


<p><b>FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE</b></p>	<p>جامعة تكساس إي أند أم في قطر</p> 
<p><b>For information contact:</b></p>	
<p>Nehal Maher  Texas A&amp;M University at Qatar  Nehal.Maher@qatar.tamu.edu  +974.4423.0540  +974.5542.8289</p>	
<p><b>Texas A&amp;M at Qatar Receives Top National Research Awards</b></p>	
<p><i>Texas A&amp;M University at Qatar receives \$17.8 million in funding and 17 research awards from Qatar National Research Fund at the 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle of the National Priorities Research Program (NPRP); collects prestigious accolades for ‘Best Researcher of the Year’ and ‘Best Research office of the Year.’</i></p>	
<p>18 May 2013</p>	
<p>Texas A&amp;M at Qatar has been recognized with 17 research awards at the Qatar National Research Fund’s (QNRF) 5<sup>th</sup> annual forum. The awards represent \$17.8 million in research funding under QNRF’s 6<sup>th</sup> cycle of the National Priorities Research Program (NPRP). The program also recognized the engineering university’s faculty and staff with two accolades, “Best Researcher of the Year” and “Best Research Office of the Year” with the latter winning for a</p>	

second consecutive year.

Dr. Kenneth Hall, associate dean of Research and Graduate Studies at Texas A&M at Qatar, said, "Once again, Texas A&M University at Qatar has received significant funding from the QNRF NPRP program. These funds allow our faculty members and researchers to engage in curiosity-driven research for the benefit of Qatar. Such research always precedes technological development, and our research personnel have become proficient at translating research into commercial products. In addition, we have the good fortune this year to have won the two QNRF awards for the second year in a row. Our Research Office has won the award for the outstanding Research Office, and Dr. Khalid Qaraqe has received the Best Researcher award. We are delighted and pleased with these recognitions, and we are deeply grateful to QNRF."

The "Best Researcher of the Year" award recognized Dr. Khalid Qaraqe, professor of electrical and computer engineering at Texas A&M at Qatar. Qaraqe said, "I would like to extend my warmest thanks to QNRF for honoring me with the prestigious 2013 Best Researcher Award. This award is not just for me; it's for all my colleagues and my research team. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of them for their effort and hard work. Working with such a fine team of individuals at Texas A&M at Qatar has been such great inspiration to me."

"My biggest aim is to reflect the excellent resources and support we have from QF, QNRF and the University," he added. "I am convinced that the profound research in Qatar will lead to enhancing KPI, human capital and international visibility, and I believe that some of our research outcomes will be applied and deployed in the near future."

These recognitions demonstrate the high quality of the University's research, the caliber of its faculty and research staff and the immense and effective efforts of the research office in collaboration with QNRF.

"On behalf of QNRF, I congratulate Texas A&M at Qatar for their commitment to excellence in research and development," said Dr. Abdul Sattar Al-Taie, executive director at QNRF. The Texas A&M at Qatar research office and Dr. Khalid Qaraqe deserve recognition for their high productivity and performance. We are proud to be working alongside you to advance knowledge through research for the benefit of Qatar and the world."

This brings the total NPRP funding awarded to Texas A&M at Qatar this year to approximately \$22 million, and includes the Exceptional NPRP Project recognition that was recently awarded to Dr. Haitham Abu-Rub, professor of electrical engineering, and his team.

<b>About Texas A&amp;M University at Qatar</b>	
<p>Texas A&amp;M University, recognized as having one of the premier engineering programs in the world, has offered undergraduate degrees in chemical, electrical, mechanical and petroleum engineering at Qatar Foundation's Education City campus since 2003, and graduate courses in chemical engineering since fall 2011. Almost 300 engineers have graduated from Texas A&amp;M at Qatar since 2007. In addition to engineering courses, Texas A&amp;M at Qatar provides classes in science, mathematics, liberal arts and the humanities. All four of the engineering programs offered at Texas A&amp;M at Qatar are accredited by ABET. The curricula offered at Texas A&amp;M at Qatar are materially identical to those offered at the main campus in College Station, Texas, and courses are taught in English in a co-educational setting. The reputation for excellence is the same, as is the commitment to equip engineers to lead the next generation of engineering advancement. Faculty from around the world are attracted to Texas A&amp;M at Qatar to provide this educational experience and to participate in research activities now valued at over \$135 million, and that address issues important to the State of Qatar. Visit <a href="http://www.qatar.tamu.edu">www.qatar.tamu.edu</a>.</p>	

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