform for sharing insights and developments from a local and global perspective."

Prof. Abdul-Badi Abou-Samra, Co-Chair of the National Diabetes Committee (MoPH) and Director of Qatar



Metabolic Institute (QMI), HMC highlighted: “The 2023 World Diabetes Day campaign focusses on the importance of delaying or preventing type 2 diabetes and associated complications with the slogan “Know your risk, Know your Response” underscoring the significance of proactive screening. As a slowly progressive disease that typically originates without symptoms, T2D can exist for many years without being recognised. Globally, 50% of diabetes is considered undiagnosed. In Qatar, 25% of diabetes is undiagnosed accounting for approximately 5% of all adult population. To address that, centered to the National Diabetes Strategy’s implementation has been the establishment of a screening programme, delivered through primary care, to early identify those with early diabetes and those at high risk for development of diabetes. This creates an opportunity to enrol people at risk into clinical trials of different approaches to diabetes prevention through the Qatar Diabetes Prevention Program (QDPP) and to do early intervention in subjects with newly diagnosed diabetes aiming at diabetes remission”.

For his part, Vice President and General Manager of Novo Nordisk Gulf, Mr. Venkat Kalyan commented: “Novo Nordisk is grateful to be a part of today’s event and collaborate with the Ministry of Public Health in Qatar and University of Doha for Science and Technology to organize this symposium on Diabetes care. Our company is always keen to cooperate with governments to combat diabetes and work to limit the growing number of patients by spreading awareness and introducing medical developments in this area. We also confirm that the company is committed to developing new medicines for people with diabetes and is keen to exchange experiences and provide appropriate solutions for chronic diseases, according to the latest scientific research worldwide, especially about diabetes and obesity.”

The highly respected healthcare professionals delivered presentations on key topics throughout the symposium. These included insights on the Qatar National Diabetes Strategy; innovation in diabetes research and the national agenda for diabetes research in Qatar. The event also fostered conversations on novel therapies for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and the accessibility of diabetes care, with some insightful closing remarks by Dr. Michael Phillips, Director of the Applied Research, Innovation and Economic Development Directorate at UDST.

The symposium targeted researchers, endocrinologists and physicians from academia, internal medicine departments and Primary Health Centers across Qatar and beyond. Following the event, attendees will be able to integrate the knowledge gained from conference sessions into real clinical environments, and work collaboratively with colleagues and patients to promote long-term behavioral changes, through consistent patient-centered care and education.





## Minister of Transport Witnesses Landmark MoU Signing Between QAA and UDST

In a significant move towards academic and research collaboration, Qatar Aeronautical Academy (QAA) and University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The signing ceremony, attended by the Minister of Transport, H.E. Jassim Saif Ahmed Al-Sulaiti, along with H.E. Sheikh Jabor bin Hamad Al Thani, Director General of QAA, and Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST, marks a new era of cooperation in education and higher education.

This MoU paves the way for a mutually beneficial partnership, focusing on enhancing academic programs and research initiatives. Key areas of collaboration include revamping the foundation program, elevating diploma programs to bachelor's degrees, and integrating these programs into both institutions with certification from UDST. The agreement also encompasses joint efforts in scientific research, student affairs, marketing, and training. Dr. Salem Al-Naemi emphasized the MoU's role in empowering students, advancing their skills, and providing a comprehensive academic pathway at UDST. He also highlighted the trust and support from both the academy, represented by H.E. Sheikh Jabor Bin Hamad Al Thani, and the Ministry of Transport.

The collaboration is expected to yield significant outcomes, including shared expertise and joint research, which align with national strategic priorities. This partnership is set to contribute to the development of the state and its industries, fostering economic growth in line with Qatar National Vision 2030's objectives.

## UDST Partners with Education Above All to Support Students from Gaza



University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) is proud to announce a significant agreement with Education Above All, in a collaborative effort to provide educational opportunities for students affected by the recent crisis in Gaza. This announcement was made in a formal ceremony attended by Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST, and Mr. Fahad Al-Sulaiti, CEO of Education Above All. This initiative underscores UDST's commitment to educational inclusivity and support for students in crisis.

In his speech, Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST expressed the University's dedication to this cause: "We are deeply committed to supporting these students who have faced immense challenges. We firmly support our government's stance in denouncing the horrors occurring in Gaza to prevent further suffering of innocent individuals.

We hope that through our academic programs and support, the three students will not only continue their educational journey but also achieve excellence. We believe in empowering students to rebuild and transform their lives, and this partnership with Education Above All is a step towards making that belief a reality."

UDST's gesture is more than just an educational opportunity; it's a sign of hope and solidarity, demonstrating the power of education in overcoming adversity.



## UDST Introduces a State-of-the-Art Central Analysis Lab

UDST has recently inaugurated its Central Analysis Lab, an advanced facility equipped with the latest analytical machinery. This lab, a new feature of the University's continually growing College of Engineering and Technology, aims to fulfill the chemical testing requirements of diverse industries and researchers.

The Central Analysis Lab commits to serving multiple sectors and fields, maintaining the highest quality standards. Its services span across various areas such as energy, environment, food and beverage, construction, agriculture and much more. The lab provides an array of testing solutions, including chromatography, elemental and molecular spectroscopy, and materials testing for construction. Tailored analysis requests are accommodated, adhering to rigorous protocols and international standards like ASTM, ISO, and EPA.

For streamlined and accessible testing and analysis, the Central Analysis Lab has implemented a straightforward lab request system. This system keeps clients updated on their sample and request status throughout the procedure. Following the completion of services, clients are encouraged to provide feedback, enabling the lab staff to continually enhance the service quality and efficiency.

Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST, commented on the launch of the new lab, saying: "As a leading applied national university, UDST has consistently provided cutting-edge services and facilities. These contributions play a crucial role in bolstering the national economy and elevating research

and testing to ensure the highest standards. Today marks a significant milestone with the inauguration of the Central Analysis Lab at the College of Engineering and Technology. This new facility is a hub for companies, researchers, and individuals seeking exceptional testing and services."

Dr. Awni Al-Otoom, Dean of the College of Engineering and Technology, also expressed his delight regarding the opening of the College's new lab, saying: "We are honored to provide our stakeholders from different fields and disciplines with remarkable scientific and rigorous services" He also assured prospective clients that they can expect the highest level of care when working with the Lab, adding "our knowledgeable and experienced staff is trained to handle samples with precision and ensure accurate and reliable results."

The College of Engineering and Technology at UDST, recognized for its applied engineering and technical education, continues to be a local and regional leader. The Central Analysis Lab is a testament to the college's commitment to providing top-notch facilities to its students and various industry stakeholders.





## Prominent Student Exhibition & Hackathon on Sustainable Development as part of Smart.Eco Project

University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST), together with Chemnitz University of Technology (TU Chemnitz) and The University of Jordan (UJ), organized an event themed “Utilizing Artificial Intelligence and Drone Technology in Sustainable Development”, held on UDST campus. The purpose of the day was to raise awareness among university students about the importance of using advanced technology in reaching sustainability targets, and ultimately help combat climate change.

The event was split into two parts, the first half featured a selection of insightful talks and lectures from across the public and private sectors, and the second was dedicated to an interactive pitching session where students presented 18 innovative business projects to a panel of judges. The event included an exhibition and a hackathon, two integral parts of the “Smart. Eco” project which seeks to facilitate dialogue and establish a robust network between participating universities in Qatar, Jordan and Germany.

In preparation for the event, UDST students engaged in an intensive boot camp that offered invaluable feedback and insights for their projects. They also received extensive training in business pitching, which greatly enhanced their presentation skills for the event. The initiative aims to give students and scientists opportunities to gain intercultural skills and further qualifications while strengthening ties with industry partners, which will increase support for research and practical engagements in the field of smart environmental solutions. This year’s event focuses particularly on solutions influenced by artificial intelligence, drones and the Internet of Things (IOT).

## UDST Engages in WISE Partners Session on AI for Accessibility and Inclusion



The College of Computing and Information Technology at UDST actively participated in the recent WISE Partners Session, a collaborative event with Accessible Qatar, focusing on the theme “A.I. for A.I.: Artificial Intelligence as a Force for Good to Drive Accessibility and Inclusion.” This significant roundtable delved into the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in fostering a more inclusive society.

This 90-minute session offered an opportunity to explore the dynamic roles AI can play in promoting accessibility and enhancing pathways to employment. The event began with an insightful presentation by practitioners from Qatar’s Step by Step Center for Special Needs, showcasing the real-world impact of AI in educational settings and its potential for further innovation.

Following the presentation, UDST joined a roundtable discussion that bridged the gap between disability advocates, community leaders, educators, policymakers, and developers. This interactive dialogue fostered knowledge-sharing and collaboration, essential for advancing the agenda of utilizing AI to drive accessibility and inclusion.

The session, marked by active participation and exchange of ideas, emphasized the need for community engagement and advocacy for accessible and inclusive AI-driven solutions. The insights and outcomes of this roundtable are set to be shared widely, further promoting community involvement and innovation in this critical area of technology and society.

## Accreditation Canada on Campus



University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) successfully hosted a crucial accreditation visit, welcoming a team of 11 esteemed surveyors from Accreditation Canada. This visit, organized by UDST's College of Health Sciences and Program Development and Accreditation, marked a pivotal moment following over a year of meticulous preparation.

Three of UDST's prominent degree programs in Respiratory Therapy, Medical Radiography and Paramedicine underwent thorough evaluation. The comprehensive review process focused on ensuring compliance with the stringent standards required for Canadian accreditation of these allied health programs. The surveyors engaged in an extensive site visit, which included tours of UDST's campus, clinical site evaluations, and interviews with a wide range of stakeholders. Senior management, faculty, students from each cohort, Program Advisory Committee members, preceptors, and graduates all contributed with valuable insights. A highlight of the week was an engaging meeting between Paramedicine students and Dr. Russell MacDonald, an internationally renowned pre-hospital care expert and the lead surveyor of the visit. Dr. MacDonald, who also serves as the editor-in-chief of a major Paramedicine education reference book, shared his expertise with students, partook in a TikTok challenge, and autographed textbooks, creating a memorable experience for all involved.

Dr. MacDonald lauded the visit as "one of the best organized" he has witnessed in nearly two decades of involvement in accreditation visits, a testament to the dedication and effort put forth by The University's teams. This successful visit not only highlights UDST's commitment to excellence in healthcare education but also positions the university at the forefront of accredited health science programs.

[Click here to see the challenge:](https://vt.tiktok.com/ZSNPatmpT/)  
<https://vt.tiktok.com/ZSNPatmpT/>

## UDST and DNV Hellas sign an MOU to enhance maritime education in Qatar



DNV Hellas, via its Regional Maritime Academy, will work closely with UDST to transfer knowledge and expertise through curriculum and training courses, provide insights on industry challenges, and contribute to training courses and joint projects. On the other hand, UDST, the first national university in the State of Qatar specializing in applied, technical, and professional education in Qatar, will facilitate the integration of DNV's training courses into its marine engineering programs.

The MoU provides the opportunity for students completing the Marine Engineering program at UDST to enhance their competence through DNV's Maritime Academy training courses to be incorporated into the syllabus. Additionally, DNV will have a role in UDST's Program Advisory Committee for Marine Engineering and will offer internships to students, providing them with real-world industry insights. Another highlight of the agreement is DNV's commitment to share its knowledge on present and upcoming challenges in the shipping industry and deliver keynote speeches at the University on prominent issues.

Both institutions will also work together on organizing local and regional events, touching on important maritime topics like decarbonization, digitalisation, and cybersecurity. The signatories will also collaborate on joint research and projects of interest to the maritime industry.





## UDST Showcases Academic Excellence at Najah Qatar Education Fair

University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) made a significant impact at the recent Najah Qatar Education Fair, showcasing its innovative academic programs and opportunities for prospective students. The fair, a renowned event in the region's educational calendar, provided a platform for high school students, parents, and educators to explore higher education options.

UDST's participation in Najah Qatar was marked by its interactive booth, where visitors were introduced to a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs. The university's representatives, including the recruitment team, faculty and students, engaged with attendees, offering insights into campus life, academic offerings, and career opportunities post-graduation.

Highlights of UDST's presence included demonstrations of cutting-edge research and technological advancements made by the University. These exhibits showcased UDST's commitment to providing education that is both relevant and forward-thinking, aligning with the needs of the modern workforce.

UDST's participation in Najah Qatar underscores its role as a leading educational institution in the region, dedicated to fostering a learning environment that equips students with the skills and knowledge needed for successful careers. The event offered a unique opportunity for UDST to connect with the community and attract future leaders in science and technology.

The University continues to contribute significantly to the educational landscape in Qatar, and its presence at Najah Qatar further solidifies its reputation as a hub for academic excellence and innovation.



## IAUP at UDST

The International Association of University Presidents (IAUP) event, co-hosted by University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST), Qatar University and Qatar Foundation, was a significant gathering in the realm of higher education. This third edition of the Leadership Development Seminar for New Rectors and Emerging Leaders, welcomed university presidents and leaders from 22 countries to discuss key topics like digital transformation, internationalization, equality, and inclusion in higher education.

Over the course of three days, this seminar, in collaboration with Santander Universities, aimed to prepare these leaders to navigate current and upcoming challenges in the education sector. Experts shared their insights and best practices, fostering a rich learning environment. The seminar was an opportunity to showcase the innovative educational landscape of Qatar.

The partnership with IAUP and other universities in Qatar underscored the vital discussions in reshaping global higher education and served as a reference for what can be achieved with a combination of an inspiring vision, committed leadership, and community involvement in the education sector.



## The University raises the highest amount of funds during Charity Week



University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) secured the leading position in fundraising 64,853 Qatari Riyals during Charity Week, an international unity project that brings people together from across the globe to fundraise for orphans and children in underserved communities based upon shared Islamic and humanitarian values. Conducted in affiliation with Education Above All, more than 23 educational institutions in Qatar participated in this initiative.

UDST students led the fundraiser week in collaboration with the Student Engagement Department, a division of Student Affairs, and they successfully involved the entire UDST community by implementing innovative activities and appealing initiatives.

Dr. Salem Al-Naemi President of UDST commended this achievement and said: "It is heartwarming to observe our community coming together for a noble purpose, and to see that the University's role extends beyond mere education. By instilling human values, the University is shaping the personalities of its students, helping them evolve into leaders who excel not just in their academic fields but also in community support, becoming valuable contributors to society." This year, the Qatar Charity Week Team, which involved many prominent schools, colleges, and universities in Qatar, collectively raised the largest sum compared to other participating countries globally. An impressive total of 388,992 Qatari Riyals was gathered, doubling the amount raised in 2022.

The UDST Charity Week core team consisted of students from different Colleges: Sumaiya Rizwan, Nusrat Reda, Bakr Amr, Aaima Baig, Atya-ur-Rehman Said, Abdelillah Benhalima, Rashida Naz and Ezzat Shabbir. Every student was assigned a specific role to ensure the success of the event.

## MoU with Elegancia Healthcare



University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) and Elegancia Healthcare announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU), marking a significant step forward in the collaboration between healthcare and higher education sectors in Qatar. The MoU was signed by Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST, and Mr. Joseph Hazel, Chief Executive Officer of Elegancia Healthcare during a ceremony held at UDST, in the presence of officials from both entities.

This partnership is designed to establish a robust cooperation framework reflecting a shared commitment to advancing Qatar's health, social, and economic goals. The MoU covers many areas of collaboration notably designing and developing academic programs, providing practical and preceptorship opportunities at Elegancia Healthcare for UDST students, and supporting them in their capstone projects.

Both parties will also collaborate on continuing education in various fields such as business, health sciences, engineering, computing, and information technology. The MoU includes plans for joint research projects aligned with Qatar's national research priorities and areas of mutual interest.

Furthermore, the agreement facilitates cross-appointments, allowing Elegancia Healthcare practitioners to engage in teaching and research supervision at UDST, and UDST faculty to participate in clinical practice at Elegancia Healthcare. Both institutions have also committed to organize joint conferences, seminars, workshops, and health-awareness campaigns, along with other outreach activities.



## UDST's RouteMinder Project Secures Top Spot in Idea Camp 8th Edition Competition

In an impressive showcase of innovation and technological prowess, a team from the College of Computing and Information Technology at University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) has achieved significant recognition in the highly competitive Idea Camp 8th Edition competition. Their groundbreaking project, RouteMinder, has been selected as one of the top 35 finalists, earning them a two-year incubation period at the Digital Incubation Center (DIC).

RouteMinder, an advanced road navigation application, stands out with its use of a Reinforcement Learning AI model. This model is trained through trial and error and is constantly updated with real-time data on traffic patterns, road closures, and weather changes. The application aims to provide drivers with routes that are not only faster but also smarter and more sustainable. Significant contributions to the project's success came from Dr. Seifeddine Bouallegue, who provided expert guidance and support throughout the competition. Additional assistance was provided by the Digital Communication and Media Production department, particularly Dr. Milan Maric and Dr. Anwar Shahrul, who helped develop a demo video for the final pitch.

Team members Sarra Chouk (Team Leader), Montasar Dridi, and Faraz Chowdhury, all studying Data Science and Artificial Intelligence at UDST, expressed their gratitude for the invaluable support and encouragement they received. The team's achievement not only highlights the innovative spirit at UDST but also underscores the university's commitment to nurturing future leaders in technology and AI.



## Certification from DMI

University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) and the Digital Marketing Institute (DMI) are delighted to announce their new partnership.

Upon graduation, holders of both the Bachelor of Business Administration in Digital Marketing and the Diploma in Marketing will have earned the Certified Digital Marketing Associate (CDMA) credential, an industry-leading digital marketing certification, and have a path of ongoing professional development with a lifelong membership in DMI.

The DMI Associate Certification provides graduates with an additional level of career readiness and the ability to further differentiate themselves as future leaders in the marketing profession.



## UDST's Annual Gala Dinner 2023



The University proudly hosted its Annual Gala Dinner, a prestigious event uniting the entire university community for an evening filled with engagement, appreciation, and entertainment. Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST, initiated the event with opening remarks, providing a comprehensive overview of the university's accomplishments throughout 2023. He expressed sincere gratitude towards all staff members for their dedication and significant contributions to the university's success.

The highlight of the evening was the special recognition awards ceremony, honoring employees who exceptionally embodied the university's vision and made impacts in 2023. The gala was further enlivened by performances from a diverse array of artists.

The event was concluded with an exciting raffle draw, featuring a range of attractive prizes, and culminated in a delightful dinner reception, allowing attendees to celebrate their collective achievements and forge stronger connections within the UDST family.



## UDST Celebrates the Opening of "Campus Corner"



The University is excited to announce the opening of the "Campus Corner," a new and convenient shopping destination located in the heart of the E2 Courtyard, nestled between buildings 9, 6, and 8. This addition to the campus is designed to meet the diverse needs of the university community.

"Campus Corner" promises to be more than just a convenience shop; it's a one-stop destination for a variety of essentials. The store will offer an extensive selection of items, ranging from books and stationery to personal protective equipment and clothing. Additionally, students and staff can find a range of university promotional items.

In addition to its retail offerings, "Campus Corner" also features a cozy coffee lounge, creating a perfect spot for students and faculty to relax, read, or hold casual meetings. This inviting space is designed to enhance the campus experience, offering a comfortable retreat amidst the bustling university environment. This initiative reflects UDST's commitment to creating a vibrant and engaging campus environment.

UDST extends its gratitude to all who have supported and contributed to making this project a reality. "Campus Corner" is not just a store; it's a symbol of the university's ongoing efforts to enhance campus life and provide convenient services to its students and staff.



## UDST Students Immerse in Art and Design on a Field Study Trip

Students from the “SSHA1006 Introduction to the Arts” course, offered by the College of General Education (CGE) at UDST, embarked on an enlightening field study trip to explore the vibrant art scene in Doha. The excursion began at the Qatar Museum’s Fire Station Gallery, a hub for contemporary art and creative residencies in the city.

At the Fire Station Gallery, students delved into the “Artist in Residency” exhibition titled “The Present: The Future of the Past,” currently showcased in the Garage Gallery. This exhibition featured the works of 40 artists, including 20 from Qatar and 20 residents, offering a diverse perspective on contemporary art.

The journey continued to the iconic M7 building, where the students engaged in interactive guided tours of three distinct exhibitions: “Masterpieces of Furniture,” “Icône, Voice of Design made in Italy,” and “Crafting Spaces.” These exhibitions exposed the students to a variety of art movements, techniques, and the multifaceted nature of arts and design. The experience was both mesmerizing and educational, sparking insightful questions and deepening their understanding of creativity.

A highlight of the trip was the visit to the M7 Concept Store: Studio 7, featuring a Pop-up exhibit where students observed the essence of product design. The majority of items on sale were crafted by locally based artists, providing a real-world example of design in action.

The “SSHA1006 Introduction to the Arts” course, taught by award-winning conceptual artist and educator Othman Khunji, aims to introduce students to the diverse elements and disciplines of the art and design industry. Khunji, with a rich background in interior architecture and design, and experience showcasing his work in prominent venues worldwide, offers students an immersive and applied learning experience. This course not only emphasizes the appreciation and reflection of public art in Doha but also guides students in exploring various career paths in the arts and design industry, including creating their own websites and preparing for business careers in this dynamic field.





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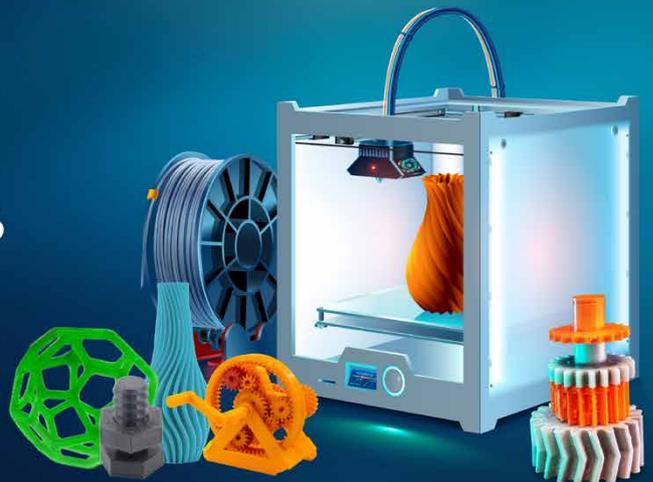


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