

PRESS RELEASE

### **HBKU Honors Outstanding Students**

Doha, 3 May, 2014 – Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development, has honored five students of its partner universities with the President’s Award 2014 in recognition of their all-round performance.

The Award winners, who are graduating this year from a number of HBKU’s partner universities, were presented with certificates of achievement and commemorative medallions during a ceremony at the HBKU Student Center attended by deans, faculty and staff, as well as family and other community members.

All five have combined academic excellence with service to the community within and beyond the Education City campus.

The recipients of the President’s Award 2014 are: Yara Bader Al-Darwish (Northwestern University in Qatar), Sara Abdulaziz Al-Derham (Northwestern University in Qatar), Tayseer Marwan Mosleh (Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar), Sara Khalid Al-Mesnad (Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar), and Fahim Imaduddin Dalvi (Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar).

His Excellency Sheikh Abdulla bin Ali Al-Thani, President of HBKU, said: “Candidates for the President’s Award are evaluated on their academic achievements, and their efforts to improve the lives of others. The Award acknowledges their commitment to their peers, and to the future of Qatar, in areas such as leadership, community service, creative arts, and research. We look forward to seeing each of the Award winners become particularly successful members of their societies.”

Yara Bader Al-Darwish, a senior at Northwestern University said: “It feels amazing to have been recognized with the 2014 HBKU President’s Award. It makes me feel so proud to see what I have accomplished at Northwestern, where I am currently the student body President as well as Editor in Chief of the student run newspaper, The Daily Q. Receiving this award is a reminder of how much I have accomplished in the last four years, and the potential I have to contribute to Qatar after graduation.”

Fellow HBKU 2014 President's Award honoree, Sara Khalid Al-Mesnad, a student at Georgetown School of Foreign Service in Qatar, commented: "To receive this award is indescribable, and I was so surprised to have been a recipient! For the last four years I have been involved in both Georgetown's 'Zones of Peace, Zones of Conflict' which studies conflict resolution. I have also participated in the Model U.N. for four years, and one year as a member of the Board of Directors. I feel honored to be recognized at an event of this magnitude and selected out of such a worthy and accomplished group of students."

Twenty two students with a grade point average of 3.6 and above were nominated for the President's Award 2014 by the deans of their respective universities. Potential finalists then completed an evaluation process during which they had an opportunity to explain to the selection committee how they created a positive impact on the community through their out-of-class involvement, and what they gained from those experiences.

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### **About HBKU**

Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, is an emerging research university building upon unique collaborations with local and international partners. Located in Education City, HBKU seeks to provide unparalleled opportunities for scholarship, teaching, discovery, and learning for all of its students through an array of interdisciplinary programs.

HBKU's partners are Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Texas A&M University at Qatar, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, Northwestern University in Qatar, HEC Paris in Qatar, and University College London Qatar.