

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 2017**Qatar Foundation and VCUQatar Sign MoU to Provide Internships for Graduates**

Qatar Foundation and Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that will provide valuable internships from schools and universities in Education City.

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) and Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar (VCUQatar) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide internships for graduates from QF schools and universities.

The MoU was signed by Mr. Mohammed Abdulaziz Al Naimi, Chief Operations Officer, QF, and Dr. Akel I. Kahera, the Dean of VCUQatar.

Commenting on the agreement, Mr. Al Naimi said: "We are delighted to sign this MoU with VCUQatar as we believe our employees are our greatest asset; it is for this reason that lifelong learning is part of our core mandate. At QF, we aim to provide unique opportunities that will equip young people of Qatar with the knowledge, confidence and skills they need to excel, personally and academically."

"We are proud to partner with Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development on the internship program. We recognize that a vibrant, innovative economy also requires more writers, artists, and designers of every sort, who will energize the culture and breathe inspiration into daily life. We are committed to encouraging the interns to soar beyond their horizon and embrace their leadership capabilities" said Dean Akel I. Kahera, Dean of VCUQatar

The internship program is an initiative created by QF's leadership in March 2016 to provide opportunities for graduates from QF schools and universities to gain hands-on experience and to expand their prospects through engagement with QF partners.

This initiative helps to establish a high performance and collaborative culture that enhances the employability of the participants of the program.

QF strives to nurture the future leaders of Qatar and this initiative is an example of its mission to contribute to human development nationally, regionally, and internationally by giving its graduates the best possible start to their chosen careers and to experience the inspiring and dynamic working environments of QF partners.

VCUQatar was the first campus established in Education City. It has substantial involvement with the emerging design industries in Qatar and is a significant catalyst for that growth. It has established itself as a center of excellence for education and research in art and design.

In attendance at the signing ceremony were Mr. Mohammed Abdulaziz Al Naimi, Chief Operations Officer, QF; Mr. Mohammed Fakhroo, Executive Director, Human Capital at QF; Ms. Aljazi Al-Henzab, National Development Manager at QF, Omneya Negm, Academic Affairs Coordinator at QF; Dr. Craig Anz, the Interim Dean of Academic Affairs at VCUQatar; and Hissa Al-Garni, the Director of Strategic Engagement and Business Development at VCUQatar.

ENDS

About Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar:

VCUQatar is the international branch campus of Virginia Commonwealth University's School of the Arts, a top-ranked art and design program in the U.S. Established in 1998 through a partnership with Qatar Foundation, VCUQatar offers students the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in fashion design, graphic design, interior design and painting and printmaking, a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history and a Master of Fine Arts degree in design.

A vibrant community with global reach, VCUarts promises students a lifelong passion for and conversation about the arts. As the foremost example of its commitment to global outreach and education, VCUQatar presents valuable opportunities for cross-cultural exchange and connects VCUarts to the influential art and design world of the Middle East. The campus attracts renowned contributors to contemporary visual culture for speaking and teaching engagements, and hosts two major international events--the design conference Tasmeem Doha and the Hamad bin Khalifa Islamic Art Symposium.

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organization that is supporting Qatar on its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

QF's work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercializing solutions through key sciences. The Foundation

also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

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