

QSTP Unveils List of Innovation Experts Speaking at IASP Doha

September 24th 2014: Doha, Qatar—Qatar Science & Technology Park (QSTP), part of Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D) – which aims at leading Qatar's vision to become an international centre for research and development excellence and innovation-, has announced the experts who will speak at this year's International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation's (IASP) 31st Annual World Conference, from 19th -22nd October 2014 in Doha. This follows an August announcement that YouTube Co-Founder Chad Hurley will be the event's keynote speaker.

Head of the IASP 2014 Doha Organizing Committee and QSTP Managing Director, Hamad Al-Kuwari, said: "IASP for the first time will gather in the Middle East, bringing together entrepreneurs, tech leaders and policy makers from all over the world. This year's event is already hitting new milestones, seeing its highest participation in the past four years by attracting 138 abstract submissions and 33 authoritative innovation speakers."

Luis Sanz, Director General of IASP, will be leading a session on the new concepts and strategies in science park management, using the IASP Strategigram©— a cutting-edge software tool helping science parks develop strategies and benchmark against global best practice.

"The conference in Doha will be the first IASP World Conference in that region. Doha and Qatar Science & Technology Park will provide a perfect environment and platform for an international event of such importance, and I am delighted to be part of It." said Luis Sanz.

The event will begin with a Pre-conference seminar on the fundamentals of science park and area of innovation management, which will be particularly valuable for newcomers to the industry, as well as more experienced professionals who are working on setting up a new STP.

Steen Donner, CEO of Scion DTU in Denmark, will cover business incubation and business creation; Mclean Sibanda, CEO of the Innovation Hub, South Africa, and IASP Africa Division President, will introduce science park marketing and communication; and Ufuk Batur, Vice President of ODTU Teknokent, Turkey, will speak about science parks member services.

The seminar will be particularly valuable for anyone interested in conducting innovative science or technology development business in Qatar and the Middle East. It's a great way to discuss problems and challenges in innovation management, connect with peers, and learn from their years of experience in the field.

Key speakers include: Dr AbdulAziz Al Dusari, Chief Executive Officer at Riyadh Techno Valley, KSA, will be speaking on the role of University Science Parks in preparing graduates for the industry, and Haitham Lababidi, Assistant Vice President for Research at Kuwait University will be discussing the role of Kuwait University Research Park as a key driver for STI in Kuwait and the region, Mr Jonathan Burroughs, Chief Executive Officer at Creative Places, UK, will be discussing STP's Value propositions for technology focused large corporations and MNEs.

IASP conferences usually attracts around 600 leading government, business and innovation figures from 45 countries. They are an excellent opportunity for hundreds of science and technology parks from around the globe to explore new models of support for the world's most empowered and connected generation of technology start-ups and entrepreneurs. What sets IASP 2014 Doha apart from other events is its influential base

of delegates – a group with the ability to effect real change in how entrepreneurs are supported by public and private sector innovation catalysts around the globe.

More details about the conference can be found on the official IASP Doha website: <http://www.iasp2014doha.com/>

Qatar Science & Technology Park (QSTP), part of Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D), is Qatar's primary incubator for technology development.

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Notes to Editors:

About Qatar Science & Technology Park

Qatar Science & Technology Park (QSTP), part of Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D), is Qatar's primary incubator for technology development, fostering the environment required for accelerating commercialization of research and supporting innovation and entrepreneurship. QSTP focuses on four themes as per the Qatar National Research Strategy (QNRS) announced in 2012; Energy, Environment, Health Sciences and Information & Communication Technologies. QSTP is located in Qatar Foundation's Education City and has access to the resources of its cluster of leading research universities.

Members within the QSTP Free Zone include SMEs, international corporations and research institutions, which have collectively committed to investing in new programs, creating intellectual property, enhancing technology management skills and developing innovative new products in line with the QNRS. QSTP supports QF R&D's economic and human development objectives for Qatar and is increasingly being recognized as an international hub for applied research, innovation, incubation and entrepreneurship.

For more information, please visit the QSTP website at www.qstp.org.qa.

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

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



(QCRI) and Qatar Energy and Environment Research Institute (QEERI).

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