

CHANCELLOR'S Newsletter

CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI



5 DAYS FOR THE HOMELESS Story on page 2 BET YOU

SPRING 2013

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STUDENTS LIVE 'HOMELESS' ON CAMPUS AT CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI



Seven students took on tough challenge to raise money for people in need with charity drive

Seven Dubai students slept rough for five days to raise money for a homeless charity. The compassionate young men from Canadian University of Dubai lived 'homeless' on campus, relying only on food hand-outs from fellow students.

Kareem Fahmy, Issam Kassabieh,
Tiwa Ompe, Javan Wada, Shabbir
Furniturewala, Andrew Ernest and
Ahmed Qarjouli took part in Five Days
For The Homeless – an initiative which
creates awareness and raises money
for people living rough on the streets.
The money raised by the students will
be donated to the Dubai Foundation for
Women and Children.

The plucky group spent their first night sleeping under the stars on Sunday,

March 10, and continued until the morning of Friday, March 15.

Issam Kassabieh, 21, who is studying finance and accounting believes the experience is something that will be beneficial to him as a person, as well as the charity.

"I like supporting good causes and I think it will change the person that I am," he said. "It's something to talk to people about in the future. If something comes up in conversation about homeless people, you can share it because you've had a solid experience - it's not just based on statistics or something you read on the internet."

"I am looking forward to it and everyone is going to be looking up to us. I

am looking forward to meeting the other guys and sharing this amazing experience. It will be very tough, but that's ok because we know that there is an end to it and that's where our experience is different from actual homeless people who don't have any hope at all other than through charities like this one."

Five Days For The Homeless not only raises money for a good cause, but aims to create empathy for the homeless by giving students an insight into what it would be like to be without a home. On top of sleeping outside with only a sleeping bag, the experience tested the students by placing them in uncomfortable moral situations.

"All the money we raise and all the

We're used to eating well, drinking water whenever we want and we don't really know what it's like to live on the streets and live under bridges eating whatever we can. We live very privileged lives and it's important not to forget that."



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food we eat will be received by asking people for it and that will be a real test for me personally," said 19-year-old Javan Wada who is from Nigeria and is studying architecture. "It's like you are degrading yourself and it will be difficult because of that. But the truth is that nobody wants to beg and it gives us an insight into what it's like to be homeless."

Jordanian Ahmed Qarjouli, thinks it will be difficult for other reasons: "We are very spoiled here, so I think some people will break down" he said.

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The Five Days For The Homeless initiative was launched at the University of Alberta's School of Business in 2005. Co-founder Frank Callele now lives in the UAE and is under no illusions just how difficult a task the students face. He also knows firsthand how much good it will do them and the homeless people they have never met.

"It's amazing how difficult it is by day three or four because your body gets worn down," he said. "If you don't eat or sleep properly you get fatigued physically and mentally.

"They will start to doubt themselves because they will hear 'no' so many times, but then someone may give them some money or some food and say 'good job', and they will realise why they're doing it.

"One of the best things from my point of view is watching the students grow on a personal level. You will be able to see it when they document it because they will be writing a blog and that's a great way to see the progression."

The seven students from Dubai were joined by students from over 24 universities in Canada, with the Canadian University in Dubai being the only school outside Canada to take part.

The final fundraising numbers are still being totalled -- students will present a cheque to Dubai Foundation for Women and Children during a visit to their Dubai shelter.

BOARD MEMBER INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME

Canadian University of Dubai Board of Trustees member Aldéa Landry will be inducted into the New Brunswick Business Hall of Fame later this year.

Landry is president of Landal Inc. and vice-president of Diversis, a consulting firm specializing in immigration and diversitu.

She served as deputy premier in Frank McKenna's government, and was the first woman to chair the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council.

A former director of the Bank of Canada and co-chair of the Downey-Landry Commission on Excellence in Education in New Brunswick, she has served or is serving on the board of numerous organizations and companies at the provincial and national level.



STUDENTS HOLD ANTI-BULLYING EVENT AT CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI

'Stop Bullying' day to raises awareness of the issue during full day event.

Students at the Canadian University of Dubai shared their experiences with bullying at an event to raise awareness of the issue across the UAE.

During the event, Wail Huneidi, who launched the UAE's first English and Arabic anti-bullying website, took to the stage to speak about his personal experiences and to lead a discussion on bullying.

Huneidi said: "As a parent of two young children, it horrifies me that they will grow up in a world where bullying has

become such a normal part of life – noone is exempt from it. It's time for that to change."

The multi-media event saw students share songs, plays, films and speeches around their personal experiences. In the run up to the event, a YouTube video was created in which victims, and even bullies, spoke about their own experiences.

One student stated: "I used to bully a lot of kids and do bad things to a lot of people. For me it wasn't that serious

but the effects of what I did were really serious. I only realized it later on in life that I really hurt people - physically, mentally and emotionally."

The University aimed to draw attention to bullying of all kinds – not just in schools and between school-kids. Iyad Jaouni, took to the stage to discuss political bullying, drawing on experience from unrest in the Middle East: "There's bullying in politics, there's bullying in school, there's bullying at work, there's bullying in many other places. If bullying was to stop, it would make



a huge difference to the world. We wouldn't have so many wars, or arguments, or different opinions that result in such chaos."

The event organizer, Dr Franziska
Apprich, who is Chair of the Bachelor
of Arts in Communication program
the University, has been overwhelmed

by the response they have received from the event. "It has been an exciting journey. Before the event we held workshops for students to create their plays, speeches and films, and it has been heart- warming to see everyone come together and support each other."

Although organized by the Canadian

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University of Dubai, schools and students from across the UAE came along to support the cause. Dr Apprich continued: "Everyone has come away from this with new friends and a better understanding of others. It is exactly what we wanted and we are hoping it will continue long after this event."

The University has close ties with anti-bullying messages as the first National Bullying Prevention Week was conceived of in Canada by Canadian educator and anti-bullying activist Bill Belsey.

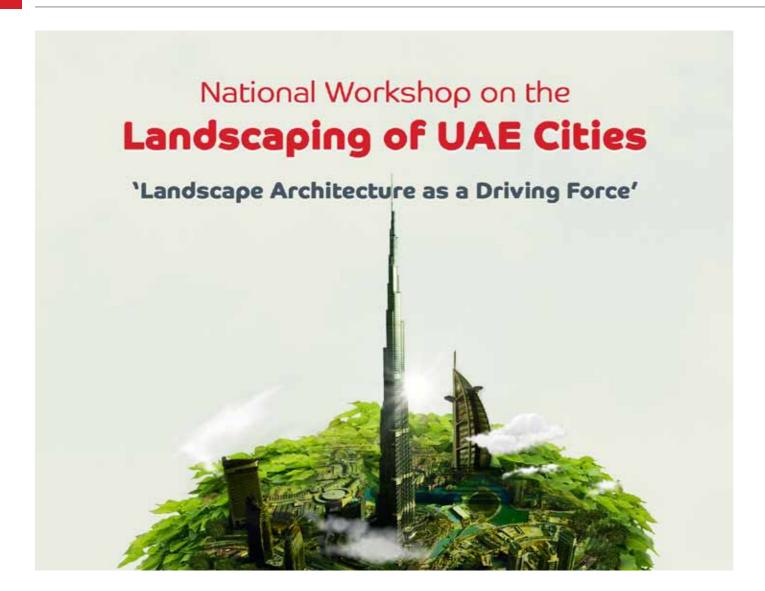


NEWLY ACCREDITED PROGRAM

Bachelor of Science in Network Engineering accredited

It is with great pleasure that we announce the accreditation of our new Bachelor of Science in Network Engineering (BSNE) by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of the UAE (MOHESR).

We would like to congratulate the accreditation team on behalf of the University on this accomplishment and thank them for their efforts.



NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON CHALLENGES OF CREATING GREEN LANDSCAPE IN THE UAE HELD AT CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI

HH Sheikh Rashid Bin Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum attends "Landscaping of UAE Cities" event along with experts in fields of environment and architecture

The challenges of creating a green landscape and ensuring the UAE's cities are environmentally sustainable were debated by key decision makers in the worlds of environment and architecture at the Canadian University of Dubai.

With the region's construction industry on the rise, it is becoming increasingly

important to find ways to take on these challenges.

The event was organised under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Rashid Bin Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, who attended and participated in the event. The Canadian University of Dubai and the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture Dubai were co-hosts.

Speaking at the opening, Dr Karim Cheli, President of the Canadian University of Dubai, said: "It is an honour to have His Highness Sheikh Rashid Bin Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum participate in this.



"A sustainable and green landscape is an important component in every city's architecture and urbanization, mainly because of the contribution to a healthy living environment. This event allowed us to discuss the issues involved, and encourage further research and action."

Dr. Ismahane Elouafi, Director General of ICBA stressed: "'The water scarcity is a core development issue in UAE. Right now, 11% of the total water use in the country is dedicated to landscaping and this rate is on the rise, as the urban population is growing.

Managing landscapes especially in arid and hyper-arid environments such as UAE is a real challenge, and requires innovative approaches, such as using the right plants which are drought, heat and salt tolerant; using the right

irrigation technologies, and safe use of treated waste water. Within this context, native plants have great role to play in UAE cities landscaping"

Various researchers from the Canadian University of Dubai and the ICBA presented papers and spoke on their areas of expertise.

Architecture students from the Canadian University of Dubai also had the opportunity to present their work on this issue. His Highness Sheikh Rashid Bin Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum also presented a series of awards to students.





NATIONAL DAY ARTWORK UNVEILED AT CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI

Critically acclaimed artist, Sylvain Tremblay, commissioned for painting to mark 41st National Day at Canadian University of Dubai

The Canadian University of Dubai has commissioned a piece of art celebrating the culture and heritage of the UAE.

Canadian artist, Sylvain Tremblay was responsible for the piece, which took him two months to complete.

The painting was unveiled at the Canadian University of Dubai's annual National Day celebrations, held on December 4. Amongst the students and staff of the University at the event, Dubai's Canadian Ambassador Arif

Alalani and Consulate General Ross Miller were also in attendance.

Québec-based Sylvain said: "I was honoured to create a piece for the Canadian University of Dubai's National Day celebrations.

"I spent two months in the UAE absorbing its culture, religion and history which helped me create the piece. I am fascinated by the wonderfully rich Emirati culture and it

was a real eye-opening experience."

During these two months, Sylvain lead a series of art activities at the University. Students had the opportunity to learn from Sylvain's unique painting style and get an idea of what life as an artist is like

"Working with the students over the last few months really gave me an insight into the school which allowed me to put a lot of the schools vibrant personality





into the piece. The students were very enthusiastic regarding when we worked on the piece and I think it really shows."

The painting, which is to be displayed at the University, depicts a world in which one side is Canada and the other Dubai. Iconic images of the Burj Khalifa and the CN Tower adorn the piece alongside photos from the University itself.

Sylvain adds:"I was struck by the idea of the globe thanks to the university. It is home to 86 different nationalities and the world theme truly reflects this. Once it was finished I got students and staff to paint on messages of love and peace in their local language, again mirroring the harmony of these different cultures at the school."

The University was transformed for the National Day event, with stalls serving local delicacies, camel rides and lights illuminating the university in red, green and white. There was also a ceremony featuring performances from the Rashid Paediatrics Therapy Centre.



FRENCH CONNECTION PRESENTS OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI

Students will be the first to benefit from a knowledge exchange with Lyon

Students from the Canadian University of Dubai will exchange with students from the University Of Lyon in France in an innovative short-course that will kickstart a long-term collaboration between the two cities.

The partnership begins at the end of March following a visit to Dubai from a delegation from Lyon this week. The 47-strong delegation included the Mayor of Lyon, the Lyon Chamber of Commerce as well as industry leaders in education, culture and transport.

The delegation was hosted in Dubai by Buti Saeed Al Ghandi, Chairman of Emirates Investment and Development PSC and Chancellor of the Canadian University of Dubai.

The partnership begins with seven students from Dubai being paired with seven students from Lyon for a threeweek course in Media Production. Two

weeks of the course will be held at the Canadian University of Dubai in their industry-standard production studio and one week in Lyon at the studios of Lyon Capitale TV.

Dr. Karim Chelli, President of the Canadian University of Dubai, said: "As well as student exchange, we will be sharing best practice with Lyon, which has some of the best universities in the world.

"Our mandate is to create world citizens and this partnership not only represents an educational exchange, but also a cultural one that will benefit both cities and forms part of a wider collaborative approach that will develop in the coming months."

Gerard Collomb, French Senator, Mayor of Lyon and President of the Greater Lyon Urban Community, said: "Before the crisis in 2008 we had a project to develop opportunities between our universities and the universities in Dubai. We can now explore the opportunities between the universities in the two cities and especially the Canadian University of Dubai.

"We have great universities in Lyon, we have 112,000 students from many different countries. For example, we have 5,000 students from China. That shows the attractiveness of Lyon. "v

Mr Philippe Grillot, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Lyon, said: "We know the Canadian University in Dubai and they know Lyon and it is easier to build something with known guys. We will work with Dubai and look at Universities, but the most important thing is to build a knowledge bridge between the two cities and exchange students and professors."



SOUQ.COM SIGNS MOU WITH THE CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI TO PROMOTE ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Students will benefit from internships, lectures, keynotes from industry leaders and startup incubators

In a major initiative announced in late February between the Canadian University of Dubai and ecommerce leader in the region, Souq.com, students will have access to internships,

lectures and mentoring from industry pioneers to nurture their entrepreneurial aspirations.

Saygin Yalcin, vice president, Souq.com stated: "If you have a look around the world, the hotbed for entrepreneurial activity is most often universities. It is in their university years

that students think big and take risks. We want to nurture their ambitions by mentoring them through interactive

lectures and internships.

He added: "The Canadian University of Dubai is one of the most modern educational institutions in the region. As

The skills a student garners through internships and interactions from those in the industry are a necessity. We are glad that an industry pioneer like Souq.com, has set an example by devoting their resources to nurture and mentor the young minds in region with this unique partnership"

such, we are confident that through this partnership we will learn a lot from the young minds at the University."

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glad that an industry pioneer like Souq.com, has set an example by devoting their resources to nurture and mentor the young minds in region with this unique partnership".

This first of kind MoU also will result in collaboration on general program courses emphasizing

entrepreneurship, research initiatives, and an annual industry conference on entrepreneurship.



STORY COMPETITION CATCHES THE IMAGINATION OF HUNDREDS

Canadian University of Dubai Hosts Annual Competition for the UAE Community

The Canadian University of Dubai hosted its annual 100 Word Story creative writing Competition for writers of all levels in an effort to encourage emerging writers and promote literary excellence amongst youth in the U.A.E.

The competition, organized by the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, received over 110 entries in the High School Category, 20 entries in the Intensive English Program Category, and 40 in the University English Category.

Winners were announced at a closing ceremony in the Canadian University of Dubai Red Theatre. The Award

ceremony was graced by two special guest speakers; Rym Tina Ghazal – a columnist and senior feature writer for The National, UAE. In the past, Rym has also written for National Geographic and the Toronto Star. Her latest book "Maskoon," based on a real haunted Palace in the UAE, has been hailed as one of the first novels written in Arabic in the paranormal genre.

Canadian Author Steve Roubai, who has recently published his first book "Soul of a Prince", also spoke at the ceremony. Steve, who currently lectures at the Canadian University of Dubai, shared interesting excerpts from

his new book and words of inspiration to the audience.

We are proud of Amanda Falk and Shoreh Alamdari, students from the Canadian University of Dubai, who won first and second place respectively for their entries in the "Intensive English Program Category".

The ceremony concluded with winners being welcomed on stage to receive Award plaques, certificates, Amazon Kindles and other exciting prizes.

Everyone in the audience left with signed copies of Steve Al Roubai's novel 'The Soul of a Prince'.

100 Word Story - Winning Entries

HIGH SCHOOL CATEGORY 1ST PLACE & OVERALL WINNER

Ayesha Ali - Dubai Scholars Private School

"Too Late"

His tiny legs kicked as hard as they could but still he struggled to get a proper lift off. He was familiar with the substances' thickness but only sank down further.

What the hell is this? If only he had paid attention in the safety classes he would've been able to tell what was holding him down.

Alas, the effort of kicking pushed him a little towards the edge and he could feel that safety was within his reach.

And then the words he dreaded the most, spoken out of those ruthless lips...

WAITER! There's a fly in my soup!

HIGH SCHOOL CATEGORY: 2ND PLACE

Naviya Singla - Delhi Private School Sharjah

"Believe"

"Relax. Everything will be fine." Miriam said. It was the eve of her Career-Choice Submission. Fashion Designing was her passion, but in the glut of the adult's counsel, she decided on Engineering.

She sat up feeling apprehensive.

Security or the ecstasies of seeing your imagination come alive?

Believe.' said her heart and, like an atheist in revelation with God, suddenly, she knew.

Twenty years later, Miriam sat looking at the sun emerging from the horizon.

"If you believe, see light within yourself, nothing can keep you in the dark." she thought, smiled and sketched the showstopper for the upcoming show.

HIGH SCHOOL CATEGORY: 3RD PLACE

Rahul Vaswani - Dubai Scholars Private School

"Taking things for granted and the parker pen"

You buy me from a store, and shove me in your pouch. You never really care. Why did you separate me from the crowd? These instruments in your pouch have no shame at all. They have no clothes on, or maybe you must have lost them all. I was dearly loved, but nobody cares about me now. I don't have any new friends, life is a misery now. But I still have faith that you'll keep me well. Please take care of me as I was born in May. That's all I want to say, your silver Parker pen.

HIGH SCHOOL CATEGORY:

Sarah Moutaoukil - Al Ansar International School

"The color of hunger"

The pangs first came when she was sleeping. Her eyes flew open as a loud gurgling noise filled the air. Shooting out of bed, she ran straight to the kitchen, wrenching open the fridge. She stared in dismay at the row of empty shelves inside, and within a heartbeat of a second, raced out the front door. Stitches bloomed up her side along with a rainbow of spasms as she ran. Upon reaching the supermarket, she sprinted inside and grabbed a handful of chocolate bars stuffing them into her mouth.

When hunger comes, it strikes hard.

UNIVERSITY CATEGORY: 1ST PLACE

Suhail Surtee - Canadian University of Dubai

"The Life That Never Was"

This is an account of a young boy who never was able to pursue his dream. His name was Alexander. Challenged with low self-esteem, he fought hard toward achieving his dream yet failed. Discriminated from entering institutions of a certain caliber due to society deeming him inferior, Alexander held his head up high and fought with all his might to gain a place in a society that is filled with more constrictions than acceptances, yet still failed. Alexander is no longer with us. He took his own life leaving nothing but a note behind saying "Life isn't worth this effort"

UNIVERSITY CATEGORY: 2ND PLACE

Mohammed Atyab - Bits Pilani Dubai "The Planet you Should Envy!"

Within the gigantic boundaries of our solar system, lies a shining sphere. It may be seen but never reached, it may be admired but never conquered and it may be studied but its secrets never revealed. It glitters claiming beauty, it puzzles claiming mystery and it protects claiming wealth. It took centuries to find it, would take light years to travel to it but just seconds to marvel it. Filled with the desire of every man and woman, a sparkling stone that man could kill for, the planet's surface is covered with diamonds thus earning its name "The Diamond Planet

100 Word Story - Winning Entries continued..

ENGLISH LANGUAGE CATEGORY: 1ST PLACE

Amanda Falk Canadian University of Dubai

A morning in the 21st century, a teenager is standing in front of the mirror. She has beautiful hair, a cute face and an athletic body. The boys want to be with her and the girls want to look like her. But she can only see an ugly fat girl in the mirror. 100 days later, she is standing in front of the mirror. She is pale, sick, 20 kg lighter and skinny. Although, she still sees a fat girl. Her mum says: "It doesn't matter what you look like, it's impossible to be satisfied if you don't accept yourself:"

ENGLISH LANGUAGE CATEGORY: 2ND PLACE

Shoreh Alamdari Canadian University of Dubai

The Darkest hour of the Night is before Sunrise It was summer. Young man was walking in the yard and thinking about himself. He was disappointed. He thought about the days which he had spent without happiness because he didn't reach his goal.

He spoke to God and asked God to end his life. He stopped and looked at the ants that climbed the pillar and carried a piece of biscuit. He came back home. A day after that, he was walking in the yard again and saw the ants trying to carry that same biscuit again. He got his lesson from the ants and thanked God for it

SPECIAL MENTION:

Tvara Parikh Dubai Private School Sharjah Gr.1 "The Beautiful Tree"

Once upon a time there was a big tree. It had beautiful orange flowers. People passing by were plucking flowers from the tree so the tree was so happy. One day nobody came to pluck any flower so the tree became very sad and started crying. At that time a Robin came and asked the tree reason of crying. The tree said nobody wants him. Robin smiled and started building a nest on the tree. After this so many other birds also built nest on the tree. Now the tree is again very happy as he is full of beautiful flowers and birds.

Moral of the story is everything is good around us.

CRASH TXT DUMMY SCULPTURE MAKES A BUZZ

'Don't text and drive FYI- Crash TXT Dummy' Sculpture Raises Awareness



The 'Don't text and drive FYI- Crash TXT Dummy' Sculpture from TBWA/ RAAD, on behalf of Nissan Middle East, aims to raise awareness about the dangers of TXTing and Driving. This has become the main cause of road accidents in Dubai and the UAE.

The towering sculpture is in the shape of the text shortcut "FYI," and is punctuated by a QR code. Scanning this code connects to a mobile site that enables one to post a prewritten pledge through social network - Don't TXT & drive!

Students from the Canadian University of Dubai shared their experiences and input on the dangers of TXTing and driving in a unique video posted to YouTube and shared by TBWA/RAAD and Nissan M.E.

DESIGNERS GUILD INTERIOR DESIGN COMPETITION 2013

Canadian University of Dubai students design winning display for the Maison D'art showroom in Jumeirah

Interior Design students from the School of Architecture and Interior Design participated, and won first place, in the Interior Design Competition organized by high end textile company "Designers Guild" at the Maison D'art Showroom in Jumeirah.

Students from various Universities participated in the competition, with the teams presenting their designs to a panel of judges.

The Canadian University of Dubai would

like to congratulate students Eli Sadeghi, Sahar Zarei, Daniel Shirazi and Elaheh Mozafari for their winning design!

In addition to prizes by Maison D'art and Inside Out magazine, they were awarded the unique opportunity to have their work displayed at the Maison D'art' showroom window for six months. The students will also have the chance to share details of their design in the March issue of "Inside Out Magazine".



CANADIAN UNIVERSITY OF DUBAI VIDEO GOES VIRAL

Over 100 Students Participate in the UAE's most watched Harlem Shake Video



The "Harlem Shake" meme exploded on YouTube and tens of thousands of "Harlem Shake" videos have been posted online from all over world.

Students from the Canadian University of Dubai decided to do their very own

version of the "Harlem Shake" on campus with support of the Marketing and Communication Department.

Increasingly, social media is becoming an important tool for Universities to engage youth and improve interaction with students. The video has already received over 269,625 unique views on the Canadian University of Dubai Facebook page and 72,000 on YouTube, generating a massive amount of interest amongst our younger followers because of its fun, relatable appeal.

Marketing and Communication
Manager, Mr. Spencer Semple
commented "Our 'Harlem Shake' was a
huge success, the vast majority of the
views come from within Dubai, and this
is a lot of views for a UAE based video.

"We love these types of things that allow us to showcase the University and create a fun experience for our students! We are very pleased."

Connect with us

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