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VCUQatar Announces Winners of Global Entrepreneurship Week Competition

q.media Sponsored Competition Encourages Entrepreneurial Skills

and Innovation Amongst VCUQatar's Students

As part of the worldwide initiative, Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar (VCUQatar) along with sponsor q.media, hosted its second annual student competition for creative business ideas as part of the program.

GEW is a global initiative that celebrates and encourages entrepreneurial ideas amongst young people. Established in 2006 and supported by some of the world's biggest names in business such as Bill Clinton and Richard Branson, GEW aims to inspire young people everywhere through local, national and global activities that are designed to help explore their potential as self-starters and innovators.

To celebrate GEW, VCUQatar hosted their second student competition where students and graduates were encouraged to think of an innovative business idea and create a profitable business plans. Finalists of the competition presented their business plans to a panel of judges, which included Maha Al Obaidan, Marketing and Corporate Communications Director and Lucy Urwin, Marketing and Corporate Communications Manager from sponsor q.media and also sponsors from Hamad Bin Khalifa University and the Social Development Centre.

"We want to build on the success of last year's competition and create further awareness for GEW by creating this wonderful platform for students to share their entrepreneurial ideas and inspire each other. The competition with q.media aims to help aspiring young design entrepreneurs develop a business idea and be part of a home-grown design sector that will diversify and boost the Qatar economy" explains Roger Griffiths, Director, Centre of Research, Design and Entrepreneurship at VCUQatar.

Jaber Al Ansari, q.media Group CEO, commented: *"We were delighted to sponsor this important project. The competition encourages students to be innovative, an idea we very much support at q.media and believe it is important to the future growth of Qatar, especially with our youth. We wish the winners every success!"*

The winner, Malaz Elgemiabby, a student in the Masters of Fine Arts program at VCUQatar, was thrilled and stated that the prize money would be invested into expanding the business.

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NOTES FOR THE EDITOR

About Qatar Media Services W.L.L (q.media)
q.media, owned by Qatar Development Bank (QDB), was established in 2004 with the vision, set by the Qatari Government, to work in outdoor, audio and visual advertising, events and conferences and the film industry. Whilst q.media has a healthy business portfolio within Qatar it owns a number of operations globally. These global companies cover numerous business sectors including the largest film distribution and screening company in the Middle East and the largest media printing house in Australia which operates outdoor advertising in Australia, Indonesia, Vietnam and Thailand.

About Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar:
VCUQatar is the Qatar campus of the prestigious Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Richmond, Virginia. 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 & printmaking, a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history and a Master of Fine Arts degree in design.

In addition to a comprehensive annual public events program that includes a wide range of exhibitions, lectures and fashion events, the University hosts the biennial international design

conference Tasmeem and the biennial Hamad bin Khalifa Islamic Art Symposium, attracting globally recognized designers, artists and scholars while fostering sustainable, university-community partnerships that enhance the educational, economic and cultural vitality of Qatar. For more information please visit www.qatar.vcu.edu