

## WISE PRIZE FOR EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETS IN DOHA

### *Shortlist of Names to go to WISE Prize Jury for Selection of Laureate*

**Doha, Qatar, May 13, 2017**– The World Innovation Summit for Education’s WISE Prize for Education Committee met in Doha this week to prepare a short list of candidates which will be presented to the WISE Prize Jury who will make their final selection of the 2017 Laureate. The Laureate will be announced at the WISE 2017 Summit in Doha this November.

The WISE Prize for Education recognizes an individual or team for an outstanding contribution to education at any level. It aims to raise the status of education and is firmly established as a source of encouragement and inspiration for all who devote their lives to empowering others through education.

The WISE Prize Committee, composed of six prominent international education experts, led a rigorous evaluation of the nominations. The members of the committee are H.E. Sheikha Noof Al-Thani, Executive Director, Education Development Institute (EDI), Qatar; Dr. Stefanos Gialamas, President, American Community Schools of Athens; Dr. Allan Goodman, President and CEO, Institute of International Education (IIE), United States; Dr. Mary Joy Pigozzi, Executive Director, Educate a Child, a program under Education Above All, Qatar; Mr. Asif Saleh, Senior Director of Strategy, Communications and Empowerment of BRAC and BRAC International, Bangladesh; and Mr. Claudio Sassaki, Co-founder and CEO, Geekie, Brazil.

The committee reached a consensus and produced a shortlist of names which will now go forward to the WISE Prize for Education Jury for the selection of the 2017 Laureate.

Stavros N Yiannouka, CEO, WISE, said: “The WISE Prize for Education Laureates are an inspiration for all who dedicate themselves to education as the best investment a society can make in its people. It’s my honor to welcome the members of the 2017 WISE Prize for Education Committee to Doha. Together they bring a deep understanding of education issues to the task of creating a short list of candidates for the WISE Prize. In accomplishing this, they have built a collegial consensus that reflects the best values of the prize and for education leadership.”

The WISE Summit, an initiative of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), will take place in Doha, from November 14 – 16, under the theme ‘Co-exist, Co-create: Learning to Live and Work Together’.

In related events, two of the WISE Prize Committee members have led separate sessions in Doha. In collaboration with Qatar Business Incubation Center (QBIC), Claudio Sassaki led a master class and discussion on financial sustainability with entrepreneurs. Mr. Sassaki is co-founder of Geekie, the Sao Paulo start-up that uses innovative software to deliver a comprehensive syllabus of digital lessons for teachers and students. Mr. Sassaki told participants that a tolerance for failure combined with constant adjustment to market needs was key to Geekie’s success and expansion. He also met privately with selected businesses involved with education to discuss the various approaches to the local and global challenges they face as education start-ups.

Dr. Stefanos Gialamas also hosted a master class for local principals and school leaders from private and independent schools in Qatar entitled 'Academic Leadership for the 21st Century'. The session was designed to help participants identify and develop education experiences to engage young people as architects of their own learning, and as global citizens prepared to serve their communities in times of turmoil and constant change.

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### **The World Innovation Summit for Education:**

WISE was established by Qatar Foundation in 2009 under the leadership of its Chairperson, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. WISE is an international, multi-sectoral platform for creative thinking, debate, and purposeful action. WISE is a global reference in new approaches to education. As a testament to QF's commitment to a knowledge economy, WISE is promoting a range of on-going programs toward building the future of education through empowerment and collaboration.

### **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, research and development, 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 research and development 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>