



**CANADIAN
UNIVERSITY DUBAI**
Your portal to Canadian education

Chancellor's Newsletter

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CANADIAN UNIVERSITY DUBAI

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**CANADIAN UNIVERSITY DUBAI TO BECOME
REGIONAL HUB FOR OPEN ACCESS TO LEARNING**

Message from The Chancellors' Office



Welcome to the Spring 2015 edition of the Chancellor's Newsletter.

Alongside our usual busy program of events, the last few months have seen a number of important milestones achieved at Canadian University Dubai (CUD).

Through our leading role in the International Conference on Web and Open Access to Learning, CUD has been selected as a regional hub for open access education, marking a historic moment in the growing movement for open educational resources in the MENA region. Meanwhile, we have further built upon our strong international credentials by securing formal accreditation for our degree programs from the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research in Jordan.

Mr. Buti Saeed Al Ghandi
Chancellor

The Centre of Excellence for Innovation and Creativity is attracting growing recognition as a major driving force in support of the UAE's strategic plan 'Vision 2021', with two new partnerships that will promote industry and research-based collaborations for a sustainable and diversified economy.

We have also celebrated a number of achievements among our students, graduates and academics, while continuing to contribute to wider society through community engagement and partnership initiatives. We hope you enjoy reading about these and other achievements in the pages that follow.

Prof. Karim Chelli
President & Vice - Chancellor

CANADIAN UNIVERSITY DUBAI TO BECOME REGIONAL HUB FOR OPEN ACCESS TO LEARNING

Recommendation passed at International Conference held in Dubai



Canadian University Dubai, supported by UNESCO, is set to become a regional hub for Open Access to Learning, according to the Dubai Recommendations on Open Access to Learning, a strategic roadmap developed by attendees of the first International Conference on Web and Open Access to Learning (ICWOAL).

Under the 'Dubai Recommendations' passed at the conference, CUD will be developing an Open Education Resource (OER) platform to fast-track open access to learning, based on global best practices drawn from top online learning empowering institutions. The recommendations mark a historic moment in the growing movement for Open Educational Resources in the MENA region.

The ICWOAL conference saw around 200 education practitioners from 33 countries gather at Atlantis, The Palm, Dubai to discuss the future of open access to learning, against the backdrop of changing global trends, which are seeing an increasing number of learners opting for online courses.

Organized by CUD in conjunction with UNESCO and the Institute of Electronics & Electrical Engineering (IEEE), ICWOAL brought together a host of internationally renowned speakers, including Carlo Ratti, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT),

Mike Sharples from the Open University in the UK and Muammar Al Katheeri from Dubai's Silicon Oasis Authority to share their experiences and expertise.

Dr. Karim Chelli, President and Vice-Chancellor of Canadian University Dubai, said, "Under the leadership of President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubai, the UAE is already at the forefront when it comes to the use of digital technologies.

"The creation of the Dubai Recommendations will help us build on this vision by working together with other education specialists to put ICT at the heart of the UAE's teaching institutions' future planning to promote open access to education for all."

Mr Buti Saeed Al Ghandi, Chancellor of Canadian University Dubai, said, "We are truly honoured to have hosted the first ICWOAL. It is our hope that the Dubai Recommendations will be the first step in building an infrastructure for Open Access to Learning in the UAE. This, we believe will help to empower anyone with an interest in growing their existing skills, to ultimately help build a knowledge-based economy that fits with the vision of HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and HH Sheikh Mohammed

bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubai."

Dr. Bhanu Neupana, Program Manager, Open

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The creation of the Dubai Recommendations will help us build on this vision by working together with other education specialists to put ICT at the heart of the UAE's teaching institutions' future planning to promote open access to education for all.

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Access to Scientific Information & ICT, UNESCO, said: "It's important that no one is left behind when it comes to access to education. While ICT has changed the life of most people, the spread of education can be accelerated only by using technology to allow open access to learning for all and the development of the Dubai Recommendations is just the start."

CONSUL GENERAL OF JORDAN UNVEILS NEW ACCREDITATION FOR CUD

Degree programs receive seal of approval from Jordan Ministry



Canadian University Dubai has built upon its well-established international credentials by securing formal accreditation for its degree programs from the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MOHESR) in Jordan.

The accreditation was unveiled by H.E. Dr. Saed Radaideh, Consul General of Jordan, in the presence of CUD faculty and staff at a ceremony held in the Red Theatre at the University's city centre campus.

Announcing the landmark achievement, H.E. Dr. Radaideh said, "We are delighted that Canadian University Dubai embarked upon this process and were thrilled to

hear the news that the MOHESR has granted accreditation. CUD is a highly reputable and respected organization and offers an extremely wide range of degree specializations that students can benefit from."

He continued, "One of the Consulate's missions is to promote economic and cultural ties between Jordan and Dubai and the Northern Emirates, and this accreditation will help to support and strengthen those ties. We are also in discussions with CUD about future collaborations with institutions in Jordan to further strengthen these relations."

The formal accreditation comes following an official submission and evaluation process

to assess and assure that the programs offered at CUD are in accordance with the standards of the Jordanian Ministry.

Speaking at the ceremony, Dr. Karim Chelli, President of CUD said, "This is an important milestone for Canadian University Dubai and we must pay tribute to the progressive approach of the Ministry in Jordan for enabling us to efficiently and successfully fulfill the process requirements."

The accreditation adds to CUD's existing portfolio of international collaborations. The institution has a range of formal agreements with universities in Canada that allow students to transfer or complete a semester of study at

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Canadian institutions. It also provides study overseas opportunities across five continents, partnering with institution in countries such as France, Malaysia and Australia.

CUD Assistant Professor and Jordanian national Ms. Suhair Hamouri coordinated the accreditation process. Speaking about

what the new accreditation will mean to Jordanian students, she said, "As an approved institution, graduates of any program from Canadian University Dubai will be able to have their degrees attested by the Ministry in Jordan, which is hugely important when they enter the job market."



The framed accreditation was received by CUD Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Hakim Khali, alongside Dr. Chelli and Ms Hamouri. A token of appreciation was presented to H.E. Dr. Radaideh by Dr. Chelli, and to Ms. Hamouri for her contribution to the accreditation process.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE JOINS LEADING UNIVERSITIES IN SMART CITIES ALLIANCE

Partnership with International Observatory on Smart City Learning connects the UAE with global best practice



The Centre of Excellence for Innovation and Creativity (CEIC) based at Canadian University Dubai has joined the ranks of the International Observatory on Smart City Learning, connecting the UAE with leading European research institutions in the field of smart technology.

The International Observatory, hosted by the University of Rome Tor Vergata, brings together academics and research groups from several top European institutions – including Stockholm University, the

Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Aalborg University, and Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg – to promote transnational collaboration and debate on the challenges and opportunities of smart city learning.

Founded in 2013 as a subsidiary of Dubai Education LLC, the Centre of Excellence set out to support the UAE's national strategic plan for 2021, including the goal of a sustainable and diversified economy through green development.

Speaking about the new partnership, Mr. Buti Saeed Al Ghandi, Chairman of Dubai Education LLC, said, "The Centre of Excellence was established to bring forward knowledge and innovations that have the potential to make a significant contribution to UAE society. Smart technologies are a key driver in the evolution of educational practices, and by joining international leaders in the field we can harness our

expertise to develop solutions that could transform the way we teach and learn."

Dr. Karim Chelli, CEO of Dubai Education LLC, commented, "This is a significant milestone for the Centre at an important time, as the UAE accelerates the pace of its development and implementation of smart solutions across both Government and lifestyle services."

Since its establishment, the Centre has created a platform for academic and industry collaboration on sustainable development through innovation and creativity, and attracted leading authorities in the field to speak at its international conferences and events.

Having established itself as an important think tank for smart city development in the UAE, the Centre will now represent the region on an international stage through the Observatory.

Dr. Kiran Tangri, Director of CEIC said, "Membership of the International Observatory will allow us to exchange best practices with global experts on smart city learning and help to showcase Dubai on the world stage as an ambitious, innovative and technology-driven society."

Prof. Carlo Giovannella, Coordinator of the International Observatory commented, "We welcome the membership of the Centre of Excellence for Innovation and Creativity, Dubai Education LLC, as a strategically important organization in the field, demonstrated through their leading role in last year's 'Dubai 2020:

Smart City Learning' workshop.

"We look forward to a very fruitful collaboration that will lead to the development of exciting learning ecosystems in the region and, in turn, support the process towards the achievement of sustainable and people-centred smart cities."

NEW ACADEMY TO BRING INDUSTRY INTO THE CLASSROOM

CUD launches first LabVIEW Academy in Dubai



Canadian University Dubai has launched a new Academy dedicated to education and training in the leading engineering design software, LabVIEW, to bring cutting-edge technology and practices into the classroom.

The first of its kind in Dubai, the Academy will feature state-of-the-art engineering software to provide an experiential learning environment and expose engineering students to advanced technologies that are prevalent in the workplace.

As one of the leading education institutions in the UAE, CUD is looking to further develop and sharpen its engineering and science students' skills to fit the current demand and future requirements of the local and global industry.

In collaboration with product developers,

National Instruments, the Academy is being set up in the University's School of Engineering, Applied Sciences and Technology. The centre will become part of an international network of academies established in higher education institutions worldwide, including Sultan Qaboos University in Oman, National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) in Pakistan, and Penn State University in the US.

LabVIEW technology is used extensively throughout science and engineering industries across the globe and is harnessed by organizations such as NASA to support cutting-edge research and development initiatives. The new resources will provide students with a unique opportunity to experience this technology, and with over 40,000 companies using the software internationally, it will provide them with a



competitive edge in the job market.

The Academy was inaugurated by a delegation from National Instruments that included Global Academic Director, Dave Wilson; Managing Director, Michel Haddad;

Senior Field Technical Consultant, Ahmad Kobeissy; and Area Sales Manager, Elie Abou Nasr. The team met with CUD Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Hakim Khali, and the faculty members of the School of Engineering, to discuss the initiative as well as future areas of cooperation.

Associate Professor, Dr. Driss Guerchi said, "We are delighted to be establishing this Academy in collaboration with National Instruments,

which will allow students here at CUD to get hands-on experience of the LabView resources, and ultimately broaden its scope to provide training opportunities for local practitioners in the industry.

"As more and more organizations adopt this versatile technology, students who have practical experience with these tools will have a deeper understanding of industry-relevant skills and find themselves with a distinct

advantage in the job market."

Speaking on behalf of National Instruments, Michel Haddad said, "We are enthusiastic to have CUD join the LabVIEW Academy community. Through this program, the university joins other great universities around the globe that graduate industry ready, certified LabVIEW developers."

ATTITUDES TO CANCER SCREENING REVEALED IN NEW RESEARCH BY CUD PROFESSOR

Dr. Rami El Khatib's paper published in International Journal of Research Studies in Biosciences



A paper revealing the behavior and attitudes of women residing in the UAE towards breast cancer screening has been published in the International Journal of Research Studies in Biosciences (IJRSB). Written by Dr. Rami El Khatib, Chair of the School of Environment and Health Sciences, the paper is the result of research undertaken in the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah, in collaboration with The Pink Caravan, a breast cancer awareness initiative of The Friends of Cancer Patients charity (FoCP).

A total of 496 women volunteered to participate in the study, the majority being

Emirati, between the ages of 30 and 39 years old, and a minority older than 60 years, most of whom (91%) with no family history of breast cancer. Approximately 48% (236) of these women were referred for mammogram or ultrasound, either for having an abnormal clinical breast examination or because they met the criteria of being over 40 years old and had not had a mammogram during the last 12 months. Out of the 236 referrals, only 88 women responded, and of these, 29 were requested to do a biopsy and two cases of cancer were detected.

For Dr. El Khatib, the results of studies like this

“ This paper indicates the need for more health educational and promotional campaigns among women in the UAE, to increase their awareness of breast cancer screening and to reduce their risk of one of the most common cancers affecting women nowadays. One of the most important factors of this paper was to also highlight the importance of initiatives such as the Pink Caravan in increasing awareness of breast cancer among women in the UAE and the region.

” help provide a framework to work together to find appropriate solutions to challenges. He said, "This paper indicates the need for more health educational and promotional campaigns among women in the UAE, to increase their awareness of breast cancer screening and to reduce their risk of one of

the most common cancers affecting women nowadays. One of the most important factors of this paper was to also highlight the importance of initiatives such as the Pink Caravan in increasing awareness of breast cancer among women in the UAE and the region."

Dr. Sawsan Al Madhi, Secretary General of Friends of Cancer Patients society and Head of Pink Caravan's Medical and Awareness Committee, said, "The importance of this in-depth study lies in the accuracy of its data, which has been collected and analyzed by the Pink Caravan team over the past four years. The outcome of this collaboration is further evidence of how much we still need to do to educate people on the importance of screening and early detection. Studies such as this give a clear indication of the level of awareness present and the required effort needed to bridge the gap. Pink Caravan is evidence-based in its planning and objectives, which is why collaborating on such research is important."



According to the results and discussion points of the paper, there have been few studies in the UAE to test the beliefs, attitudes and behaviors of females towards screening mammography and ultrasound. The study further states there is scope for more concerted awareness efforts, based on the low response rate of Emirati women going for referral mammogram (only 37% up-take).

Dr. Al Madhi concluded, "We absolutely must create more of a community, or ecosystem, that supports and educates women and men in the UAE regarding breast cancer. It is the most common cancer affecting women, and second only to lung cancer worldwide. However, early detection can increase survival rates by almost 98 percent."

SYLVAIN TREMBLAY DELIVERS LIVE ART PERFORMANCE AT UAE EXHIBITION

Record-breaking artist performs for VIP gathering

Leading Canadian artist Sylvain Tremblay has delivered a spectacular live performance at the Art UAE exhibition held at Armani Oasis in the iconic Burj Khalifa, Dubai.

Renowned for his world-record feat of creating the largest ever sand portrait of the late Sheikh Zayed earlier this year, Tremblay, who is a visiting lecturer at the Canadian University Dubai School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, employed the same technique to produce a striking image of the Mona Lisa, in front of a gathering of VIP visitors at the exhibition.

Tremblay was one of seven leading artists invited to exhibit at the event and the only painter to give a live performance of crafting his artwork. Admitting he was apprehensive about performing live, he wowed the audience with his unique technique of



creating an outline with glue and scattering it with sand, which was then shaken off to reveal the final image.

"It's quite unusual for artists to work in public as we're always concerned that something might not go to plan, so naturally I was nervous about the performance", he



revealed. "But it turned out to be an incredible experience, creating and image of an artistic icon in one of the world's most iconic buildings."

The exhibition was hosted by Art UAE, an independent organization established in 1971 to support emerging artists and arts groups, and to promote the culture and heritage of the Emirates through all art disciplines. Having showcased the landscape of the UAE in his portrait of Sheikh Zayed, Tremblay also made use of the desert sand in his latest creation.

"The different Emirates have different

variations of sand and this provides the ideal opportunity to integrate other colours into the piece while featuring the country's natural beauty in the work of art," he explained. "While the technique was practiced for the portrait of Sheikh Zayed, this challenge was very different, as I only had a short time to complete the piece in front of the audience."

It's been a busy year for Tremblay following the creation of his ground-breaking desert portrait, having presented his work at the Abu Dhabi Formula 1 Grand Prix and at the launch of Ferrari's new California T, as well as leading art-related projects and initiatives at CUD.

ALUMNUS APPOINTED GENERAL MANAGER FOR ATTIJARI AL ISLAMI

CUD graduate takes leading role with Islamic Banking group

Mr. Fahad Al Muhairi, a Master of Business Administration graduate from Canadian University Dubai has been appointed as the General Manager for Attijari Al Islami, in a announcement by Commercial Bank of Dubai.

Mr. Al Muhairi graduated from CUD's MBA program with a concentration in Finance and with over 20 years of experience in Conventional and Islamic Banking, he joins Attijari Al Islami to focus on further developing the Bank's Islamic Banking offering, in line with its business strategy.

Mr. Al Muhairi has already held senior roles in renowned local and international institutions such as Central Bank of the UAE and Standard Chartered Bank. He was the General Manager of Amlak Finance, and contributed to the setup of the company. His most recent role was as Chief Risk Officer at Dubai Islamic Bank where he gained extensive experience of Islamic Finance.

Attijari Al Islami has established itself as a market leader providing structured and innovative Shari'a-compliant banking products and services to an extensive client base.

Commenting on his new role, Fahad Al Muhairi said "I am pleased to join Attijari Al

Islami and I look forward to further build on CBD 's established Islamic Banking and to work with the team to ensure a continuously growing Islamic Banking customer base."

Speaking of his time at CUD, he said, "My MBA from CUD was instrumental in optimizing my career in banking, as I was able to be recognized within the industry and receive this overwhelming job opportunity. I relished working alongside my professors and classmates, which prompted me to seek excellence in my studies, achieving a GPA of 3.98, and I am pleased with the progress in my career post my graduation from CUD."

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STUDENTS RANKED AMONG ELITE TOP FIVE IN GOVERNMENT COMPETITION

CUD team attends competition finals at UAE Government Summit



A team of three engineering students from Canadian University Dubai have been ranked among the elite top five teams in this year's UAE m-Government Service Awards.

With their innovative application, SmartCart, Mohammed Baziyad, Ahmed Farrag and Moad Kawan reached the final stage of the competition, which took place at the 2015 UAE Government Summit.

Launched under the directive of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, the m-Government Service Awards is an annual competition that aims to support the UAE's Smart Government vision by bringing forward innovative solutions for the delivery of Government services through smart technology.

The special category dedicated to students enrolled at universities in the UAE seeks to engage young people in the development of new tools in the field of smart phone applications, mobile websites and SMS technology. The trio were selected for the finals from over 400 original competitors in the initiative and worked on the development of their app in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy.

Inspired by their own experience of peak time shopping, the students' innovation aimed to improve the consumer experience by providing efficiencies in supermarket purchasing through a self-scan checkout system. It also provided a budget monitoring facility to enable users to keep track of their spending and receive alerts when they reach their budget limit, as well as useful consumer information.

Ahmed explained, "The application uses mobile technology to enable customers to scan their shopping while going round the supermarket, receive their total bill on their own device, and pay for their purchases through their smartphone with a pre-registered credit card."

Mohammed continued, "Our tool is aimed at reducing queuing in the supermarket, which will enhance the customer experience and promote efficiencies in the retailers' operations. We have used RFID technology to eliminate any security concerns and also applied GPS technology to help customers find their nearest supermarket – initially using Coop outlets across the UAE."

Mentored by CUD professor of Engineering, Dr. Emad Eldin Mohamed, the team saw the

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competition as a good opportunity to both apply and showcase the knowledge and skills they have developed during their university studies. This is the second year that the team has entered the m-Government competition and, according to Moad, they have applied the lessons from last year to reach the elite top-five ranking in this year's contest.

He said, "For this year's competition we've come up with a simple idea that has an almost universal application. Everyone needs to purchase groceries and many people work on a monthly budget to do this, so we have combined these two ideas in one easy-to-use application."

As part of the final judging process the team was interviewed by TV presenter and City of Life star, Saoud Al Kaabi, who quizzed them about their application and how it was developed. The video was shown to the judging panel as part of the final evaluation process at the Government Summit, in the presence of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai.

The team narrowly missed out on the AED 1 million prize fund but walked away with the experience of a lifetime.

CEIC PARTNERS WITH ECAT IN GREEN UNIVERSITIES INITIATIVE

MOU seals agreements with Environmental Center for Arab Towns



The Centre of Excellence for Innovation and Creativity (CEIC) based at Canadian University Dubai has joined together with the Environmental Center for Arab Towns (ECAT) to work on a range of collaborative initiatives that will promote environmental awareness and sustainability, including the creation of a Green Universities Council.

The partnership was formalized with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) by Mr. Hussain Abdulla Al Fardan, Director of ECAT, and Dr. Karim Chelli, President of Canadian University Dubai and CEO of Dubai Education LLC, of which the Centre of Excellence is a subsidiary.

The agreement will see the two organizations collaborate on regional activities to promote sustainable actions and to educate students

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We have worked with Dubai Municipality since the inception of CUD and this agreement cements our partnership and establishes a hub for researchers, scholars and students to create and innovate, and to work together towards a sustainable and diversified economy through green development.

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and the wider community on the importance and benefits of going green. The partners will also work across the higher education sector through the new Council to encourage practical steps towards environmental development.

Operating under the umbrella of Dubai Municipality and with affiliations to the Arab Town Organization, ECAT is well established in providing technical expertise in environmental health, natural resources and urban sustainable development. Combined with CEIC's mission to harness innovation and creativity, this new partnership is expected to deliver some novel approaches to sustainable development promotion and education.

Speaking at the MoU signing ceremony, Mr. Hussain Abdulla Al Fardan recognized CUD's



leading role in sustainability among higher education institutions and commended the University for driving the environmental agenda. The University's environmental credentials have previously been recognized

with a Conservation Awards from Dubai Electricity and Water Authority.

Speaking on behalf of Dubai Education LLC, Dr. Karim Chelli said that the alliance was a

natural union of two organizations that had a long tradition of collaboration.

"We have worked with Dubai Municipality since the inception of CUD and this agreement cements our partnership and establishes a hub for researchers, scholars and students to create and innovate, and to work together towards a sustainable and diversified economy through green development."

The signing ceremony event, which was introduced by Dr. Kiran Tangri, Director of the Centre of Excellence, also heard from Dr. Hoshiar Nooradin from CUD's School of Architecture and Interior Design about the development and future of the partnership.

This agreement is among a number of initiatives that the Centre of Excellence is progressing in support of the UAE's strategic goals for environmental sustainability and development, including the recent International Conference on Web and Open Access to Learning, which included a workshop dedicated to the Dubai 2020 Smart City vision.

STUDENT ENTREPRENEUR RECEIVES BOOST FOR NEW BUSINESS VENTURE

Abzal Assembekov among winning team at Dubai Startup Weekend Competition

Canadian University Dubai student, Abzal Assembekov, and his team mates have received a massive boost for their enterprising idea following their recent win in the Dubai Startup Weekend competition.



Abzal was one of a team of four entrepreneurs who took first place at the event with their business proposition 'Photo Real', which aims to provide a quality, professional stock photo database to real estate agents, starting with in-demand neighbourhoods in Dubai.

The team will now benefit from an impressive package of business support services to convert their idea into a viable business, including 6 months free office space, mentoring, training and networking events from In5, free advertising on the Dubai

Internet City website, and a seat for 3 months at the AstroLabs Dubai Tech Hub.

The Dubai Startup Weekend was part of an international network of competitions

that have taken place in over 700 cities and created more than 13,000 entrepreneurs across the globe. The contest was a gruelling 54-hour event, starting out with Friday night pitches and continuing through brainstorming, business plan development, and basic prototype creation, culminating in Sunday night demos and presentations.

Abzal, who was one of only two students taking part in the whole competition, teamed up with established businessmen to provide the technical and design expertise required to develop and demonstrate their business concept.

As a serial entrepreneur since high school, Abzal wasn't fazed by the competition, or his fellow competitors. He said, "I started out as

a freelance graphic designer while I was still at school and have been working ever since. When I moved to Dubai I began developing business ideas and now have a number of projects on the go."

Abzal's own enterprises include www.motorsinme.com, an online community providing photos, videos, classifieds and blogs focussed on motoring across the Middle East, and gccdaily.com, a news sharing site that

aggregates daily news articles by subject from a wide selection of GCC publications.

Always coming up with new ideas, Abzal is also working on projects linked to education, advertising and mobile technology, and hopes to source investors for these and other initiatives.

Fitting all of this around his Bachelors degree in International Business, Abzal maintains that

it's important to continue with his education alongside his enterprising endeavours.

He said, "It's vital for me to develop the full skillset required to help me succeed in the business world. The International Business program is developing my skills in marketing, finance, HR and, most importantly, leadership, that will support my long-term professional growth."

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY PUTS THE 'FUN' INTO FUNDRAISING

AED 7,000 raised for local cancer charity



Canadian University Dubai marked the end of 'Movember' with a fun-packed program of activities in aid of UAE-based charity, Friends of Cancer Patients (FOCP).

Students donned Movember moustaches at an event to mark the culmination of two months of fundraising for breast cancer and prostate cancer awareness, which saw more than AED 7,000 donated to FOCP, an

organization that supports patients and their families coping with the disease.

CUD has been running cancer awareness events annually since its inception and this year's campaign saw over 200 students participate in fundraising activities, including a bake sale, Movember bingo and a campus barbecue.

Faculty members from the School of Liberal Arts, Sylvain Tremblay and Amanda Aridi, showed their support by organizing a t-shirt design event, including one very special shirt that was framed and gifted to Friends of Cancer Patients by Shaghayegh Younis Abedi. Meanwhile, student Dima Youcef created a beautiful backdrop for a themed photo shoot where students struck a pose with a range of pink props.



Receiving the donation on behalf of FOCP, Lize de Jonge expressed her gratitude for CUD's support and encouraged everyone to get involved in future events. She also spoke about the range of internship opportunities in Marketing, PR, Journalism, Advertising, e-Business and Healthcare Management available at FOCP, allowing students to support a worthy cause while developing valuable skills and work experience.

The event also heard from Dr. Jennifer Blake from Al Zahra Medical Clinic about prostate, cervical, breast, and other cancers and their causes, effects and techniques for avoidance. Dr. Blake highlighted the impact of diet and the risk factors associated with family links in contracting the disease, emphasizing the importance of awareness and screening.

The grand finale of the event saw the ceremonial shaving of the CUD 'Mo Bros', who had shown their support by growing stylish moustaches throughout the month of Movember. Staff from the Loft 5th Avenue were on hand to shave faces, and even some heads, raising more funds for a range of cancer charities.



CANADIAN UNIVERSITY DUBAI HOSTS FIRST ALL-WOMEN HACKATHON

Tech-competition attracts women from across the region



Canadian University Dubai, in association with The Meera Kaul Foundation, has hosted the first ever all-women hackathon event to be held in the Emirate.

The two-day event brought together female technology experts, entrepreneurs and businesswomen from across the region to take part in an intensive team-based competition to develop their knowledge of coding and come up with a viable business proposal, with the chance of winning USD5,000 in prize money.

The event was organized as part of the Women in STEM 2015 initiative, held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Maktoum Bin Juma Al Maktoum. The initiative, which also included a conference and awards ceremony as part of its program, aimed to promote, support and pay tribute to the role of women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

CUD became an official partner of the event through its active role in promoting the

advancement of women in society, having held its inaugural women's conference in 2014. The University is also a leading provider of technology-based higher education.

Opening the event, Dr. Franziska Apprich, Dean of the Schools of Liberals Arts & Sciences and Environment & Health Sciences at CUD, encouraged the participants to make the most of the opportunity to interact and learn from each other.

She said, "This is the sort of opportunity that will help you long into the future. It is this kind of exposure that will set you apart when you look to develop your career. You don't necessarily need to win the competition to be a winner; through taking part in this event you are winning an experience that will stay with you for life."

Participants went on to join in networking activities, form teams, and work on the development of a business plan and prototype to present to the judging panel. Throughout the event they had the


opportunity to receive mentoring from Silicon Valley tech gurus, and meet with business angels and enterprise mentors.



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