

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**QATAR FOUNDATION ANNUAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE TO DELIVER  
POWERFUL PROGRAMME AT FLAGSHIP EVENT ADDRESSING QATAR'S  
GRAND CHALLENGES**

*ARC Announces Agenda For Second Day Of Research Conference*

**Doha, Qatar: 16 November 2014:** Qatar Foundation's Annual Research Conference (ARC'14) will host keynote lectures, powerful debates, and presentations relating to Qatar's most pressing research priorities on the second day of the annual flagship event in Doha.

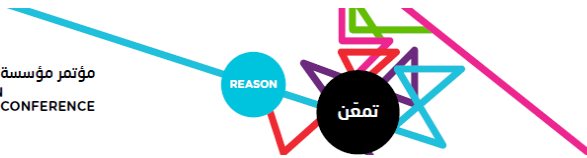
The conference takes place on 18 and 19 November at Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC) and aims to address Qatar's research Grand Challenges and critical issues. This includes the country's cyber and water security, solar and renewable energy solutions, health management systems, as well as the social challenges and opportunities in Qatar and the region.

As one of the main pillars of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D) has been active in promoting QF's vision of cultivating life-long learning and interest in science and research in Qatar with the Annual Research Conference organised by QF R&D being its flagship event.

The keynote lecture presentations during the second day's plenary session will offer attendees the opportunity to listen and engage in discussions with leading scientists and research experts.

These experts include Dr Steven Chu, former US Secretary of Energy, addressing 'Solar Energy and Water Security: Issues and Opportunities'; Dr Deborah Frincke, Research Director, National Security Agency/Central Security Service (NSA/CSS), USA, on 'Global Challenges For Unclassified Cyber Security Research'; and Dr Hsinchun Chen, Lead Program Director, National Science Foundation (NSF) Smart and Connected Health Program, USA, on 'Smart and Connected Health Program of NSF/NIH: Health IT R&D in the USA.'

Dr Nabeel Al Salem, Executive Director of Outreach and Communications at QF R&D, said: "Day two at ARC'14 will showcase renowned speakers, scientists and researchers



who can shed light on pressing issues from a global perspective, thus sharing their expertise and know-how with the local and global research community contributing to Qatar's scientific advancement."

Dr Salem continued: "ARC'14 motivates multidisciplinary knowledge sharing and collaboration needed to achieve Qatar's National Research Strategy. This includes water security, energy security, cyber security, integrated healthcare, social sciences, arts and humanities."

Day two of ARC'14 will witness debates on health and social sciences with expert contributors exploring the latest themes.

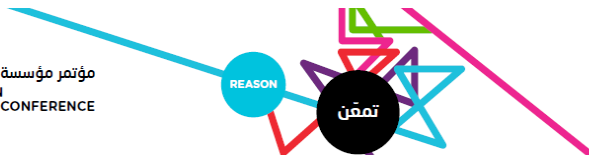
The health debate is entitled 'Personalized and Precision Medicine in the next 10 years: Hype, hope or clinical reality?' where panellists will address the challenges of integrated healthcare, and the opportunities it offers for an efficient and cost-effective healthcare system.

Experts on the panel from Qatar include Dr Hilal Lashuel, Qatar Biomedical Research Institute, QF R&D; Dr Hadi Abderrahim, Qatar Biobank for Medical Research, QF R&D; and Dr Abdul-Badi Abou-Samra, Hamad Medical Corporation.

They will be joined by international delegates, including: Mr Peter Goodhand, Global Alliance for Genomics and Health, Canada; Dr Hirokaki Kitano, The Systems Biology Institute, Japan; Dr Kathryn A. Phillips, University of California, San Francisco, USA; and Dr Hsinchun Chen, National Science Foundation, USA.

The social sciences debate will focus on one of the main economic pillars underpinning the Qatar National Vision 2030: 'Developing a Knowledge-based economy: Which indicators matter? How to design effective incentives?'

Moderated by Dr Nader Kabbani of Silatech in Qatar, expert contributors will include: Dr Brian Wilcox, Department of Psychology and Center on Children, Families and the Law, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA; Dr Christopher J Ruhm, Frank Batten School of Leadership & Public Policy, University of Virginia, USA; Dr Darwish Al-Emadi, Social and Economic Research Institute (SESRI), Qatar University; Dr Miles Kimball, Department of Economics and Survey Research Center, University of Michigan, USA; Mr Naser Saleh Al-Mahdi, Qatar Statistics Authority, Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics, Qatar; and Dr Patrick H. Tolan, Curry School of Education and Department of Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences, University of Virginia, USA.



This year's conference follows on the success of ARC'13 where Qatar's research Grand Challenges were unveiled. ARC'14, QF's flagship research conference, will offer technical presentations and panel discussions where some of the world's leading researchers will share their perspectives on a variety of global research challenges.

For more information about ARC'14 or to register, please visit: <http://www.qf-arc.org/>.

For the latest news and announcements, please follow [https://twitter.com/qf\\_arc](https://twitter.com/qf_arc).

Image Caption

**Image 1:** Dr Nabeel Al Salem, Executive Director of Outreach and Communications at Qatar Foundation Research and Development

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### About Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D)

"Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D) is charged with the Qatar National Research Strategy, dedicated to making Qatar a leading centre for research and development excellence and innovation. QF R&D is home to Qatar National Research Fund, a leading scientific research funding organisation, Qatar Science & Technology Park, an international hub for technology innovation and commercialisation, and Research institutes operating at the frontiers of science, including Qatar Biomedical Research Institute, Qatar Computing Research Institute and Qatar Energy and Environment Research Institute."

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