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UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI

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# CHANCELLOR'S Newsletter

CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI



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## Message from The Chancellors' Office



As our family grows, so does our excitement for things to come and what the future holds for our wonderful University. From reading the articles in this publication, it becomes clear that our University is making itself known – both in Dubai and around the world. From International Conferences, to our participation in local exhibitions, we are putting our best face forward, and being recognized for it. This opens doors for partnerships, and provides opportunities for our students and graduates in the future.

We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new Students, Staff and Faculty. We have had a great start to the Academic Year, and we are proud of everything they contribute to the prestige of this University each and every day.

**Mr. Buti Saeed Al Ghandi**  
Chancellor

**Prof. Karim Chelli**  
President & Vice - Chancellor



## Dubai Education Grows with the Addition of a Primary & Secondary School

**PARENTS OF CHILDREN AT BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR LEARNING DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL, WHOSE TERM WAS INTERRUPTED UNEXPECTEDLY, HAVE BEEN OFFERED A LIFELINE AFTER DUBAI EDUCATION LLC AGREED TO ASSUME CONTROL OF ITS OPERATIONS AND RE-OPEN THE SCHOOL.**

Dubai Education LLC, the parent company of the Canadian University of Dubai, said the British Institute for Learning Development, located in Jumeirah, would be provided with all necessary resources and support to allow pupils to return to their normal routine. Parents were informed of the good news immediately after an agreement was reached between Dubai Education LLC and the British Institute for Learning Development's registered owner.

In a letter to parents, Mr Buti Saeed Al Ghandi, Chairman of Dubai Education LLC and Chancellor of the Canadian University of Dubai, said: "Dubai Education and the Canadian University of Dubai are committed to fulfilling the needs of your children, and equally committed to assuring the future of their education, including the conversion of the institute into a fully-fledged school"...

"The school will be open and operating as normal. We will ensure your children return to their normal routine, their friends and their education without any disturbance."

Pr. Karim Chelli, CEO of Dubai Education, emphasized the new school would have the same standards for quality and innovation found elsewhere in the Dubai Education family, "The Inclusion model for special needs children has been highly successful in Canada and Scandinavian Countries, as an example of good practices in the world. There is a serious demand for this type of education in Dubai and the Region, and our involvement with this school will allow us to act as pioneers, ensuring the needs of these children are met."

To ensure a smooth transition and reliable leadership from the start of the new school year, Dubai Education announced Mr Kamal Fodil, Vice President of Student Affairs at the Canadian University of Dubai, as the School Principal, effective immediately. Mr Fodil has 22 years of experience in teaching and management at elementary and secondary school education in Canada. Mr Fodil holds a Masters of Education from the University of Ottawa, specialising in students with special needs and with an additional specialisation in reading intervention.





## Blackberry (Research in Motion) Chair Barbara Stymiest Receives Honorary Doctorate in Dubai

**THE CANADIAN BUSINESSWOMAN JOINED HH SHEIKH NAHYAN BIN MUBARAK AL NAHYAN AT THE CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI'S MILESTONE GRADUATION CEREMONY IN DUBAI**

Barbara Stymiest, chair of Research in Motion's board – the company behind Blackberry, received an honorary doctorate in letters from the Canadian University of Dubai.

The Canadian, who was named one of Fortune magazine's most powerful business women three times, has visited the UAE many times in the past as her brother and his family used to live in the Emirate.

She arrived in the UAE to accept the degree as part of graduation proceedings held at Dubai World Trade Centre under the patronage of HH Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, UAE Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

Addressing the hundreds of students gathered for the Canadian University of Dubai's largest graduation thus far, Ms Stymiest said she was "humbled" by the honorary doctorate and, in her acceptance speech, went on to draw

parallels between Dubai and Canada.

"Superficially at least there would seem to be no two more different places than Canada and the United Arab Emirates, as different as cold and hot. But we may have more in common than we think," she said, before listing examples, such as the fact that both are young, urban countries.

In a nod to her links with Blackberry, Ms Stymiest urged today's graduates to balance mobile communication technology with real human interaction.

"I believe that no matter how wired we are, or how many emails, bbms or texts we send to each other, there is still a basic need for in-person human interaction," she said. "I think all forms of connectedness have a place in the workforce and in society. And I think it's this group here today who will figure out the right balance.



“I believe that no matter how wired we are, or how many emails, bbms or texts we send to each other, there is still a basic need for in-person human interaction”

"You know what it feels like to be part of the buzz in this room, sitting amongst friends, and you also know how to discreetly tap out a message on your device to a friend who may not be a part of today's festivities. Both modes of interaction are equally important."

Some 400 students graduated from the six-year-old university, marking a key milestone for the university as for the first time graduates of the schools of architecture and interior design and environment and health sciences alongside those who completed their studies in business and engineering.

Each student was greeted on stage by HH Sheikh Nahyan, who congratulated them for their achievements.

"Today's graduation is a proud and emotional moment for all at the university – from the teaching staff through to the students, their relatives and friends," said Mr Buti Saeed Al Ghandi, Chancellor of the Canadian University of Dubai.

"As a university, our goal is to inspire our students to identify their goals and provide them with the necessary tools to achieve them. Today is a wonderful example of students who have transformed their lives and are now well equipped to begin the next leg of their life journey."

Some 3,000 people gathered to help their friends and

relatives celebrate the culmination of their hard work. They joined a list of VIPs including members of the university's board of trustees who flew in from Canada for the occasion, such as Aldea Landry, formerly a cabinet minister and deputy premier of New Brunswick, Canada, in the government of Premier Frank McKenna, and Terry Bird, the vice president of corporate development and emerging markets at McCain Foods Ltd.

Preparations for the graduation began weeks in advance, with several graduation fairs held over weekends where excited students were fitted for their gowns and had their photographs taken.

At the university's inaugural graduation ceremony in 2011, some 200 students graduated from the schools of engineering, applied sciences and technology, business administration and MBA.

"It is an honour to celebrate today with these brilliant and bright people as they take the next step on their journey," said Professor Karim Chelli, Vice Chancellor and President of the Canadian University of Dubai.

"Through the Canadian approach to education, we hope that these students will not only leave with a degree today but also skills that will be transferrable to both the workplace and the community – no matter where they choose to live. "



# The Sky's the Limit as University Demand Rises



## HUGE GROWTH IN NUMBERS AS PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD OPT TO STUDY HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMMES IN THE UAE

The Canadian University of Dubai announced that its new undergraduate student enrolment figures have increased over last year's. The dramatic increase means around 2,500 students are enrolled at the institution and follows a trend of people from around the world flocking to Dubai for higher education.

Last September, 275 new students joined the university while this year saw 568 new Undergraduate Students register to study, an increase so large the University is expanding upwards to accommodate future intakes – a third floor is being added to Hall C to accommodate state of the art classrooms and offices. The new addition is expected to be

completed in time for the January 2013 intake; staff, faculty and students are excited to utilize the new space.

The Canadian University of Dubai, which launched with 100 students in 2006, attributes its success to three major factors: the quality of its internationally-recognised and accredited Canadian courses; the safety of the UAE as a place to live; and the harmonious mixture of so many different cultures.

Spencer Semple, the Canadian University of Dubai's Marketing and Communication Manager, said: "Demographically speaking, Dubai and Canada are very

similar. All cultures are encompassed here as they are in Canada and much like Dubai, you can still feel at home but are able to dip into other cultural perspectives. There is less of a culture shock which allows students to feel at ease."

Of this year's undergraduate intake at the Canadian University of Dubai, one-quarter are international students. Of the remaining three-quarters, 75 per cent are ex-pats and 25 per cent are Emirati. More than 86 different nationalities are on the University's books.

Mr. Semple continues: "Unlike some universities in the West that promote themselves as multicultural, we don't have one or two students from each country, we have whole communities. There is not a cultural minority or majority here, and that's not just a theme at our university but a theme in Dubai itself."

Alongside the similarity in cultural lifestyles, the Canadian University of Dubai is seen as a major stepping-stone to a life and education in Canada. The University is accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, and the programs are built on Canadian curriculum, meaning that credits received at the University can be easily transferred to North America and Canada, something few universities in Dubai can attest to. Many satellite schools offer degrees which can only be recognised in their particular Emirate and not around the world.

The surge in applicants enrolling at the Canadian University of Dubai is also due to the fact that the city is one of the safest places in the world.

Mr Semple added: "Safety has also made a major impact on making a decision of where to go to school. Many of our students come from politically unstable countries and Dubai offers them a safe haven where they can grow and learn. Parents can also feel at ease knowing their children are getting a first-class education, out of harm's way."

On top of the recent growth of new students, the Canadian University of Dubai's intake is expected to increase further following its second enrolment period, which begins in January 2013.

## Newly Accredited Program:

## Bachelor of Business Administration in International Business

It is with great pleasure that we announce the accreditation of a new Bachelor of Business Administration – International Business. This program will offer exciting international transfer opportunities for students in collaboration with our esteemed partner ESC Troyes. We would like to congratulate the accreditation team on this approval, and thank them for their hard work on behalf of the University.





## Young architects present a vision of Dubai's future



### FUTURE CITIES HOSTS ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS FROM THE CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI

Architecture students from the Canadian University of Dubai are showcasing a vision of Dubai's future alongside international construction heavyweights at the Future Cities exhibition.

The students took part in a project to redesign and modernise parts of old Dubai, while maintaining the heritage of the area.

The work went on display on a holographic wall designed by the University at Future Cities in Dubai World Trade Centre – alongside exhibits from major industry names such as Nakheel and Damac.

"It's such an amazing opportunity to be able to present our work amongst some of the biggest names in construction," said Ibrahim Barake, a 21-year-old architecture student from Lebanon. "It has always been my dream to see one of my creations in the iconic Dubai skyline and just being here could open so many doors for me."

Third and fourth year students from the University's School of Architecture and Interior Design all took up the challenge

with the winning teams then chosen to display their creations at the exhibition.

Ibrahim added: "Architecture in Dubai really pushes the boundaries and many of those innovative construction companies are here today. Hopefully, I will be presenting my designs at one of their stands in the next few years!"

The student's work was presented on a huge stand commissioned by Mr Buti Saeed Al Ghandi, Chancellor of the Canadian University of Dubai.

The stand is made of sustainable materials and features a holographic wall with changing images of the region's most iconic buildings.

"By incorporating green materials, images of old Dubai and the students hard work, the stand a testament to the past, present and future of Dubai's architecture," said Dr Hazim Al Nijaida, Chair of the School of Architecture and Interior Design and one of the stands creators.



## Students Win the Chance of a Dream Education in Dubai

### THREE STUDENTS WIN FREE COURSES AT THE CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI AFTER ATTENDING THE NAJAH CAREER AND EDUCATION EXHIBITION

Three students have won a chance to enter the world of further education for free after winning a coveted prize from the Canadian University of Dubai at the annual Najah Career and Education exhibition.

Students from across the Middle East were invited by the University to interview visitors at the exhibition, while being filmed. The best three interviewees each won a free course of their choosing at the University, as well as cash prizes.

First prize winner Mohamed Baghdadi of Iraq commented: "It has always been my dream to become a psychiatrist and winning this prize has allowed me to get a head start on the exciting journey ahead. I would love to continue my education in the UAE, especially at the Canadian University of Dubai."

The students were asked to interview visitors on a range of topics, including 'Living and Studying in the UAE' and 'The Evolution of Mass Media in the UAE'. Entries were judged by Dr Taleb Kanaan, a lecturer from the Canadian University of Dubai's School of Liberal Arts and a presenter on Al Arabiya TV.

Dr. Taleb commented: "Our competition has offered many students an idea of what is to come and shown them that University is an important stepping stone to the big wide world out there."

The exhibition itself was attended by Universities from across the Middle East, as well as employers from leading international organizations. Najah aims to encourage children to think about further education and teach young people about potential exciting careers.

Dr Taleb added: "By simply attending this exhibition, these children have shown the motivation and willingness to learn and are making the right steps to prosperous life in the UAE."



## Canadian University of Dubai Professor to spearhead \$1million research in wireless healthcare monitoring

**DR ADEL MNAOUE  
WILL WORK ALONGSIDE  
RESEARCHERS FROM THREE  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOLS TO DEVELOP  
PIONEERING EARLY-  
WARNING TECHNOLOGY**



Researchers from the Canadian University of Dubai will be part of an international team developing new techniques in wireless biotechnology for mobile healthcare applications.

Dr Adel Mnaouer, from the Canadian University of Dubai's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences is part of a team – also including researchers from universities in Malaysia, Qatar and Oman – that successfully bid for \$1million to undertake the work.

The grant, funded by the Qatar National Research Foundation, will support research into patient well-being, including how new advances in sensor and 4G wireless technology can be used to remotely monitor patients. The team intends to design and implement lightweight, low-power, Wireless Body Area Networks (WBAN) so that warning signals, triggered by sensors attached to the body, can be transmitted via a wide-area network to alert medical staff of an impending emergency, and provide remote patient monitoring through a web gateway.

The system could be used to monitor such things as blood sugar levels or heart rate.

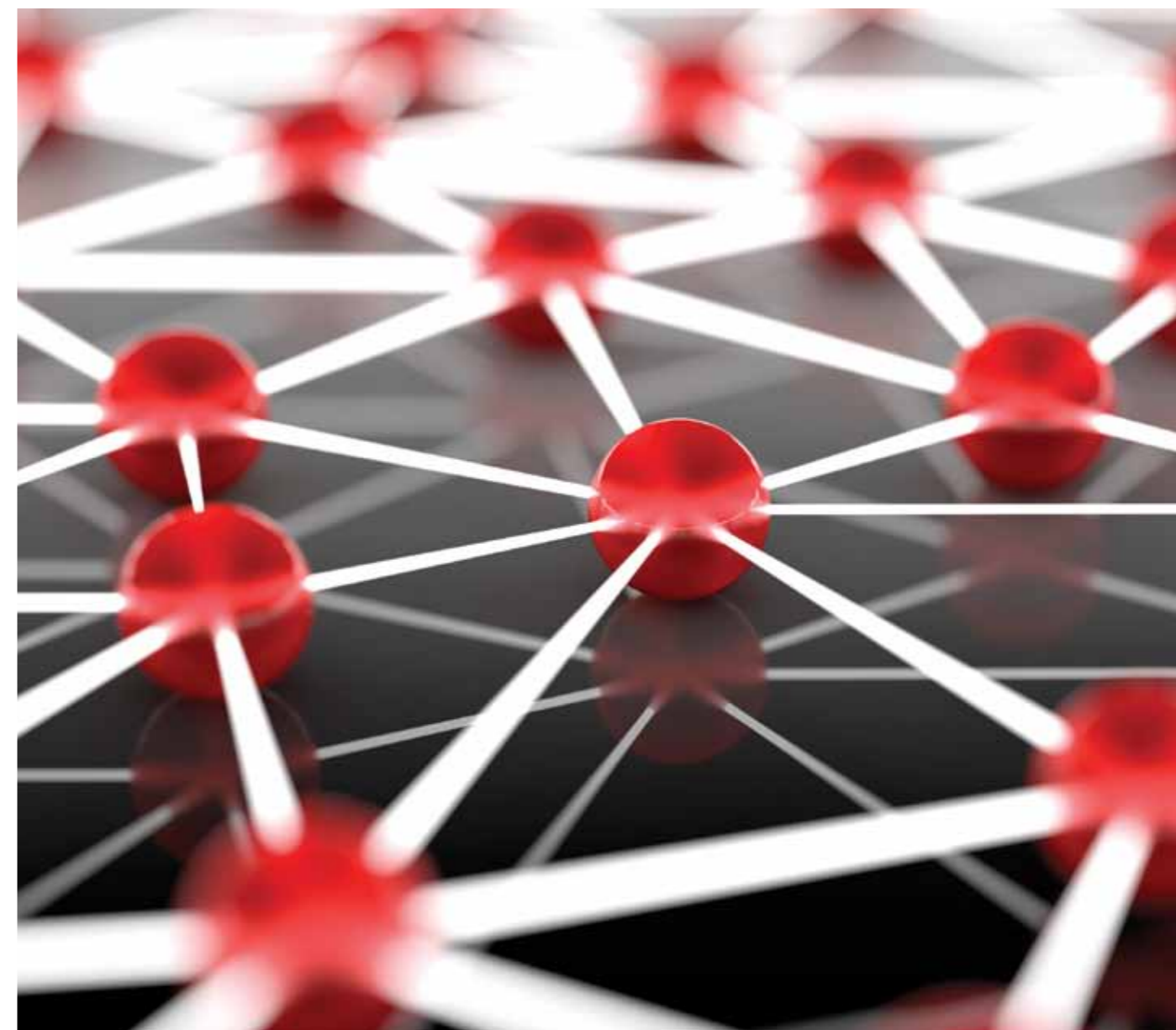
Dr Mnaouer will be looking directly at the software used to create an out-of-the-box prototype – including the protocols used for the different pieces to communicate, and the

context-aware web gateway for real time monitoring by medical staff. One key objective of the research is to make sure the wireless signals emitted are completely safe to the patient – something that is always a concern with WBAN technology.

Dr Adel commented: "With the extensive implementation of 4G and smartphone technology across the region we want to design a safe and productive piece of technology that could potentially save thousands of lives, while also saving medical staff a lot of valuable time."

The research proposal, Wireless Biotelemetry for Ubiquitous Healthcare Application, aligns with the 6th Joint IFIP Conference on Wireless and Mobile Networking being held at the Canadian University of Dubai in April 2013. The event hosts large discussions for researchers, practitioners and students interested in new developments of mobile and wireless technology, with over 400 participants scheduled to attend.

Dr Adel continued: "It is an amazing opportunity for myself, my colleagues and the Canadian University of Dubai to be a part of this major medical research. It's fantastic to see our hard work recognized, especially on an international level. However, this is only the beginning and we have a long but exciting journey ahead of us."



## Canadian University of Dubai to Host First IEEE Conference on Open Access to Education and Learning

**THE IEEE STEERING COMMITTEE ON LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES HAS APPROVED THE LAUNCH OF ITS FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON OPEN ACCESS TO EDUCATION AT THE CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI IN APRIL 2014.**

The IEEE is the world's largest professional association for the advancement of technology, with millions of members in over 160 countries. This is a great honour for the University, as this is the first time an IEEE conference will be held in the United Arab Emirates. This conference will have more than four hundred participants and will attract some of the best keynote speakers in the world.

This conference is in addition to the 6th Joint IFIP Wireless and Mobile Networking Conference being held April 23rd-

25th 2013. IFIP is the International Federation for Information Processing with over 500,000 members in 56 countries.

The Canadian University of Dubai would like to take this opportunity to thank the Office of Research Services for all of their hard work in securing this conference, and wish them the best moving forward.



# Connect with us

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