



PRESS RELEASE

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NU-Q, GU-Q and THIMUN Qatar Provide Essential Leadership Development Opportunities for Educators and Students at Qatar Leadership Conference

Doha, Qatar – October 19th, 2014 – Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q), Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar (GU-Q) and The Hague International Model United Nations Qatar (THIMUN Qatar), have announced the successful conclusion of Qatar Leadership Conference (QLC) 2014, the flagship professional development conference for educators and students in the Middle East.

The third annual conference, held at Qatar National Conference Centre (QNCC) in Education City, witnessed a 20% rise in attendees this year, with over 530 students, teachers and mentors from schools across Qatar and the region, participating in events designed to expand and nurture youth leadership skills.

The program featured MUN, debate and educational leaders working with participants in skill building, professional learning, organization, teaching, community and service, as well as media and film programs. High school students and teachers were provided with quality workshops and a program designed to assist with professional development utilizing tools to run successful MUN and media studies programs.

"This flagship conference plays a pivotal role in providing knowledge sharing and workshop opportunities critical for educators and students to hone their leadership skills," said Dr. Everette E. Dennis, dean and CEO of NU-Q. "The conference's growth in popularity is testament to the importance of bringing together leading education institutions to offer multi-discipline learning. Our leadership in co-hosting the QLC with our Qatar-based partners demonstrates the importance we place on providing world-class communication, journalism, and liberal arts programs to benefit our students and the wider community."

Leadership conference keynote speakers included prominent international commentators including: Canadian humanitarian Peter Dalglish, William Yotive from the UN Department of Public Information in New York, Ben Keesey, Executive Director and CEO of Invisible Children, Inc. and Ryan Villanueva, co-founder of Best Delegate, a U.S-based Education Company specializing in Model United Nations resources, training and consulting.

"At Georgetown University, we are continuously finding ways to engage with the community

and developing young leaders. Our partnership with Qatar Leadership Conference (QLC) to bring together Georgetown students, faculty and staff with a growing number of local and international participants for the purpose of skill-building and professional development is an important way for us to fulfill our mission,” said Dr. Gerd Nonneman, dean of GU-Q. “We look forward to building on the successes of the last three years of working with NU-Q and THIMUN through QLC, and to continued engagement with students on the important issues impacting the world around them.”

Lisa Martin, Head of THIMUN Qatar said, “QLC promotes multiple opportunities to foster discussion between emerging youth leaders and recognized authorities in their respective fields. It is an incubator of new ideas and supports the development of the qualities needed in today’s youth, to act on their knowledge and to make their voices heard. The student-led workshops provide a unique opportunity to practice a variety of skills needed by leaders of all ages. Whether you are a delegate new to MUN, or an official from the real UN, and everyone in between-teachers, new directors, student officers, humanitarians, activists, film enthusiasts and budding entrepreneurs - the QLC is a place to act on ideas and find your voice, all critical components for engaged leadership.”

Qatar Leadership Conference is part of a number of initiatives to bring together students and faculty from the various campuses across Education City (EC). This includes the recent launch of the first ‘Doha Seminar,’ a new interdisciplinary honors seminar open to outstanding undergraduate students in EC and taught jointly by leading professors from Qatar Foundation Education City universities, Qatar University and the Brookings Doha Center. The seminars offer participants an academic view of Qatar and the Gulf, covering family, art, history, culture, consumerism, environmentalism, and foreign affairs. The annual event builds on MUN and the THIMUN Qatar Northwestern film festival.

For more information on QLC visit: <http://qatar.thimun.org>

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About Northwestern University in Qatar

Northwestern University in Qatar draws from its parent organization, [Northwestern University](#) (Evanston, Illinois), a distinguished history, famous programs and an exceptional faculty. Founded in partnership with Qatar Foundation, NU-Q provides a framework through which students explore the world and, ultimately, shape its future through its distinguished schools of [communication](#), [journalism](#), and [liberal arts](#).

About Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar (SFS-Qatar)

Founded in 1789, Georgetown University is a student-centered international research university offering highly ranked undergraduate, graduate and professional programs preparing the next generation of global citizens to lead and make a positive impact in the world. The outstanding students, faculty, alumni and professionals of Georgetown are dedicated to real-world applications of research, scholarship, faith and service.

Founded in 1919, the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service (SFS) is a premier school of international affairs. At Georgetown's Washington, D.C. and Doha, Qatar campuses, SFS provides a rigorous education combining theory and practice while instilling the values of men and women in the service of others. At SFS-Qatar, students have the opportunity to major in Culture and Politics, International History, International Economics, and International Politics with the same curriculum as that available to students in Washington.

About THIMUN Qatar

The THIMUN Qatar Regional Office was created as a joint partnership between Qatar Academy and the THIMUN Foundation. The office supports efforts in the Middle East and North Africa to develop programs in the area of Model United Nations, leadership, and film advocacy. THIMUN Qatar also works to support the development of national programs in the region through its conference affiliation program. THIMUN Qatar is developing new MUN programming in Arabic and is expanding 21st century MUN opportunities through its online programs.