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# Message from the UDAA President

### Dear Fellow Alumni:

The following is a review of UD alumni engagement and achievements for the academic year 2010/2011.

This past year has been another busy and successful one thanks to all the UDAA Board members and volunteers who have contributed so much of their time.

In November 2010, we launched our second year of the Alumni Student Mentoring Program (ASMP) and it has grown to 21 pairs. The program was intensified through a successful mentoring workshop presented by a guest speaker from Woodthorpe Wright Associates during the networking lunch held in March, followed by a closing ceremony in June. Seventeen pairs survived and 3 were deemed 'best pairs,' based on satisfactory completion of objectives within the ASMP's rules and regulations.

About 400 of you attended our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Alumni Homecoming held last December with the honorary attendance of the UAE famous singer, Abdullah Bel Khair, in the InterContinental Hotel. We sincerely thank Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank for being the main sponsor of the event, as well as the other 22 gift sponsors. We also witnessed high alumni attendance last March

at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual UD Job Fair in which 19 organizations participated. The job fair generated 82 job postings by 56 company representatives. We hope that our alumni benefited from this job fair and look forward to seeing more attend the next one in March.

Throughout the year, we have also had a few of our successful alumni come in as guest lecturers in various UD courses to support and enlighten students about the business world and career-related aspects.

Every aspect of our success is tied to the support and integrity of our alumni. We value you as one of UD's greatest assets and would not be able to progress in many crucial activities without your presence and collaboration. With every year, our Alumni Association grows, compiling a pool of top-notch graduates, which will continuously strengthen the foundation of UD. We thank you again, and are eager to share our forthcoming affairs and occasions, hopefully involving all of you in the growth and prosperity of our institution.

Sincerely,

Mohammed Juma Al Maktoum

**Stay Connected** We're inviting you to contribute to the Alumni Class Notes Updates section of the newsletter and help us keep up to date with what you and your fellow graduates are doing. Send us your news, your stories, and your announcements! Contact us at [alumni@ud.ac.ae](mailto:alumni@ud.ac.ae) or call **04-2072675** and let us know what's going on in our alumni community. This newsletter is your blank canvas; we invite you to stay connected and help us keep each new issue vibrant and fresh.



# University of Dubai wins 2011 Global Business Education Award

## EUROPEAN CEO Global Business Education Award

European CEO Magazine announced this week that it has named the University of Dubai (UD) the Most Innovative Business School in the Middle East in its 2011 Global Business Education Awards.

The award was based on such factors as accreditation, accessibility, value for money, diversity of curriculum and methodology, size (student to teacher ratios), graduation rate, admissions procedures, placement potential, training in technology, holistic approach and sustainability.

Anthony Michael, European CEO Magazine Awards Administrator said the award selection panel used a wide range of criteria to inform its decision, lending the critical eye of a collective 175 years of business journalism to the exhaustive information gathered by the award body's research team.

UD President Dr. Omar Hefni said, "This is a great honor. This award reaffirms our idea that high-quality business education must remain our top priority. Our exceptional faculty and staff work hard to give our students the very best business education and we take great pride in being recognized by such a well-informed publication as European CEO Magazine."

The winners of the Global Business Awards, which also includes categories such as 'CEO of the Year' and 'Best Private Banking,' were announced on the European CEO Magazine website and the list will be published in its entirety in the magazine's December/January issue.

"Educational development continues to be highlighted by our readers as a topic of great concern," Michael said, "They appreciate that to develop a modern business, staff must be trained to the very highest possible standards."

## Alumni Guest Speaker Series 2011/12

Three of our alumni, as well as a former student revisited their former classrooms this Fall semester in the form of guest speakers in various courses:

These guest speakers offered a wealth of valuable information to our students and we urge more alumni to participate and share their professional experience and know-how. No matter how much a student learns from studying, nothing compares to the real-world business experience you have to offer.

Speaker Name	Grad. year & major	Course	Topic Discussed
Aisha Mustafa AlShareef	2005 CIS	Human Resources Management	The Role of Talent Management in UAE
Mohammed Yousef Al Shaer	2008 MRKT	Planning for University and Career Success	Building A Career Network
Mohammed Abdullah Shael AlSaadi	2005 MGMT	Planning for University and Career Success	Relationship Between Academic Success and Professional Achievement
Abdul Muttalib Hashim	NA	Planning for University and Career Success	Job Search Components and Strategies

We will be sending guest lecture requests on various topics via email. Should you have a topic of your own that you would like to share, please write us at [icdc@ud.ac.ae](mailto:icdc@ud.ac.ae).



## UDAA & Friends Scholarship Funds

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our last and current year's donors for their contributions in the UDAA & Friends Scholarship Fund, and continuously encourage others to support current UD students through this need-based funding. Any amount is greatly appreciated!

DONOR NAME	AMOUNT DONATED
Dubai Printing Press	AED 30,000
Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank	AED 20,000
UD alumni (anonymous)	AED 6,600
Emirates NBD	AED 10,000
Dubai Printing Press	AED 15,000

Total raised funds: AED 81,600

# UD RECEIVES \$500,000 GRANT TO HELP IMPROVE TWO IRAQI UNIVERSITIES

The University of Dubai (UD) recently won a grant of \$500,000 (Dh 1,836,500) for its proposal to help two Iraqi universities improve the quality of their business education. The grant, awarded to UD last week by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), was created to improve the educational system in Iraq, with an emphasis on finance and banking.

University of Dubai President, Dr. Omar Hefni, said it is part of the school's social responsibility to support the rebuilding of Iraq. Faculty at UD saw the grant as an opportunity to use their experience and expertise to do something helpful, he said, and they took it.

The University of Dubai will assist Al Monsour University College (AMUC), located in Baghdad, in assessing its potential for obtaining an accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) – an accreditation UD holds, along with other notable schools, such as Harvard Business School and Stanford University.

"We know this is a very big challenge," UD Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Ananth Rao, said. "But it is one of our responsibilities as an accredited university. If we are asked, 'What did you do as an accredited university,' we would like to say, 'we helped two business schools raise their standards.' And those two business schools will then have the ability to raise the standards of two more business schools in the region."



## Alumni Student Mentoring Program (ASMP) 2011/2012 - Third batch

We are proud to say that our Alumni Student Mentoring Program grew by almost 30 percent this year to 27 pairs.

This year's ASMP Orientation Day was held on Oct. 13 in the Dubai Chamber. The program was introduced to the participants by one of our most supportive alumni, Fawaz Al Qaisi ('06 CBA), who also joined the program as a mentor. The orientation was held in two different sessions to accommodate the number of participants, and ensure they understood the objectives, benefits, and guidelines of the program.

As part of the ASMP events, we are looking forward to the networking lunch scheduled for March 15 and the closing ceremony on May 31.

We would like to invite professional mentors and coaches in the industry to guide alumni mentors on proper mentoring techniques in an effort to solidify the



mentor/mentee relationship and maximize the transfer of knowledge and advice to students. Should you have a professional coach or mentor in mind who can contribute by holding a workshop or presentation for our alumni mentors, please let us know. Following the increase in the

numbers of our graduates in the recent years, we are also hoping to inspire more students to participate in the program and learn from the experiences of our alumni. To find out more about the program, you are welcomed to attend one of our ASMP orientation /networking sessions.

More information and the relevant ASMP documents are available on our UD Alumni website through the link <http://www.ud.ac.ae/alumni/programs.php>. You may also contact us directly on [icdc@ud.ac.ae](mailto:icdc@ud.ac.ae).

## UD Center for Management & Professional Development - CMPD

Over the past three months, CMPD has successfully conducted training programs for corporate officials from organizations such as Dubai Airport Free Zone (DAFZ), Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA), and Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

Below are their program offerings for the year 2012:

Name of Program	Duration (months)	Certificate Awarded by	Start date
Professional Diploma in Marketing	6 - 8	Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM) U.K.	Feb. & Aug.
International Certificate in Purchasing & Supply	6 - 8	Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply (CIPS) U.K.	Feb & Sept.
Level 4 - Foundation Diploma in Purchasing & Supply	8 - 10	Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply (CIPS) U.K.	Feb. & Sept
Professional Diploma in Entrepreneurship & Business Plan Development	4	University of Dubai, Center for Management & Professional Development	Feb.
Certified Management Accountant (CMA)	4	Institute of Management Accountants (IMA), USA.	March & Sept.
Certified Business Professional CBP Customer Service	NA	NA	March & Sept.
Professional Diploma in Human Resource Management	4	University of Dubai, Center for Management & Professional Development	March & Sept.

For more information on the course description and requirements, please contact Mrs. Renny Alex at [rennya@ud.ac.ae](mailto:rennya@ud.ac.ae) or on 04-2072708.

## UD Job Fair 2012

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual UD Job Fair will be held on March 27, 2012, expecting to host about 18 different companies of various industries.

This year's job fair will include more than just basic recruitment - the participating companies will be invited to hold 30-minute workshops and presentations for the event's audience encompassing topics of latest job market trends, characteristics of highly demanded Middle East jobs, and other career-related information from the viewpoint of Human Resources representatives.

We invite you to attend the job fair for a day of networking with business professionals, gaining career advice, and even securing a job!

# Class Notes



**Jamal Ghulam Salem ('11 CIS)**

Jamal recently changed his job from Roads & Transport Authority to Tecom Investments as Information Security Specialist. He has also recently volunteered in TEDx Dubai and was involved in some of its initiatives.



**Razan Nour Eskandar ('11 MRKT)**

Razan has worked with Durar Properties as a Human Resources Assistant and has future plans for a MBA degree in Intl. Bus. She is recently engaged and soon to be married. Best of luck, Razan!



**Zainab Noureldini ('05 MGMT)**

Zainab finished her MBA degree in HR Mgmt. from Abu Dhabi University and is planning to pursue her PhD. She is currently working with Commercial Bank International and has recently been promoted to the Head of HR Division.



**Ziad Ratib Abo Owun ('05 CIS)**

Ziad has been working as an IT System Engineer with CH2MHILL Intl. since Feb. 2008. He is the father of a three-year-old daughter and is expecting a new baby soon. A houseful of cuteness!



**Mostafa Abdol H. Sarkhosh ('07 ACCT)**

After graduating from UD, Mostafa began working with his father in their family business in Exporting/Importing. In 2011, he opened his own business (Fulmar General Trdg., LLC) after negotiating with a French supplier for the distribution of Bellona Perfumes in UAE. His vision is to expand his business in the Gulf and to be one of the best distributors of this segment.



**Manal M. Hasan Mafreg ('03 F&B)**

Since graduating from UD 8 years ago, Manal has worked in various positions with RAK Bank and TECH DATA, and since 2007, she has been working with Euler Hermes Credit Insurance as a Risk Underwriter for multinational and national companies in the GCC. She has 3 children, all under the age of 5.



**Urwa Tariq ('10 ACCT/MRKT)**

Urwa recently finished her double BBA degree with UD and currently pursues a double-major MBA in Mktg. and Intl. Business. She has been working as an Accountant with UD since 2007. Urwa recently won the Unilever Idea trophy and was invited by the Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society to attend the Student Leadership Forum in South Carolina, USA. Best of luck, Urwa!



**Anas Abdulbaset Ammouri ('11 CIS)**

Anas is currently studying for a MBA degree in Software Engineering as a full-time student at the Heriot-Watt University, Dubai Campus. Some of us are just endorsed by knowledge!



**Mohammed Y. Al Shaer ('08 MRKT)**

Mohammed currently holds the positions of Mktg. and Project Manager at Emirates Technology, a Deputy Manager and Partner of IPRGate company, and member of H.H. Mohammed Bin Rashid Establishment for SME development. In 2011, he started working as a Mktg. Consultant for more than 600 businessmen and women from different organizations within the UAE and is also writing a book related to marketing and business in the UAE.



**Adil Saleh M. Abdalla ('06 CIS)**

Adil has recently changed his position from Technician to Head of Telephone & Exchange Section in the Dubai Police Headquarters. He has also begun his MBA in General Management at the Canadian University of Dubai and is expecting to graduate by September 2012. We wish him all the best!



**Maitha Ahmad Musabih ('11 MRKT)**

Maitha worked for a year with Emirates Airlines before joining Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (DTCM) as an intern, and recently rejoined Emirates Airlines as a Business Improvement Controller in the Business Support Dept. She is also doing her MBA at the Canadian University of Dubai and is expecting her first child in February.



**Ali Ahmad Angizeh ('10 MGMT)**

Ali is currently working with the Dubai Airports as Head of Operations, and is hoping to begin his Executive MBA in March. He has also recently taken a trip to Colombo and plans to visit Istanbul next. What an adventurous spirit!