

DATE: Sunday, 27th October 2013

(For immediate release)

PRESS RELEASE

Academic Bridge Program (ABP) Hosts Parents & Students for Annual Open House

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26th, 2013, Qatar Foundation's Academic Bridge Program's students, their parents and teachers joined together for the ABP's annual Open House in Education City. This event gave parents the opportunity to meet with the teachers of their sons and daughters and to learn more about the ABP's grading system, the academic courses, clubs and activities on offer, and the specific application process for students to gain admission to university next year.

The ABP was established in 2001 under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser in order to give high school graduates a transition from high school to university studies. Over the past thirteen academic years, the ABP has served over 2500 young men and women who have attended the English language foundation program. Nearly 90% of those attending have been Qataris, and over 85% of the ABP graduates have later attended English language universities in Qatar or abroad.

"The ABP curriculum includes a strong emphasis on developing the English speaking, reading, and writing skills of our students so that they will be able to study in first class universities in Qatar, the United Kingdom, the United States or elsewhere," Director of the ABP, Dr. Miles Lovelace, said.

In May 2013, the ABP graduated 177 students and 58 students or 33% got accepted to a HBKU partner university in Education City, making it the largest percentage ever admitted from a graduating class. Some students received more than one admission as the universities offered 58 ABP graduates 68 admission letters. In addition, almost 40% of ABP graduates were offered places at universities in the United Kingdom, the United States and other universities abroad while many others went onto other universities here in Qatar.

Since 2001, the ABP has developed a model academic curriculum and also offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities such as debate, Model UN, school newspaper, sports teams, and student government experience.

"The mission of (ABP) Student Services is to create an environment where learning is part of the daily life of students," explained the ABP's Assistant Director for Student Services, Mrs. Moza Al-Boainain,

“We work on promoting a positive atmosphere in the ABP. We are committed to building a community where the living and learning environments are cohesive, student life is vibrant, and diverse,” she added.

In 2011, the ABP was awarded five years accreditation by the Commission on English Language Accreditation (CEA) in the United States. This makes it easier to fast-track ABP graduates into universities in the United States without the need for them to complete a university foundation year.

The ABP also has Memorandum of Understanding agreements with a number of European and Qatari universities to make it easier for our graduates to be admitted without repeating foundation programs. Each year the ABP is adding additional MOUs with additional European universities.

To be eligible to apply to the ABP, students must have completed high school, preferably with a score of 80%. The minimum score required for entrance to the ABP for the Spring Semester is iBT TOEFL 61 or equivalent IELTS score of 5.0. The spring semester begins on the 7th January, 2013.

For further information please contact the Academic Bridge Program on **+974 44542120**, **+974 44542120**, visit **www.abp.edu.qa** or email **ABPAdmission@qf.org.qa**.

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