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## **QF's Academic Bridge Program Hosts HBKU Partner Universities**

**Doha, October 19, 2014 –Qatar Foundation's Academic Bridge Program (ABP) recently hosted a college fair and information session entitled "HBKU Partner Universities—A Closer Look." Representatives from 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, and Northwestern University in Qatar were on hand to answer questions from ABP students and provide them with first-hand information about their respective admissions requirements. ABP students also had the opportunity to learn more about HBKU's Student Services division and the courses offered at the six HBKU Partner universities.**

"This college fair provides a valuable opportunity for our students to learn more about the universities and the admission process. The fair builds excitement about university studies and offers ABP students the chance to have a personal introduction to these six outstanding universities," said Dr. Mark Newmark, the ABP's Assistant Director for Academic Affairs.

The ABP is the largest 'feeder school' to the HBKU partner universities and has enjoyed a very special relationship with these universities.

"Part of the mission of the Academic Bridge Program is to provide our students with the necessary foundation to be successful in the English language universities here in Education City," said Dr. Marcie Linsey, the ABP's College Placement Counselor. "As such, it is important that we foster our relationships with the HBKU Partner Universities through understanding their needs for our students so that we can continue to provide them with high quality applicants annually."

HBKU partner universities already offer eligible ABP students the opportunity to cross-register. This means that students enrolled at ABP who meet certain criteria can take cross-registration classes at one or more of the HBKU universities and, if successful, earn university course credit. Sixty three ABP students are currently taking cross-registration courses at Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar, Texas A&M University at Qatar, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar, Georgetown School of Foreign Service in Qatar and Northwestern University in Qatar.

*Keywords: ACADEMIC BRIDGE PROGRAM, ABP, QATAR FOUNDATION, EDUCATION CITY, HBKU, COLLEGE FAIR, PARTNER UNIVERSITIES*

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## About the Academic Bridge Program

The [Academic Bridge Program](#) (ABP) is a center of [Qatar Foundation](#). The mission of the ABP is to provide high school graduates of Qatari high schools (and other similar schools) who meet the admission requirements with the academic and personal skills for success in reputable English language universities around the world, with special emphasis on preparing students for the universities at Qatar Foundation. Since the launch of the ABP in 2001, the program has developed a model curriculum including English, math, science, and computer skills, combined with a wide range of other activities such as debate, Model United Nations, robotics, sports teams, and student government experience. The ABP is fully accredited by the Commission on English Language Accreditation (CEA) in the United States. This makes it easier for ABP graduates to fast track into universities in the United States without a university foundation year.