YFEL Program Graduates 4 UD Students

Four UD students graduated from Masdar’s Young Future Energy Leaders Program (YFEL) last January. The students, Hooria Muhammad Tariq, Dena Khalil Namazi, Lateefa Ahmed Ismail Ibrahim Al Housani and Ariana Malik, finished the year-long program with the aim of raising the awareness of students and young professionals in the fields of renewable energy and sustainability. "This unique program, led by Masdar Institute, helps mentor future leaders in the fields of advanced energy and sustainability by connecting them with the leaders of today. YFEL also offers young professionals and students from the UAE and abroad the opportunity to become more engaged in finding solutions to the world's biggest challenges: energy efficiency and climate change."

Director’s Message

The Internship and Career Development Center (ICDC) has been busy in past months coordinating for internship placements and ensuring that students get the best available opportunities for growth and development by participating in the Job Fair, international trips and conferences. These activities have proven to be very useful for the students as it has brought about positive outcomes mainly at the level of job placement.

In this issue, we bring you updates on what we have been doing to contribute to the success of each student towards their career development. It is a continuous effort from the ICDC to give UD students and alumni only the best opportunities available.

We hope you enjoy reading through this issue and invite you to give us your comments and suggestions and even share some articles which you would like us to publish.

Happy reading!

Amina El Marzak
Director, Student and Alumni Affairs

www.ud.ac.ae
2012 JOB FAIR

The annual UD Job Fair was held March 19, 2012 and featured 24 participating companies: Philips Electronics, United Arab Bank, DP World, General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), Unilever, Dubai Airport Free Zone (DAFZA), PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PwC), Mashreq Bank, General Motors, Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (DTCM), Bayt.com, Dubai Air Navigation Services (DANS), Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA), Middle East Communications Network (MCN), KPMG, Xerox, Standard Chartered, Ershaad.ae, Paris Gallery, Ernst & Young, Etihad Airways, Khalifa Fund, Commercial Bank of Dubai and Gradberry.

About 250 students and alumni participated in the half-day event that featured on-the-spot interviews and company presentations. Dr. Omar Hefni, UD President, spoke with participating employers and recruiters, encouraging them to seriously consider UD talents, and explained the rigorous academic structure that students go through in order to graduate from this AACSB accredited institution. The event culminated with an award ceremony to thank the companies’ participation.

Cultural and Environmental Trip to Thailand

Ten outstanding students accompanied by SAA Director Amina El Marzak represented the University of Dubai on a Cultural and Environmental Trip to Thailand, the very first initiative organized and sponsored by the Royal Thai Consulate in Dubai and the Thailand Tourism Authority. The week-long trip took place June 19-25, 2012 and was packed with unique and educational experiences. The agenda spanned the country of Thailand from Bangkok to Koh Phi Phi and included visits to Rangsit University, the Grand Palace and environmental conservation activities like planting mangrove trees and releasing blue crabs. The students learned a lot about the beautiful country and the environmental initiatives of the Thai government, promoted cultural exchange and enhanced the social and educational ties between the UAE and Thailand.

STUDENTS’ PAPERS ACCEPTED FOR SAM’S ANNUAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

The Society for Advancement of Management (SAM) accepted papers submitted by UD SAM members for presentation to SAM’s Annual Business Conference which was held March 29 – April 1, 2012 in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

The first group, comprised of Naf Al Masmi, Eba El Agha and Marwan Baluch gained acceptance for their paper, “How Abu Dhabi is Attaining Excellence in Renewable Energy and Clean Technology” and Azza Bin Abdulazziz for her paper, “Consumer’s Awareness on Product Quality in the UAE.”
BETA GAMMA SIGMA INDUCS 9 NEW MEMBERS

In a small, private event on December 4, 2012 the UD Chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma welcomed 9 new members:

- Khalil Abdul Karim Al Masri Molakab Hadad
- Samar Qaiser Hussein Ahmed
- Davron Yusupov
- Rolanda Chabi
- Mohammad Hani Rashed Rashed Al Yateem
- Hala Majdi AL Dawik
- Easa Karam Mohammed E.E. Al Belooshi
- Suha Ismail El Mobader
- Osama Moein Alhalabi

Chapter Faculty Advisor Dr. Washika Saheem and Student and Alumni Affairs Director Amina El Marzak awarded the prestigious BGS member certificates and pins. Members participated in the Centennial Photo Competition, and visited a home for special needs children. The culminating activity for this year is the guest speaker series/networking event.

Fall Career Workshops

ICDC conducted a series of Career Workshops to assist students in their job search skills and build their confidence in meeting prospective employers. A total of 74 students participated in the 3–days workshop, which covered topics on Cover Letter Writing, CV Writing, Interviewing Skills and Job Search Techniques. Each student received a Certificate of Completion signed by UD President Dr. Omar Hefni. In addition, ICDC also invited guest speakers from the industry to share their knowledge and best practices to the students. Companies such as Unilever, Dubai Financial Services Authority and Bayt.com sent their representatives to conduct career related workshops.

PwC

Company Snapshot

The 5th largest privately owned company in the world, PwC was formed in 1998 between Coopers & Lybrand and Price Waterhouse. PwC is headquartered in London, and is considered the largest amongst the “Big Four” accountancy firms in terms of 2012 revenues. PwC has offices located in 159 countries employing over 180,000 employees. The bulk of its revenues come from its Tax and Advisory services. PwC was also voted number 1 for the last 9 consecutive years by students in “The Times Top 100 Graduate Employers”

Global Graduate Program Information

- Approximate graduate hires in 2012 – 2013: 150
- Typical duration of the Graduate Program: Full time
- Application deadline: Varies, visit the website for more information
- Apply via / Application website address: http://www.pwc.com/m1/en/careers/student/career-opportunities.jhtml

Global Internship Information

- Approximate intern hires in 2012 – 2013: 50
- Typical duration of internship program: 6 – 8 weeks
- Application deadline: Varies, visit the website for more information
- Apply via / Application website address: http://www.pwc.com/m1/en/careers/internship/summer-internship-programme-uae.jhtml
The Summer Internship Program was held last July 15 to September 6, 2012. A total of 95 students participated in the 8-week training period, which included an exchange student from San Diego State University, USA. Interns went to 45 companies including 12 of which were new providers: the United Nations, Deloitte, Royal Bank of Scotland, The Legal Group, Asteco, Emirates Real Estate Homes, Petro-Tech, Memac Ogilvy, Starcom Mediavest, Hills Advertising and Starlink. We are very proud to say that the majority of the interns were offered pre-placement jobs with about 10 students hired right after the internship program.

In the 2012/13 academic year a major transition will take place. The regular internship Program is now offered in the spring semester instead of the summer. This move is being implemented to ensure that students are given more opportunities and are better supervised by companies who are here to directly oversee their training instead of the summer period. Another major change in the internship program is that it will now be offered only to those who are in their final semester of studies or have earned 117 credit hours. The internship period in 2013 will run from March 31 to May 23.

Please email us at icdc@ud.ac.ae or call 2072 662 for more information.

**INTERNS’ TESTIMONIALS**

**Rami Allaham, Marketing Student**
I always thought that having a massive campus was necessary for every student but through time I realized that the level of education we received at UD was more important and it is the hero in every student that matters. The education was perfectly structured at UD and I am thankful for the entire faculty who provided me with the skills required to be a strong candidate to compete in the market and to achieve what I aspire for and the Internship and Career Development Center has lightened my career path by coordinating for me an internship at Leo Burnett. I followed the instructions of my supervisor with serious intention. After my graduation, I got a call from the HR department at Leo Burnett and I got a great job offer. I am currently working there as Junior Communication Executive.

**Majid Al Naimi, Marketing Student**
The Internship and Career Development Center (ICDC) at UD placed me in Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority (DSO) to do my Internship and I must say that it was a good placement. The environment offered me the chance to grow and flourish, to receive knowledge, opportunity and experience. It took my learning beyond books and I obtained wisdom, capability and experience from my teachers who willingly shared their knowledge. With the guidance of my mentor, Dr. Rahim Hussain, and the preparations of the University of Dubai, DSO offered me the position of a Marketing Executive. I would like to sincerely thank the University of Dubai, Ms. Amina El Marzak and Dr. Yaprak Anadol for their help and Dr. Rahim Hussain for his wise remarks and opinions.

**Sofian Fikh, IT Student**
I had 2 goals when I enrolled for the internship program and those were to learn and get a job after. ICDC helped me in achieving my goals by placing me in the IT department of Mawarid Finance. I was at first unsure that Mawarid was the best internship place for me because it was not an IT firm but an investment company. But when I interned with Mawarid I knew I wanted to be a part of this organization. I took my internship seriously, did all the assigned work with help from both my professor and my field supervisor and eventually got hired as a System Analyst because of my dedication, hard work and commitment.

**Farideh Shartifi Kia, Accounting Student**
To intern with one of the top banks in the world has always been a dream for me. ICDC paved the way for this when they coordinated for my internship with Standard Chartered Bank. From day one of my internship it has been a hectic schedule for me but I put forth my best effort and it paid off as I was offered a full-time job soon after my internship as Financial Officer – Country Finance UAE. Thanks to UD’s ICDC, I am now part of one of the best banks in the world!

**Samer Mazen, Accounting Student**
I am grateful to ICDC for finding me the perfect internship last summer. ICDC placed me with an Italian accounting firm. My internship gave me the experience and exposure on the European accounting system. I took the advice of Ms. Amina and Ms. Redempta to do my best in my internship - I was always on time and finished all assigned tasks before the deadline. Soon after the internship, I was offered a full-time job with Business Bridge Accounting firm and I am now their Junior Accountant.

**Amr Shabhan, Management Student**
When I registered for the internship program I requested that ICDC place me with the Department of Economic Development (DED) as it was always my dream to work for a government organization. ICDC did this and now I am working for DED as a Customer Service Officer. Although it is a part time job, my work adds to my experience and I am able to earn and learn while finishing my bachelor’s degree.