

QNRF invites undergraduate students to apply for new cycle of research program

Doha, 22 September 2013 – Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) continues to encourage undergraduate students to apply for grants to conduct original research on topics relevant to Qatar, as part of its Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP). Applications for the 15th cycle of the Program can be submitted from the last week of September.

First launched in 2006, UREP is QNRF's longest-running Program, with two cycles per year. It is aimed at developing student capabilities in science and research, and serves an important role within QNRF's overall mission to foster a vibrant research culture in Qatar. Under faculty mentorship, students gain 'hands-on' experience; an essential component of QNRF's 'learn by doing' approach towards undergraduate research education.

Participation in UREP continues to grow among both Qatari and international students, demonstrating a growing interest in undergraduate research and an increasingly competitive research environment among Qatar's educational institutions. To date, almost 1,700 proposals have been submitted by undergraduate students and of these approximately 700 projects have been awarded grants by QNRF. UREP has also witnessed high levels of participation by Qatari females, with over 500 young women applying for grants.

QNRF is a centre within the Research & Development establishment at Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development. In line with the Qatar National Research Strategy, UREP supports basic and applied undergraduate research and projects in the fields of natural sciences, engineering and technology, medical and health sciences, agricultural sciences, social sciences and the humanities. Faculty members also stand to benefit from the Program, with the opportunity to gain student support in their research endeavours through awarded projects.

Previous UREP projects have focused on a wide range of topics such as the treatment of wastewater produced by Qatar's oil and gas industry, electricity consumption in residential and industrial sectors in Qatar, methods for screening gastrointestinal pathogens amongst expatriates working in Qatar and the nature and extent of emotional and behavioural disorders present amongst students in Qatar's independent schools.

Registration for participation in the 15th cycle of UREP opens on the 25th of September 2013. For further details about the Program, visit the QNRF website <http://www.qnrf.org/> or download the iOS-enabled QNRF mobile app.

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About QNRF

PRESS RELEASE
For immediate publication

Driven by the aim of fostering a culture of research in Qatar, the Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) was established in 2006 to advance knowledge and education by acting as a support system for researchers. It is a centre within the Research & Development establishment at Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development.

QNRF administers funding for original, competitively selected research and furthers collaborations within academia, the public, private, governmental and non-governmental sectors through effective, mutually beneficial partnerships. While QNRF actively seeks internationally recognised researchers, it is dedicated to funding research that meets the needs of Qatar. For more information, visit:

www.qnrf.org

For more information on the press release, please contact:

Avantika Nair, avantikan@bljworldwide.com, +974 7021 8261

For more information about Qatar Foundation, please contact

Tariq Al Sada
Press Office Unit Head
Qatar Foundation
Tel: +974 4454 0991
Email: talsada@qf.org.qa

Anwar El-Shamy
Press Office Coordinator
Qatar Foundation
Tel: +974 5590 4407
Email: aelshamy@qf.org.qa