

Hamad bin Khalifa University and Maersk Oil partner to develop future leaders in the 8th Edition of LeaderShape in Qatar

Doha, 06 January 2014 – Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF), will host the 8th edition of Qatar LeaderShape at the Al Sultan Beach Resort in Al Khor from January 4th to the 9th.

LeaderShape, a highly successful program which was established in the United States in 1988, is an enriching educational experience which focuses on teaching its participants how to “lead with integrity.” Hosted in Doha since 2007, LeaderShape offers Qatar’s brightest future leaders the opportunity to develop the necessary tools and skills needed to successfully serve as global leaders.

During the intense six-day program, participants will learn to overcome challenges and build on their existing leadership skills in an environment set outside of the traditional classroom model. Each day will focus on a specific theme including, “Building Community,” “The Value of One, Power of All,” and “Bringing Vision to Reality.”

60 students from HBKU’s partner universities have been selected to participate in this highly competitive program. Participating students attend Virginia Commonwealth University (VCUQatar), Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q), Texas A&M University at Qatar (TAMUQ), Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar (CMUQ), Georgetown School of Foreign Service in Qatar (SFS-Q) and Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q), and are a mixture of both local and international students. All students who complete the program will receive a certificate as a testament to their significant accomplishments during the program.

Dr. Khalid Al Khanji, Vice President of Student Affairs at HBKU said in the lead up to LeaderShape 2014: “It is a privilege to be able to bring the LeaderShape program here to Qatar on a yearly basis. The program offers unique opportunities for our students to develop as global leaders. The skills that they develop through this program will be valuable for the rest of their lives.”

HBKU’s LeaderShape Program is supported by its official sponsor, Maersk Oil Qatar which first joined as partner for the previous program held in January 2013. HBKU recently signed an additional two year partnership agreement with the leading international oil and gas company to help develop Qatar’s future leaders. Also in the field of leadership, the two partners organized the Maersk Oil & HBKU Leadership Challenge in November 2013, which saw eight teams of students from HBKU’s partner universities and Qatar University compete in a two-day competition in the desert at Zekreet. While there, all students worked on developing leadership qualities, team work and their business strategy skills.

Commenting on this partnership, Sheikh Jassim Al-Thani, Head of Qatarization at Maersk Oil Qatar said,

“We are delighted to be the exclusive partner for the LeaderShape program again this year, and to extend our support going forward. This partnership with HBKU is a key element of our social investment programme that is focused on supporting the development of skills and capacity in young people in Qatar, and building the next generation of leaders.

Maersk Oil Qatar operate one of the world’s most complex oil fields, offshore in the Al-Shaheen field. The LeaderShape course is always a highly rewarding experience and provides the students with skills, knowledge and the confidence to become leaders in their own lives, while preparing them for challenging but rewarding careers in industries such as Oil & Gas and contributing to the development of Qatar and the National Vision.”

Through its innovative academic programs and initiatives such as LeaderShape, HBKU aims to build and cultivate human capacity through an enriching academic experience that extends beyond the classroom.

End

About HBKU:

Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, is an emerging research university building upon unique collaborations with local and international partners. Located in Education City, HBKU seeks to provide unparalleled opportunities for scholarship, teaching, discovery, and learning for all of its faculty and students through an array of interdisciplinary graduate programs.

HBKU’s partners are Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Texas A&M University at Qatar, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in Qatar, Northwestern University in Qatar, HEC Paris in Qatar, and University College London Qatar.

About Maersk Oil Qatar – Main Sponsor

In partnership with Qatar Petroleum, Maersk Oil Qatar operates one of the world’s most complex fields, offshore at Al Shaheen. It produces a third of Qatar’s oil. Turning marginal and challenging fields into successes has been the cornerstone of Maersk Oil’s growth since it began in 1962. This is particularly true in Qatar, where Maersk Oil took over the Al Shaheen field in the early 1990s at a time when others walked away. Maersk Oil has now recovered in excess of one billion barrels of oil from the field, which currently produces around 300,000 barrels of oil per day. Success has come from Maersk Oil’s experience, expertise and close relationships.