

REGISTRATION OPENS FOR QATAR FOUNDATION ANNUAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2018 – ARC'18

*QF R&D Event Focuses on Generating Real-World Impact Through Research and
Innovation*

Doha, Qatar, March 13, 2018: Registration has opened for the Qatar Foundation Annual Research Conference 2018 (ARC'18), which will be held at Qatar National Convention Centre from March 19-20, under the theme 'R&D: Focusing on Priorities, Delivering Impact'.

This year's conference – the seventh edition of ARC, which is organized by Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D) – will feature expert-led panel sessions and technical presentations related to the four thematic pillars defined in the Qatar National Research Strategy (QNRS): Energy and Environment; Computing and Information Technology; Health and Biomedical; and Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities.

The panel sessions will be held on the opening day of ARC'18 alongside a new conference highlight, 'The Future is Now', presented by Qatar Science & Technology Park and Singularity University (SU). It will feature some of the most in-demand speakers from SU – a global community focused on using rapidly-accelerating technologies to solve the world's greatest challenges – and 20 global start-ups showcasing groundbreaking ideas and products.

On the conference's first day, the focus of the program will also turn to global competitiveness, with international speakers joining local R&D stakeholders to discuss how to maximize the role of research and innovation in building a sustainable, diversified, and resilient economy in Qatar. The second day of ARC' 18 will feature a series of interactive sessions centered on the continuing development and updating of the QNRS – of which QF R&D is the custodian – to ensure it guides Qatar's research community towards developing solutions that address national priorities and have the potential for commercialization.

Almost 1,000 scientific abstracts, consisting of original research focusing on one of the four ARC'18 pillars, were submitted, with 270 being selected for poster presentation and 55 selected for oral presentation following review by a panel of experts. The conference will also showcase the research and innovation projects being conducted by R&D stakeholders in Qatar. Through this platform, ARC'18 will emphasize the real-world impact being delivered by researchers and innovators on issues critical to the nation's future sustainability and growth.

"The overarching theme of ARC'18, and the nature of its program, reflect the point at which Qatar's research and development ecosystem now stands," said Dr. Nabeel Al-Salem, Chair of the ARC' 18 Organizing Committee, and Executive Director of Operations, QF R&D.

“It reinforces Qatar’s status as a thriving, ambitious research and innovation hub with a global outlook, and illustrates the efforts of our researchers, innovators, and tech entrepreneurs in addressing our nation’s greatest challenges. ARC’18 will focus on the actions we must take in the present to generate impact, create tangible socio-economic benefit, and build a sustainable future for Qatar.

“We look forward to welcoming members of both the local and global R&D community to ARC’18, to gain and exchange knowledge, share ideas and opinions, and contribute to the next phase of Qatar’s research and development journey.”

To register for ARC’18, and for more information about the conference, please visit www.qf-arc.org

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Qatar Foundation Annual Research Conference 2018

Held under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), Qatar Foundation Annual Research Conference (ARC) is the flagship event of Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D).

ARC provides a unique platform for knowledge sharing and collaboration between Qatar’s brightest minds in research and innovation and leading international researchers, with the goal of addressing priority areas defined in Qatar’s National Research Strategy (QNRS): Energy and Environment; Computing and Information Technology; Health and Biomedical; and Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities .

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 center for research and development excellence and innovation.

QF R&D is home to Qatar National Research Fund, a leading scientific research funding organization, and Qatar Science & Technology Park, an international hub for technology innovation and commercialization.

For more information, please visit www.qfrd.org



Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is a non-profit organization that supports Qatar on its journey to becoming a diversified and sustainable economy. QF strives to serve the people of Qatar and beyond by providing specialized programs across its innovation-focused ecosystem of education, science and research, and community development.

QF was founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, who shared the vision to provide Qatar with quality education. Today, QF's world-class education system offers lifelong learning opportunities to community members as young as six months through to doctoral level, enabling graduates to thrive in a global environment and contribute to the nation's development.

QF is also creating a multidisciplinary innovation hub in Qatar, where homegrown researchers are working to address local and global challenges. By promoting a culture of lifelong learning and fostering social engagement through programs that embody Qatari culture, QF is committed to empowering the local community and contributing to a better world for all.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>