

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS TO SHOWCASE RESEARCH FINDINGS AT QATAR NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND COMPETITION

Budding Scientists To Present Their Work to Panel Of Expert Judges At Public Event

Doha, 15 March 2015: Undergraduate students from across Qatar are set to compete in the annual Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP) contest, hosted by Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF), a member of Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D), on Wednesday 18th March.

Participating university students will convene at the Hamad bin Khalifa University Student Center in Qatar Foundation, and face a panel of expert judges to present their research in front of the public. The students will compete for prizes in categories relevant to the Qatar National Research Strategy (QNRS), including engineering and technology, information and communications technology (ICT), and social sciences and humanities.

By investing in cutting-edge research, QNRF is enhancing a culture that supports Qatar Foundation on its mission to build Qatar's innovation and technology capacity, and help the nation develop into a hub of research excellence through Qatar Foundation's science and research pillar, QF R&D.

"The UREP competition is an opportunity for young undergraduate researchers to showcase their potential and gain exposure for their outstanding work. This competition, one of QNRF's most popular, is also an opportunity for the wider community, outside of the academic or scientific realm, to gain insight into the research undertaken by Qatari youth with the support of the Qatar National Research Fund," said Dr Abdul Sattar Al-Taie, Executive Director of QNRF.

"At QNRF we believe that facilitating research opportunities for undergraduate students is a crucial part of the development of a sustainable knowledge-based economy, as they not only encourage a research culture among the nation's youth, but they also help prepare them to undertake sound research at the doctoral level," he added.

The annual UREP competition, now in its 7th successive year, is the culmination of each year's UREP grant. The contest, which starts at 9:00 am and ends at 1:30 pm, is open for public attendance, and it will see undergraduate student researchers present the findings of a year's worth of research in an area of direct relevance to the QNRS.

For more information about UREP and QNRF's other funding programmes, visit:
www.qnrf.org

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

Leading Qatar's vision to become an international centre for research and development excellence and innovation, QF R&D is home to Qatar Science & Technology Park, a world-class hub for technology innovation and commercialisation, as well as Qatar National Research Fund, a globally renowned scientific research funding organization and prominent research institutes operating at the frontiers of science, including Qatar Biomedical Research Institute, Qatar Computing Research Institute and Qatar Environment and Energy Research Institute.

About Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF)

Driven by the aim of fostering a culture of research in Qatar, QNRF was established in 2006 to advance knowledge and education by acting as a support system for researchers. It is a member 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

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