

AI Rawi 22

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE



Corporate news from the Higher Colleges of Technology

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The Way Forward

The 22nd Annual Conference was held at Dubai Men's College under the theme, "The Way Forward". The conference allowed faculty and staff to gather to learn about HCT's goals and objectives, renew friendships and make new acquaintances with colleagues.

HE Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and Chancellor, delivered the opening address during which he instructed, "My charge to you today is this: As we reflect on our successes and take pride in our accomplishments, that we continue in the youthful spirit to have our behavior influenced by our beliefs."

"This, to me, represents our collective commitment to both idealism and pragmatism, a commitment that has been the hallmark of the Higher Colleges of Technology from the very beginning."

He also clearly set out the HCT's responsibilities: "As we grow, change and expand our programs to meet the crucial needs of our students, our country and our region, we must understand our responsibility to provide the United Arab Emirates with an HCT system that supports the development and success of a strong society and a vibrant economy. We must:

- educate our students for the twenty-first century,
- align our educational mission to the social and economic needs of the United Arab Emirates,
- solidify our educational leadership throughout our region,
- maintain an effective community engagement and outreach program, and
- expand our global reach."

Dr Tayeb Kamali, Vice Chancellor of Higher Colleges of Technology also spoke of his vision for the future. Keynote speeches were given by Dr. Tapio Varis a distinguished professor at the University of Tampere in Finland, Dr. Lowell Catlett, Dean of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at New Mexico State University, and Otto Benavides a professor from California State University, Fresno.

The conference theme "The Way Forward" is based on the HCT's Institutional Development Plan, compiled following a thorough review of many of the challenges that confront the HCT. This elaborate pursuit of institutional development engaged all stakeholders in a critical examination of HCT's academic and administrative processes. This review process involving various internal and international experts, has particularly focused on credentials, assessment, the Foundations Year, General Education, scholarly activities, organizational structure, and HR procedures.

During the conference, The Nikai Group announced the winners of the Nikai Award for Teaching Innovation for the 2008/2009 academic year. The winners were Josephine Clark Kennedy and Peter Waters from Abu Dhabi Men's College for i-Read, a system using technology to integrate reading with other skills, and Sean Patrick Dowling from Sharjah Women's College for his work in using Microsoft OneNote to deliver more dynamic blended learning.

The Nikai Outstanding Student Award 2008/2009 winner was Ali Abdalla Ali Al Ansari of Sharjah Men's College.

Read more on Josephine Clark Kennedy's and Peter Water's: i-Read system on page 10.

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Student fullfills her dream

Nothing by Accident



*Creating
leaders of
the future*

We have had a fantastic start to the academic year with a successful Annual Conference in October, presenting "The Way Forward."

The 2009 Festival of Thinkers was also acclaimed a great success. Held at HCT campuses around the nation, it inspired attendees, captured the interest of the local and global media and made a difference to us all. We were honored to welcome so many renowned global thinkers to the HCT, who were great role models for thinking, inspirations for success and catalysts for positive action.

As one of the participants summed up: "I am leaving this conference very energized and very hopeful because you [the students] are the future and I see so many thoughts and so many positive actions from you that it has really inspired me..."

Currently, many activities at the HCT revolve around the theme of entrepreneurship. Exciting ventures, which have happened or will happen on this theme, include the launch of the Centre for Entrepreneurship and Family Research @CERT;

Global Entrepreneurship Week - where HCT was the UAE official partner; a new business planning competition for the UAE, the CERT Wharton EPIC, with the prestigious Wharton School in the USA; and the next Global Entrepreneurship 2010 conference, set for March.

We see entrepreneurial-style skills as extremely important, not only for our business students, but for us all. Skills such as risk analysis, creativity and planning are significant in all areas of study throughout the HCT, and are not limited to more novel entrepreneurial initiatives.

In keeping with my theme "nothing by accident", success in entrepreneurship is often due to innovation, hard work, careful analysis and a positive outlook. We aim to provide our students with these necessary skills for success, and so create the leaders of the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you every success for the new year.

Dr Tayeb Kamali

QUOTE

*"Imagination is more important than knowledge.
Knowledge is limited.
Imagination encircles the world."*

Albert Einstein

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HCT will keep pace with rapid growth & change - new Provost declares

The HCT has done a "great job in keeping up with the rapid change of the UAE" as education "enters a new phase", according to newly appointed HCT Provost Dr. Marshall (Mark) Drummond.

Dr. Drummond, originally from California, will be responsible for all academic and administrative functions of the HCT.

Dr Drummond said he was excited about the challenges that lay ahead for the HCT, seeing it as being in "a kind of foot race" to keep pace with the rapidly growing economy.

"I am delighted to join the HCT leadership team to help further the vision of the Chancellor, His Excellency Sheikh Nahayan, while working closely with Vice Chancellor, Dr. Tayeb Kamali," Dr. Drummond said.

"The HCT stands as an amazing and successful experiment in creating a quality institution of higher learning directly crafted to the needs of UAE nationals, and UAE business and government.

"The HCT is, and will continue to be, a regional and world leader in emerging, and effective models, of higher education and I look forward to making a contribution to the future success of the system."

In the few short months since taking on the role Dr. Drummond has travelled to all of the HCT campuses gaining an insight into the work of the colleges, including having graduates ready to meet the demands of modern society.

"I've been greatly impressed by the history and legacy of the HCT providing a place for Emiratis in academic or technical fields, to lead them to employment or further studies," he said.

"Through the work of His Excellency Sheikh Nahayan, the HCT is capable of taking them (students from different regions) on their own terms and making them productive members of UAE society.

"Expanding the education to where the students live builds cohesion in the country and gives everybody a part of the game."

The newly appointed Provost intends to be guided by the HCT motto of 'education is wealth' in helping position the institution for the future needs of society.

"The HCT is sitting at the front of the curve that is open for the country, giving nationals more skills in higher education for meaningful jobs or study in academic areas," Dr. Drummond said.

He also spoke of the need for multi-lingual and bachelor-qualified students, and for the HCT to work collaboratively with other institutions to "better leverage its resources".

Dr. Drummond's career includes appointments at the most senior levels in the American public higher education system. His most recent position was as the returning Chancellor of the Los Angeles Community College District, from 2007-2009. He previously held that position from 1999-2004. The Los Angeles Community College District educates more than 115,000 students each year and has educated more than 3 million students in its 77-year history.

Dr. Drummond has also acted as Chancellor of the California Community College System (2004-2007) and as President of Eastern Washington University (1989-1998).

Dr. Drummond holds a bachelor degree in management and economics, an MBA from San Jose State University, and a Doctor of Education from the University of San Francisco.

In the private sector, Dr. Drummond helped launch, and was General Manager of, Technology Specialists Inc. He was also the West Coast Operations General Manager for a Pennsylvania-based company, Systems and Computer Technology Corporation.



Dr Marshall Drummond

DWC Faculty member wins Harvard Fellowship



Sama Al Khaldi receiving the Third Harvard Annual Science Writers & Journalists Fellowship.

Dubai Women's College Applied Communications faculty member Sama Al Khaldi is putting into practice what she teaches as a recipient of the third Harvard Annual Science Writers & Journalists Fellowship.

The fellowship program is part of Dubai Harvard Foundation for Medical Research's mission to drive resurgence in scientific inquiry and discovery in the

Middle East, which will ultimately lead to innovations that address the region's most pressing health problems. It provides print and broadcast journalists in the region with the opportunity to increase the depth and breadth of their reporting on health care, medical innovation and scientific research.

Sama and three other Fellows, selected from 30 journalists, will participate in a week-long program held in collaboration with the Mohammed bin Rashid School of Communication at the American University in Dubai. The Fellows will meet with experienced science writers and journalists to discuss the process of transforming scientific research material into an engaging and accurate style.

HCT Senior Director and DWC Director Dr. Howard Reed said fellowship recipients showed strong writing skills and a high interest in healthcare and medical science.

"The selection of one of our faculty members for this prestigious award is indicative of the quality of DWC's staff and their ongoing quest to seek knowledge for their own growth and intellectual development which is ultimately transferred to their students," Dr. Reed said.

University of Waterloo and HCT officially open Waterloo-UAE



HE Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and Chancellor of the Higher Colleges of Technology, with University of Waterloo President David Johnston at the opening of the international campus.

The University of Waterloo, in partnership with the Higher Colleges of Technology (HCT), launched Bachelor of Applied Science degrees in chemical and civil engineering at the Dubai Men's College campus. In September 2010, it plans to offer a Bachelor of Mathematics in information technology management and another in financial analysis and risk management.

His Excellency Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and Chancellor of the Higher Colleges of Technology, and David Johnston, President of the University of Waterloo, presided over the opening of the new international campus. Students enrolled at Waterloo-UAE will study in both countries, under Waterloo's world-leading program of co-operative education.

Students study for the first two years at Waterloo-UAE, Dubai and the final two years in Waterloo, Canada. University of Waterloo professors will teach the Waterloo curriculum in the UAE, providing the same program content and quality of instruction as is offered in Canada under a co-operative education model that has students alternating four-month work and academic terms.

"The University of Waterloo looks forward to building a high-quality presence with high-quality partners in the important Gulf region," said Leo Rothenburg, Waterloo's Associate Vice-President, International. "We are pleased to be working with the Higher Colleges of Technology as well as the Centre of Excellence for Applied Research and Training in the United Arab Emirates. I would like to also thank His Excellency Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan for his role in this exciting partnership."

Classes began in Dubai in September 2009 with 22 students. The goal is to grow the number to about 140 next year and 500 by September 2012. The number of Waterloo faculty members in Dubai is expected to grow from three this year to nine next year and 12 by September 2012.

"We will be a real going concern in the region in a couple of years," said Peter Douglas, Waterloo professor of chemical engineering who was recently appointed director of Waterloo-UAE.

Team player with a vision takes on role as ADWC Director



Dr David Pelham

A man with a vision for promoting the future female leaders of the nation has been appointed Director of Abu Dhabi Women's College.

Dr. David Pelham comes to the role with a long history of leadership experience in a 30-year academic career at community, and four-year, colleges throughout the United States.

He was most recently President at Cuesta College, San Luis Obispo, California, preceded by his tenure as President at another Californian institution – the College of the Siskiyous.

Originally from Titusville, Florida Dr Pelham said there were great opportunities at ADWC.

"The thing that attracted me about the HCT was the role it's playing in a relatively new nation's development," he said.

"And the Women's College's location in the national capital puts it in a key position for preparing the country's leaders, particularly female, for the future.

"That role was something that really appealed to me."

A keen sportsman Dr Pelham said he was eager to use a team approach to enhance the College's reputation as a key education provider.

"With that position comes a great deal of responsibility to deliver relevant programs for the students so they are well prepared for the roles they are fulfilling," he said.

"I welcome that challenge, and so do the staff and faculty, to being as modern and current as possible in educating the future leaders of this country."

The native Floridian said he was excited about being a part

of the team environment at Abu Dhabi Women's College.

"I really thrive on the team orientation and being part of a successful outfit like ADWC.

"My job is about pulling together the staff and students and being a cog in the system.

"I enjoying competing and I will watch with interest what the students can show they are capable of in their environment."

Dr. Pelham received an M.A. in Communications from Morehead State University, Kentucky and he was awarded his Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from the University of North Florida.

He has also experienced great success in coaching and training students in extra-curricular endeavors. Dr. Pelham was a college debating coach at Central Michigan University, where his teams received national recognition and ranking. He has also coached college track and field teams at the Piedmont College in Athens, Georgia.

Dr. Pelham and his wife, Kaye, have two children and two grandchildren. His pastimes include golf, fishing, reading, travel and being a grandfather.

Dr. Pelham said the ADWC continued to be a success story in the UAE due to its innovative, project-driven curriculum which raised standards for graduates, allowing them to find satisfying employment.

"The College is always working to develop graduates who are prepared for the future ... we prepare students for the changing needs of the workplace, and train them for a life of learning and professional success," he said.

Festival invests in the power of thought

Eleven Nobel Laureates, nearly 150 world thinkers from 40 countries and 300 students from 44 universities representing 16 countries, primarily from the Middle East, participated in the third Festival of Thinkers (FoT) in the United Arab Emirates. The Festival was inaugurated at the Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi on 2 November and continued at the Higher Colleges of Technology's campuses across the nation. The opening address was given by H.E. Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, Minister for Higher Education and Scientific Research in the UAE and Chancellor of the Higher Colleges of Technology (HCT) to an audience of over 2,000.

"The Festival of Thinkers is based upon the premise that the bringing together of promising students with some of the world's recognized leaders in innovation and creativity will enrich both groups and lead to an even brighter future for our global society," stated HE Sheikh Nahayan in his opening address.

In her keynote address, Nobel laureate Dr. Shirin Ebadi spoke of the education of women and the importance of Muslim women's role in society. Dr Ebadi, an Iranian lawyer, is the first Muslim women to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for her pioneering efforts in human rights for women and children.

The opening ceremony included a panel discussion with Nobel Laureates and world thinkers on Future Capital: Moving Beyond the Economic Crisis. The panel considered the role of globalization in the economic crisis and the regulatory environment required.

Organized by HCT, the largest higher education institution in the UAE, FoT is a unique forum for young scholars from the Middle East and global leaders to think together using constructive and lateral thinking while designing possible solutions for the world's challenges. The format is interactive – thinkers and laureates participate in round-table discussions with young scholars.

Robust and thought provoking discussions during the Festival covered many themes of current interest: globalization, culture and language, research and innovation, health and wellness, non-traditional threats and the economic future of the world. The proceedings of the discussion will soon be published on the festival website.

"HCT has taken this initiative to provide an opportunity for promising young students and scholars of the UAE and the region – who are the future leaders of our world – to learn

from the successful leaders of today," added Dr. Tayeb Kamali, Vice Chancellor of HCT and Chair of FoT Organizing Committee.



Nobel Laureates who attended included Prof. John Nash, Dr. Robin Warren, and Prof. Richard Ernst. Also attending were HM Carl XVI Gustaf King of Sweden, Cherie Blair, Mike Moore -Former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Prof. Mohammed Arkoun, Islamic scholar-Algeria, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar - US Basketball Star, Lady Barbara Judge - Chairman of UK Atomic Energy Authority and Dr. Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart of Cuba.

Festival of Thinkers: excerpts from the panelists



Dr. Shirin Ebadi
Nobel Prize for Peace, 2003, Iran

Are women part of that society or not? And if women are a part of the society, what is their role in alleviating such challenges. Should women be mere observers in the problems of the societies? Should they wait at home and await decisions made for them by their fathers and their husbands or should they be active citizens and play a useful part in resolving the problems of their societies? This is one of the most important issues that you have to pay attention to.



Rt. Hon. Mike Moore
Former Director General, World Trade Organization, New Zealand

The point to make is that globalization is not a policy. It is not something hatched up at Wall Street in the city of London. It's a process and it has been going as long as man stood up right and looked over the horizon. It can't be stopped anymore than you can stop people thinking.



Dr. Rodrigo Jordan
Educator, Mountaineer and Chairman, Chilean National Foundation for the Alleviation of Poverty, Chile

Is GDP the only measurement we need to establish if a country has developed or not? Shouldn't we measure other kinds of variables within a country? think about poor people not as a burden on the society but as a true asset of that society.



Dr. David Gross
Nobel Prize in Physics, 2004, USA

Science, especially basic science, really has no national boundaries and has been always an example of openness and lack of nationalism as compared to just about anything else: because after all, especially in basic sciences, our master is not the government or ideology but rather nature. Nature poses the problems and nature judges our successes or failures.



Professor Martin Perl
Nobel Prize in Physics, 1995, USA

So those are my four principles.
(1) Build on existing strengths. You cannot do anything and everything. Don't mind copying if people will let you or licensing.
(2) Do not neglect experimental or practice work in engineering and science.
(3) Spend money on creative and speculative things.
(4) Stay away from grandiosity.

Festival of Thinkers - Highlights from a Remarkable 3 Days

During the three days of Festival of Thinkers, participants were able to focus on the global challenges that we face and reflect on the way that we think about these problems. Healthy and enlightening discussions, inspirational talks and moments of creative and lateral thinking characterised the activities of the conference.

The Mind and the Intellect

Swami Parasarathy, who inspired many in his address during the opening ceremony, set the scene for exploring the way we approach problems.

“Now friends every human being has two wondrous pieces of equipment called the “mind” and the “intellect. The mind doesn’t think. The mind feels various emotions. . . Beyond the mind is another piece of equipment called the “intellect” which thinks, reasons, judges, decides,” he explained.

He emphasized the importance of the intellect. “No amount of thinking will help you unless you develop the intellect. With what do you think? You think with the intellect.

“All the thinkers of the world are trying to solve the problem of this economic crisis. Why don’t they try to find out how the crisis was created? What is necessary is not to just solve the problem now. Try to find out what caused that crisis, for heaven’s sake? It’s your mind.”

Perspectives from the Round Table

The round table discussions of Nobel Laureates, world thinkers and students allowed the participants to explore the many aspects of the topic given to them.

The discussions on economics looked at the theme from different perspectives – reflections on the cause of the crisis, optimism, pessimism, and creative solutions.

Some thinkers posed an optimistic view that the economic problems were a useful warning, that they gave us an insight into the interconnectivity of the economic system and the attitudes to greed. Others spoke pessimistically citing that we, the banks and others had not learnt enough from the crisis and will return to our old ways of working.

The structure of society was reflected upon – talking about the problems with the capitalist system as well as the current system that is based on wealth. Perhaps, it was suggested, this should be shifted to basing our society on social benefits?

Novel ideas in Health

Director of Maxine Dunitz Neurosurgical Institute at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Dr. Black, took us back to the fundamentals of our goals and motivations in his introduction to the Health and wellness theme. He asked, “How do we measure a healthier world? Is life expectancy a key measure for mortality?”

He spoke of the consequences of this measure, “If our goal is life expectancy, then we can probably do away with all the brain surgeons, at least in the U.S.

“If we eliminated all 3000 board certified neurosurgeons in the U.S. of which I am one, we would probably have absolutely no impact on the life expectancy and we could certainly save a lot of money.

“But I can tell you that every country that I go to, even developing countries in Africa, they all want to develop a state-of-the-art neurosurgeon infrastructure.”

The enthralling panel discussion which followed covered many aspects of healthcare, from fostering innovation to preventative medicine, and from healthcare payment to education of doctors.



Basketball legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

Sports Champions: How to go for gold

“Future Role Models: Adventures in Adversity” was the topic for two inspiring discussions held during the Festival of Thinkers by a panel of high achieving sports champions. The panel included Olympic gold medalists Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Donna de Varona, Michele Smith and Jennifer Azzi, former England international footballer, Tony Woodcock, and mountaineer and educator, Rodrigo Jordan.

In an enthralling conversation, panelists discussed topics such as dealing with adversity, the meaning of role models and the sacrifices that come with being a champion.

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar spoke of his pathway to success, and talked of his passion and willpower. “Sometimes when I see my friends from those days and when

I run into them again we laugh about that because our determination was so intense and it was what we wanted to do.”

He advised, “So pursue your dreams and you will have to give up certain things that other people think are important but it is worth it.

“If you bring everything that you have intellectually emotionally and physically, all those things will combine to give you the best opportunity to be a champion. “

Adversity was seen as a positive force in the making of champions. Michelle Smith spoke of her love for the word adversity. “. . . because a lot of people when they think of adverse conditions, they want to run in the opposite direction but I think you should run towards adversity because when you can overcome it, it really helps build your character.”

Adversity was not the only positive force however. The motivation and the fun they had while pursuing their dreams was summed up by Rodrigo Jordan. “I always get the question, ‘why is it that you do this? Why is it that you go up the mountains and be tired, and hungry, in freezing temperatures?’ Because we really have fun up there. . . . I am sure all the members of this panel really love and have fun, more than anything, have fun in what they are doing. “

The inspiration the panelists provided was not only applicable in the field of sports. “I really believe that each one of us on the planet has something really special within them that is a champion and it’s just finding the thing that’s right for you,” said Jennifer Azzi as she inspired the audience.

Entrepreneurship @ HCT

UAE joins in Global Entrepreneurship Week

Global Entrepreneurship Week, which ran from 16- 22nd November, is a worldwide movement of entrepreneurial people, with millions around the world unleashing their enterprising talents and turning their ideas into reality.

Students from Dubai Men's College celebrated Global Entrepreneurship Week by participating in a number of activities designed to help students explore their potential as self-starters and innovators. These included student projects, charity activities and student competitions in which the college was joined by entrepreneurs, business leaders, employees and non-profit leaders.

- One-day Entrepreneurship Master Classes were organized by Injaz UAE, and was attended by over 250 Higher Diploma Foundations students. During the workshops each student was introduced to ideas about running their own businesses and given the opportunity to meet a mentor from the business world and supporting organizations. The workshop aimed to expand the students' horizons and direct their thinking towards the future in an informal and enjoyable way. The workshops were sponsored by Boeing and supported by volunteers from Boeing as well as the law firm DLA Piper and the accounting company Deloitte. During the last workshop, the students were joined by Paul Kinscheff, President of Boeing Middle East, who participated in the final judging session.

- The DMC Inventors Club ran an Invention Competition sponsored by ENOC. Students were required to submit a design of their invention. ENOC's sponsorship provided

for the winning design to be funded through to the prototype stage. Muftah Gargoum, who runs the Invention Club said, "The students were really motivated by ENOC's sponsorship, which means the best design will be developed."

- Diploma Foundations students also participated by creating a mind map of their ideas concerning methods for DMC to help students to turn their dreams into reality. This exercise resulted in over 300 creative and innovative suggestions.

- Dubai Financial Market supported Global Entrepreneurship Week by running a Stock Market Challenge. The student who won first prize (an I Phone 3GS) recorded a profit of DHS 1111 during 1 weeks trading.

- More than 200 Bachelor degree students had the opportunity to listen to an inspiring presentation entitled "The Challenges Facing Entrepreneurs." This was organized by the Young Arab Leaders and delivered by Fawzi Jumean of Amwal AlKhaleej. The presentation gave students a real insight to the skills, attitude and determination needed to turn their dreams into reality.

- As part of Global Entrepreneurship Week, students from the Level 3 HD E-business Management and Web Development programs, with the support of their faculty advisor George Kesselaar, organized a Charity Event that saw 5 local charitable organizations visit DMC. Representatives from visiting charities including Al Noor Center for Children with Special Needs, Beit Al Khair Society, Dubai Autism Center, Gulf4Good, and The Angel Appeal (Missions to Seafarers) came to the campus. They visited classes to raise awareness for the many worthy causes that they support and described how students can get involved in these causes. The Student Activities Area was transformed with various interesting booths and stands where staff and students could learn more about each charity and support more directly. Charities benefited not only from raising awareness with students but also from an assessment of their websites that was done by Web Development students. Alexi Trenouth from the Angel Appeal remarked: "The students did fantastically. They located some interesting problems and provided great solutions. This was time well spent for the Angel Appeal."

- And Big DEAL, the DMC Entrepreneurship and Leadership Club, ran a business plan competition, sponsored by the Al Ahli group. The most successful students will have the opportunity to travel to Brazil in January 2010 to participate in an international Entrepreneurship program organized by Al Ahli group.

Speaking after Global Entrepreneurship Week had finished Phil Corcos, Acting Director of Dubai Men's College, said "Global Entrepreneurship Week provided an excellent opportunity for our students to get involved and experience new activities for the first time. We are very grateful to our outside partners in supporting our efforts to make this happen."



Charity Day during Global Entrepreneurship Week at Dubai Men's College.



HCT GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP 2010 CONFERENCE

HCT Global Entrepreneurship 2010 Conference 9-11 March 2010

- CERT Wharton Entrepreneurial Planning and Innovation Competition (Cert Wharton EPIC) Finals
- Kauffmann Foundation's Global Entrepreneurship Congress
- Arabic Knowledge @Wharton launch

HCT to explore business frontiers

The third HCT Global Entrepreneurship 2010 Conference will be held in Dubai from 9 – 11 March 2010. This conference will explore the many aspects of entrepreneurship through seminars, workshops and plenary addresses focusing on themes such as government policy and regulation, the role of industry and venture capital, the impact and influence of technology, and the critical role of academia.

The conference's objectives include creating awareness of the impact of entrepreneurship on national development, and connecting entrepreneurs with potential customers, funding sources, and locating resources for the success of their ventures.

The GEC also aims to help regional economies and countries develop entrepreneurial frameworks for economic development and global competitiveness, driven primarily by private enterprises. It also seeks to influence national and regional policy towards fostering entrepreneurship in the private sector.

"The Higher Colleges of Technology are committed to the development of entrepreneurial

skills such as risk analysis, innovation, planning and determination," Dr. Tayeb Kamali, Vice Chancellor of the HCT said.

"Studying and promoting entrepreneurship at conferences like this is invaluable for the growth of youth, the nation and the region."

The Kauffman Foundation's Global Entrepreneurship Congress will take place in conjunction with this Global Entrepreneurship 2010 Conference. The congress will bring together Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) hosts from 87 countries to share ideas from the 2009 Week and begin preparations for GEW 2010.

The conference will also host the inaugural CERTIWharton Entrepreneurial Planning and Innovation Competition (EPIC) finals, including the competitors' formal presentations before a panel of distinguished judges.

For further information, please visit e2010.hct.ac.ae

Competition for future entrepreneurs



CERT/Wharton Entrepreneurial Planning & Innovation Competition

For the first time in the Middle East, CERT, in collaboration with the Wharton School, is holding the CERT/Wharton Entrepreneurial Planning and Innovation Competition (EPIC).

The competition is not just about ideas, but it is a comprehensive, three-month platform to help budding entrepreneurs and their teams launch their new business ideas. Teams participating in EPIC will compete for US\$50,000 in cash prizes and access to entrepreneurial resources or capital. The first prize is worth US\$20,000.

"Entrepreneurs are the lifeblood of any economy and to develop and encourage these skills is an important role of educational institutions. We are pleased to collaborate with Wharton, with over 125 years of business education experience and renowned expertise in entrepreneurship," stated Dr Tayeb Kamali, Vice Chancellor of the HCT.

Team members must be either a current degree-candidate of a UAE based higher

education institution or a certified alumni of the Higher Colleges of Technology. Each team will designate a team leader, who must be a degree-candidate student at a higher educational institution in the United Arab Emirates.

Upon registration, teams will submit an executive summary of their business plan. These plans are evaluated and the top eight will move through to the finals. The finals consist of the preparation and submission of a full business plan, and a formal presentation to a panel of distinguished judges.

The final business plan is judged on how well each team demonstrates that it can achieve its goals and that its goals are worth pursuing. Judges will be evaluating the quality of the idea, communication skills, the scale of the potential opportunity and the team's overall knowledge of the entrepreneurial management process.

Registrations for EPIC have closed and the teams' individual submissions have been thoroughly read so that the Top 25 entrants will have been selected by January 5, 2010.

A panel of judges will be present at the Finals to hear each team's pitch, which will be held during the Third HCT Global Entrepreneurship 2010 Conference March 9-11, 2010.

EPIC Key Dates

28 January 2010 - Top 8 submissions selected as the "Great Eight" finalists by Wharton.

18 February 2010 - Deadline for submission of full business plan by "Great Eight" finalists.

9 & 11 Mar 2010 - "Great Eight" finalists will present to judges, during HCT's Global Entrepreneurship 2010 Conference in Dubai. Winners then selected.

For more information visit the website: epic.hct.ac.ae

CERT and Wharton collaborate on new Entrepreneurship Center

The University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School opened the Wharton Entrepreneurship and Family Business Research Centre @ CERT with the Centre of Excellence for Applied Research and Training (CERT), a pre-eminent private education provider in the Middle East. The Wharton faculty will pursue research on entrepreneurship, innovation, family business practices and challenges of the region at this newly established Centre. In addition, the Centre will publish an Arabic language version of Knowledge@Wharton, Wharton's award-winning online business journal.

HE Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and Chancellor of Higher Colleges of Technology said in his address during the opening of the Centre, "this new and innovative research center, the first of its kind in our region, will forge broad-based collaborative programs among private business, colleges and universities, and federal and local governments, with the goal of strengthening entrepreneurship and family businesses in the UAE and the region."

Wharton Dean Thomas S. Robertson said: "This is a momentous occasion both for CERT and the Wharton School as we embark on a path toward the creation of new knowledge on topics relevant to the Middle East region and the entire world."

"With the support of our faculty and alumni we are poised to learn much about entrepreneurship, innovation and family business in the Gulf and the broader

Middle East region."

Dr. Tayeb Kamali, Vice Chancellor of the HCT, added: "Both the Wharton School and the HCT are equally committed to knowledge acquisition as well as effective dissemination of knowledge. The Knowledge@Wharton Arabic edition would be an effective and unique tool to serve this purpose."

"The opening of this Centre illustrates the strong commitment to entrepreneurship and family business research Wharton and CERT are making," said Professor Raphael (Raffi) Amit, the Robert B. Goergen Professor of Entrepreneurship and lead faculty member for Wharton's engagement with CERT. "The insights we gain will have a broad and lasting impact on business leaders in the Mideast and worldwide."

Engaging faculty across many disciplines, the centre will pursue a broad array of research projects on innovation, entrepreneurship, and family business issues

including managing succession, financing growth, valuation, governance and family office benchmarking among others.

The knowledge created through this partnership will be disseminated through the Arabic edition of Knowledge@Wharton, which will be published every fortnight. This journal will connect the Middle East with the broader Knowledge@Wharton community of over 1.3 million business professionals worldwide.



University of Pennsylvania trustee and Wharton Board of Overseers, William Egan at the launch with CERT.

Sheikh Mohammed scholars excel with extra work



Fatma Al Bannai (HCT Dubai), Tayba Al Kamali (HCT Sharjah) and Munira Al Hammadi (HCT Abu Dhabi). Khalfan Al Matrooshi (HCT Sharjah) and Saad Al Hammadi (HCT Abu Dhabi).

I am an IT student doing my final Bachelor degree in Information Management at Dubai Women's College and working full time in Dubai Customs; I am also one of the scholars who were selected to participate in the NYU Scholarship program.

The courses that I am attending in NYU are: American foreign policy, leadership, critical thinking and analytical writing, and public speaking. I believe that these courses are key elements in shaping me as a successful person in both my career and personal life.

People often ask me what this course is about and what I will be getting out of it; meaning, do I get a degree? I reply

Mutqen. HCT Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed scholars tell their stories.

Welcome to the first of a series of articles, entitled Mutqen (hard worker), on HCT students undertaking the Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Scholars program. In this edition Fatma Abdulla Al Bannai and Khalfan Hassan Al Matrooshi speak about the benefits, motivations and challenges of the program. The program is an initiative of New York University Abu Dhabi and offers scholars a leadership development program and English language enrichment courses. Scholars are also invited to the USA as part of their studies.

that there is no degree to be taken out of this experience, that this is just a program for people who want to learn more and develop themselves because they want to and not just to have an extra certificate to hang on their wall. This program is designed for the best of the best students in the UAE and I decided that I would become one of these students.

Not many people are interested in foreign politics but having the foreign policy class in this course is one of the reasons why I applied in the first place. Understanding foreign policy, especially American foreign policy, is extremely important as it does impact all of us no matter how small and unnoticeable we are.

Initially I thought the course will only be about theory and facts, but these only take up a small part of the class. We also do other interesting things, such as debates and discussions.

Attending these courses with many different bright people from different universities and colleges around the UAE has not only enhanced my confidence and my need to learn, but it pushes me to do my best at everything I do. I was someone who was fairly interested in politics but had no knowledge of it. . . which changed after the foreign policy course. I was given instructions on how to use all sides of my brain, to analyze situations even further before being able to write a decent argument, and be able to defend it publically; which is what the critical thinking, analytical writing and public speaking courses are all about.

This program also offers various other activities, such as

guest speakers who speak to us about leadership. Our most recent guest was Mr. Zaki Nusseibeh, who worked for the late Sheikh Zayed and gave us an unforgettable insider talk about our founding father and what were the traits that made him the leader he was. This was one of the most influential talks that I have ever listened to.

A trip to the United States is also a part of the program. This is something that I am excited about because it will be my first trip abroad. The trip will entail visiting sites such as the Supreme Court and the NYU Campus while also meeting different people.

Of course this isn't a course where you can escape just to have fun; as both a full time employee and a student; applying for this course meant that I was taking a huge risk. It would be like I was working and studying two courses at the same time. Juggling all three commitments is challenging; however I would say to anyone who is thinking of applying for this program next year, that if they are willing to give up a lot of free time and are able to manage their time very well, after attending several NYU courses already, I can see that it is worth all that extra work. The course is indeed as demanding as the course I am taking at DWC, so you do need to push yourself to work hard, spend a couple of sleepless nights finishing off whatever that needs to be done while also have the energy to get up for work the next day.

I do recommend this program for anyone who feels that they are up for the task and have a keen interest in expanding their learning experience.

Fatma Abdulla Al Bannai

Ibda'a Awards: Talented HCT student wins Brash internship



Fatima Obaid receiving her award during a gala ceremony on November 19.

Fatima Obaid, an Applied Media Studies student from Sharjah Women's College, received the esteemed Ibda'a Student Award during a gala ceremony on November 19.

She was joined by 13 other students from India, Iran, Philippines, and the UAE in receiving the award. Three of the winners came from the UAE.

For her creative submission Fatima was awarded an internship at Brash FZ LLC.

The Ibda'a Student Award competition received 2,400 submissions from students hailing from 20 countries including the UAE, India, China, Singapore, Libya, Lithuania, Malaysia, Norway, Iran, Pakistan, Philippines and Thailand. 170 submissions came from the UAE.

Launched in 2001, under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, Ibda'a Student Awards were initiated by Dubai Media City in association with the International Advertising Association.

The awards celebrate creative excellence in media surrounded by an environment conducive to freedom of thought and expression. Serving as a springboard the awards catapult innovative undergraduate students into the international media arena, where they have the opportunity to showcase and realize their dreams and aspirations.

Over the years, Ibda'a Student Awards has attracted an increasing number of entries from the Gulf region and from around the globe, which is testimony to their ongoing success, recognition, broad appeal and growth.



Khalfan Al Matrooshi (HCT Sharjah) and Saad Al Hammadi (HCT Abu Dhabi).

I am currently in my third year at Sharjah Men's College studying Business Management-Financial Services HD program. I am also the HCT Student Council President and SMC Student Council President. Along with these positions I am just a humble, loyal, Emirati man who is working hard, putting all his efforts, power, and time into developing my skills and knowledge to develop this wonderful country.

I was honored to be an ambassador for my country in many different programs in 2009. Firstly, I participated in the International Connecting Cultures program in Oman where I met young Arabic and European gentlemen. I discovered other cultures and lifestyles among the adventure and team building programs in Oman's mountains (Jabal Akhdar and

Jabal Shamas). Secondly, I was the first Emirati to attend the Arab Youth Project in Egypt, with 70 other youths from 21 Arab countries. Then I attended the Gulf Youth Forum in Bahrain, organized by UNFPA where the theme was national identity. Finally, I participated in the St. Gallen Exchange Program, which hosted 20 Swiss students from St. Gallen University.

I was motivated to apply to the Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed scholarship program by its uniqueness and the high standards of education and courses from NYU.

There were lots of challenges in participating in the program, starting with applying for the program – that required lots of documentation, interviews etc. Next came the pressure and challenging nature of the reading materials and assignments besides college projects and exams.

The main thing that energized me about this program is the high level of education it provides for my future. New York University has a strong reputation. Personally, the political courses motivated me to apply as I wanted the chance to know moral theory at an academic level.

Currently this program has a positive impact in my daily life, in the way that I develop my thoughts and the way I demonstrate things. It has also developed my knowledge in political areas and let me explore great leaders' experiences. All of this will help my future and shape my skills to be an outstanding leader with an open mind.

All the classes are interesting and exciting. The most recent class in the leadership course was extremely interesting to me because the speaker was the translator of H.H Sheikh Zayed. He talked about the leadership of Sheikh Zayed and his influence. He was also a witness to the UAE union and how it developed.

Khalfan Hassan Al Matrooshi

Graduate fulfills her dream - nursing in the UAE



Nursing graduate Huda Mohamed Al Ameri attends to a patient.

Huda Mohamed Al Ameri has much resting on her shoulders. Huda is one of the HCT's first Bachelor of Science in Nursing graduates and is enthusiastically taking on the challenges of her new career.

She believes it is absolutely critical that Emiratis work in the healthcare system, and in nursing in particular. Currently less than 5% of nurses in the UAE are Emirati.

At times, she has surprised her clients by being a nurse who is an Emirati. "They ask 'Are you sure you are Emirati?'" she laughs. She is working to change the perception that Emiratis do not work in health careers, and in the profession of nursing in particular.

Huda believes she has an important role to play, as she understands both nursing and Emirati culture and so can provide advice and work at finding a way to advance nursing as a profession in the UAE.

"In health care, communication is of prime importance. As Emiratis we already understand the culture of many of our patients and so, together with our nursing education, we can bring additional expertise to the healthcare team," Huda said.

Pamela Cawley, Dean of Health Sciences at HCT further explains, "Emirati nurses like Huda are an added professional resource in collaborating with expatriate nurses to foster cultural competency, explaining Emirati traditions and culture to improve patient understanding and outcomes."

She has been interested in nursing since she was in Grade 8 at school when she saw how important nurses were in the care of her ill father.

Her family were very supportive of her aspirations. Initially they had some reservations because they wanted her to gain a bachelor degree to ensure she reached her full potential.

When she enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at HCT, they were fully behind her. "If you love your career you will be creative and successful," Huda asserts.

Initially Huda was interested in employment in a hospital based on her bachelor's degree education. She was offered and accepted a placement in primary care and is appreciating the opportunity to practice at an advanced level and use her education to its maximum benefit.

Huda graduated in June and is now working in a primary care clinic as a nurse; some of her roles include advanced assessment both physical and psychosocial, health promotion and prevention, nursing procedures, and health education teaching.

She particularly enjoys working with families and clients in primary care because you "never know what comes through the door, and each day, sometimes each hour is a new and interesting challenge."

She is interested in doing her part in ensuring that the clinics serve the community to the best advantage in providing health care and enthusiastically applying the best practices that she learned at college.

She is also keen to be part of the trend towards greater respect of nursing in the UAE. She explains that nurses are part of a professional team, and that she expresses her professional judgment and opinion.

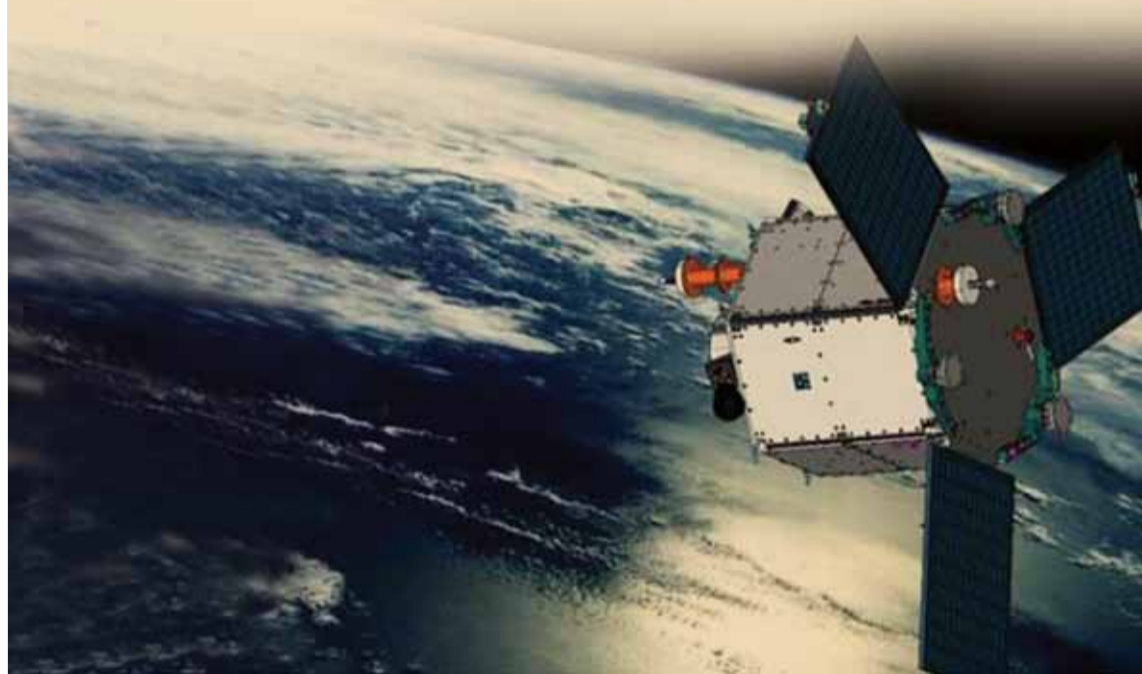
Huda is very definitive in her plans for her career, looking towards completing a Masters degree and a PhD. She is eager to make a difference and make the nation's healthcare more secure.

Alumni help launch Dubai satellite

Six of the 17 UAE nationals who led the successful launch of Dubai Satellite 1 are alumni of Dubai Men's College. The launch of the satellite fired from Kazakhstan on Wednesday 29th July 2009 was a resounding success. The first clear image was received within one week compared to the usual one-month wait – news that was more discussed in the scientific media than in the general press!

Most of the alumni involved graduated in electronics; one has a mechatronics degree and the project leader Salem Humaid Al Marri has a Higher Diploma of Computer Network Technology, and a Bachelor of Business Information Technology.

Salem and some of his compatriots trained in South Korea for the past three years and worked closely with both Korean and Russian scientists. Selected delegates are now back in Korea for further training and work on new projects.



DubaiSat-1 model. Photo courtesy: Emirates Institution for Advanced Science and Technology (EIAST).

Boeing Leadership Center to provide opportunities for HCT alumni

The Boeing Company and the Higher Colleges of Technology (HCT) plan to build closer ties through academic collaboration and leadership training. During the Festival of Thinkers in November, an agreement was signed by Rick Stephens, Boeing Senior Vice President of Human Resources and Administration, and Dr. Tayeb Kamali, Vice Chancellor of the HCT.

"We are honored to continue the partnership started in 2004 with the Higher Colleges of Technology to share our expertise in leadership development and business," said Rick Stephens. "The opportunities under this agreement will help give future leaders the opportunities and skills they need to be successful."

Under the expanded partnership, each year selected high-potential HCT alumni will attend leadership programs at the Boeing Leadership Center in St. Louis, Missouri, in the United States. The leadership center allows Boeing leaders from across the world, from first-line managers to senior executives, to develop and exchange techniques and best practices. The center uses training concepts such as intensified action learning, simulations and leaders teaching leaders.

"HCT is delighted to have an association with Boeing to provide our alumni this unique leadership program," stated Dr. Tayeb Kamali. "We thank Boeing, which shares our commitment to the development of UAE nationals in looking for

innovative ways to expose our students and alumni to international standards and best practices in this exciting collaboration."

Additionally, selected HCT students will be invited to participate in a Boeing-developed, UAE-based mentorship program. HCT and Boeing also will annually recognize an outstanding alumnus with a Boeing Award for Excellence in Aviation. In addition, expert speakers from Boeing will periodically visit the HCT to deliver specialized lectures.

"We are proud to share our knowledge with future Emirati leaders through this partnership with HCT," said Paul Kinscherff, President of Boeing Middle East. "By collaborating with HCT, we help develop local business leadership capabilities, and we help the UAE reach its growth, people development and diversification goals."



I-Read, you read

Two Higher Colleges of Technology (HCT) teachers have all but revolutionized student English learning habits in 10 HCT campuses across the Emirates, with a new computer program.

Abu Dhabi Men's College's Lead Faculty Academic Coordinator Josephine Clark-Kennedy and Independent Learning Coordinator Peter Waters recently won the HCT's Nikai award for innovation in teaching for their project I-Read. The pair developed their software based on five themes, with hours of independent, directed, online study to help students increase their English reading, writing, listening, vocabulary and spelling skills.

I-Read addresses the development of core graduate skills such as technology, communication and information literacy alongside the honing of critical and creative thinking. It incorporates visual and auditory exercises based on relevant topics of interest such as sports for charity, cars and status, and health and happiness.

Inspired by a survey conducted by the Next Page Foundation, which reported that the average person in the Arab world reads just six minutes a year, Clark-Kennedy and Waters spent three years developing a way to "improve students' reading skills and make them really want to read," according to Ms Clark-Kennedy.

Mr. Waters said "exciting" students with technology "makes them interested in the topics" contributed to the software's success. I-Read has now been incorporated in the curriculum at HCT men's and women's campuses across the nation.

Ms Clark-Kennedy said students needed a way to get interested to learn to love reading, "and know that there is so much to learn about the world and about themselves, if they just read."

Human Relations Institute Educational consultant and psycholinguistics expert Grace Chami-Sather believes "the rise of technology and internet lingo has generated terrible reading, writing and literacy development in our communities".

After observing students at many universities across the UAE Ms Chami-Sather said: "Our youth cannot speak or write properly." She has seen students writing words backwards, unable to link alphabetical letters or string together "three or four coherent sentences in English or Arabic".

Ms Chami-Sather accounts the "illiteracy" to a lack of practice reading and writing as opposed to the "days when we used to really write".

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Abu Dhabi Men's College's Lead Faculty Academic Coordinator Josephine Clark-Kennedy and Independent Learning Coordinator Peter Waters explain I-Read to students.

News from HCT Foundation

HCT Foundation Corporate Chair Appointments

The HCT recently appointed three Professors to corporate established named Chairs. These individuals are ambassadors for the HCT and we are pleased to have them represent the institution and our HCT Foundation 100 Club members.

Five New Members Join the HCT Foundation 100 Club

This academic year has welcomed five new members to the HCT Foundation's 100 Club. These companies have made significant contributions in order to establish the following named Chairs:

Dean of Health Science



Dean of Engineering



Dean in Entrepreneurship



Professor of Business



Professor of Civil Engineering



By contributing to named chairs, organizations can support the betterment of student learning through excellence in teaching, impacting graduates outcomes, benefiting HCT students, industry and the wider business community.

HSBC - Professor of Financial Services
Graham C. Moores

Union National Bank - Professor of Financial Services
Rayomand Darukhanawalla

Huawei - Professor in Information and Communication Technology
Pregalathan (Barry) Naidoo

Arabtec - Professor of Civil Engineering
Thomas Riordan

HCT welcomes international leaders



John H. Sununu, former White House Chief of Staff, with Dr. Tayeb Kamali, Vice Chancellor of the Higher Colleges of Technology.



HE Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research and Chancellor of the Higher Colleges of Technology, with Hans Winzenried, President and CEO of Swiss Securitas Group, at the opening of the Swiss Securitas Security Application Centre.



Leo Apotheker, CEO of SAP AG., talks with students at Abu Dhabi Men's College.



John R. Bolton, former US Ambassador to the United Nations accepts a painting at the Higher Colleges of Technology.

Campus News and Notes

HCT celebrates National Day across the Nation

National Day was celebrated at Higher Colleges of Technology campuses across the nation, with poetry readings, bazaars, music and traditional dances.

Among the many celebrations, a student delegation from Sharjah Women's College were honored to meet H.H. Sheikh Abdullah Bin Salem Al Qassimi, the Deputy ruler of Sharjah. They also were honored to meet with H.H. Sheikha Jawaher and congratulate her regarding Sharjah being chosen as the Capital for Islamic culture in 2014 and the UAE's 38th national day.

Dubai women's college celebrated the 38th UAE National Day in the presence of DWC Alumnae, Sheikha Azza Bint Sultan Al Qasimi, daughter of His Highness Dr. Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi, Supreme Council member and ruler of Sharjah. On this occasion, Sheikha Azza presented two copies of her father's new Autobiography for the DWC Library.



Fujairah HCT celebrates ten years



H.E. Sheikh Nahayan Mabarak Al Nahayan with Fujairah Director Mark Johnson at the celebrations

HCT Fujairah recently celebrated the tenth anniversary of Fujairah Women's College and the fifth anniversary of Fujairah Men's College. H.E. Sheikh Nahayan Mabarak Al Nahayan, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, and Chancellor of the Higher Colleges of

Technology delivered the address at the commemoration ceremony. Dr. Tayeb Kamali the Vice Chancellor, distinguished guests from different sectors in Fujairah community and the HCT-Fujairah staff and students also attended.

H.E. Sheikh Nahayan toured Fujairah Women's College including the library, the state-of-the-art resource centre, classrooms, and co-curricular activities halls, and viewed a selection of activities prepared by the college students. He went on to tour Fujairah Men's College where he attended a demonstration by a group of engineering students. He also visited the Engineering Department laboratories and workshops and reviewed the programs the colleges offer.

During the celebration, HCT-Fujairah honored the staff who spent ten years in the college and the college national graduates who work for the Higher Colleges of Technology-Fujairah.

Vale Gabrielle Lancaster

Recently, Higher Colleges of Technology lost a valued and respected colleague. Gabrielle Lancaster, who worked in the library at Ras Al Khaimah Women's College, passed away peacefully at her home.

Gabrielle was a vibrant personality who worked tirelessly to make the library both a hub for information retrieval and a fun and inviting place for students to read, work on assignments and attend classes.

Gabrielle was employed at HCT for more than three years, where she had contact with every student, directly or indirectly, in the college. Her loss is therefore deeply felt across the campus.

Gabrielle was keen on Arabic poetry and encouraged poetry groups to meet regularly to exchange thoughts and ideas.

She was renowned for her amazing knowledge of movies. This was especially useful during the acquisition of titles for the library collection, ensuring that content was interesting, topical and suitable.

The library team, now led by Sarah Eccleston, is eager to continue Gabrielle's excellent work, safe in the knowledge that she set down a clear and concise path to follow.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Gabrielle, our late friend and colleague, for the valuable contributions she made to the library, and for enriching the lives of all students and staff at Ras Al Khaimah Women's College. She will be greatly missed.

This was written by her friend and colleague Wendy Levrier.

ADMC Student first



Khalid Al Maskari at the Middle East International Film Festival.

Khalid Al Maskari is fulfilling his dreams of becoming a photographer, transforming his boyhood hobby into a serious art form.

The enthusiastic first-year media student at Abu Dhabi Men's College took his passion for photography to another level when he became the first Emirati to be appointed as official photographer for the prestigious Middle East International Film Festival (MEIFF) in October.

After starting as a volunteer at the MEIFF, where he was keen to "participate at any level", Khalid soon impressed organizers with his commitment and work ethic.

"It was a great experience although initially I was a little

worried that I would be out of my element because it's such a high profile event with many celebrities and VIPs," he said.

"It all turned out very well in the end as I found myself really enjoying the atmosphere and the lighting was excellent at the location. It's all about capturing the right smile or the perfect look from the celebrity and making sure that the camera is focused and the lighting is right, which can be a real challenge."

Snapping international celebrities is a long way from being a 10-year-old hobby photographer to a man, who one day wants to be involved in media production and film making.

"It was only about three years ago, due to the encouragement of my family and friends, that I decided to pursue it as a profession," Khalid said.

"I've always loved photography and wanted to become a professional, so the feedback from the people around me and those who saw my pictures really helped to push me forward."

For now Khalid is using his burgeoning skills to the best of his ability, "using photography to tell a story and have depth".

"I need the picture to speak and have meaning, rather than it be a still life."

Sharjah students shine at Mock UN



Ms. Aisha Farooq and Ms. Aisha Sultan being interviewed by the Kuwait National Television Channel, Al Watan, about their experience.

Eight Sharjah Women's College students got a real feel for international diplomacy when they participated in the Model United Nations Conference at the American University of Kuwait on November 19.

They each represented a different country and debated students from other countries and universities on crucial issues such as nuclear proliferation, human trafficking, and the UN Millennium Development Goals.

Seven of the SWC students participated in the General Assembly and one joined the Gulf Cooperation Council, where they debated many topical and current Middle East issues. Ms. Aisha Farooq and Ms. Aisha Sultan received high commendations by the Conference Chairs for their contributions. The pair was interviewed by the Kuwait National Television Channel, Al Watan.

The students also attended speeches by ambassadors and international diplomats. They were so inspired the eight students are now considering setting up their own Model UN club at the HCT.



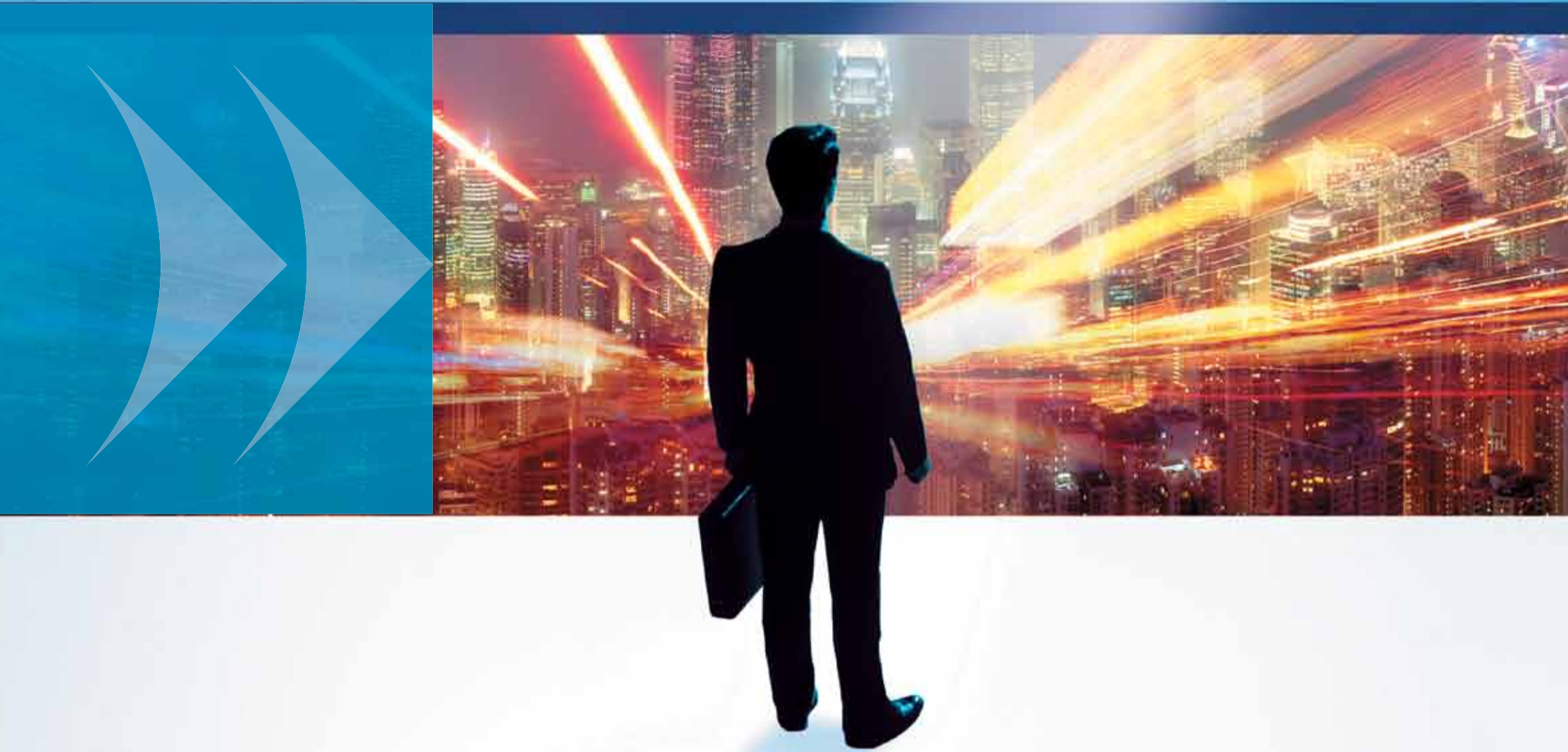
Gabrielle Lancaster



HCT GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP 2010

C O N F E R E N C E

March 9-11, 2010 - Dubai, United Arab Emirates



*Creating a **Dynamic, Vibrant
& Competitive Economy***

Organized by the Higher Colleges of Technology, this conference will explore many aspects of entrepreneurship through seminars, workshops and plenary addresses.

Held in conjunction with the Kauffman Foundation's Global Entrepreneurship Congress



Entrepreneurial
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Competition