

137 Winners

in 19th Session,
and Honoring Ceremony
on April 25



**'Hamdan for Talent' Ranks
2nd & 3rd in Arab Robot
Championship**

**Under the patronage
of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan
bin Rashid Al Maktoum
Opening (Hall 1)
in UNESCO next October**

3 Voluntary Initiatives Won
'Initiator Educator' Award

March 2017

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OUR VISION

To be pioneers in the management of excellence in educational performance and fostering talent

Cover Story

AIT News
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Monthly Educational Magazine

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Under the patronage of His Highness
Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum
Opening <Hall 1>
in UNESCO next October

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and Honoring Ceremony**
on April 25

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Sustainable Development Goals

In the 70th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, presidents of states and governments, United Nations officials, and representatives of civil society adopted the new sustainable development goals, in which UNESCO contributed.

Based on its interest in educational affairs, 'Al Tamayoz News' will present in each issue an education-related aspect of the goals of this UN 2030 agenda, highlighting the UAE's efforts in promoting United Nations attempts to achieve sustainable development.



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

- Climate change is now affecting every country on every continent. It is disrupting national economies and affecting lives, costing people, communities and countries dearly today and even more tomorrow.
- People are experiencing the significant impacts of climate change, which include changing weather patterns, rising sea level, and more extreme weather events. The greenhouse gas emissions from human activities are driving climate change and continue to rise. They are now at their highest levels in history. Without action, the world's average surface temperature is projected to rise over the 21st century and is likely to surpass 3 degrees Celsius this century—with some areas of the world expected to warm even more. The poorest and most vulnerable people are being affected the most.
- Affordable, scalable solutions are now available to enable countries to leapfrog to cleaner, more resilient economies. The pace of change is quickening as more people are turning to renewable energy and a range of other measures that will reduce emissions and increase adaptation efforts. But climate change is a global challenge that does not respect national borders. Emissions anywhere affect people everywhere. It is an issue that requires solutions that need to be coordinated at the international level and it requires international cooperation to help developing countries move toward a low-carbon economy.
- By adopting this goal, the United Nations aims to Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries; integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning; and improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.
- In the UAE, which has provided a unique model for protecting and preserving the environment, where the environment is a priority in policy planning, decision-making and action mechanisms, the UAE is balancing the sustainable development and the environment as one of the basic principles of its work and development programs, in a manner that preserves the right of the successive generations to enjoy life in a healthy and safe environment.
- The process of environmental work locally has witnessed significant developments at the institutional level. The addition of the climate change file to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change has been an important milestone in this process.
- In September, the Cabinet approved the establishment of the UAE Council for Climate Change and Environment, which will propose the general policy of the State on climate change, environment and green development, as well as laying down the general principles of plans and projects on climate change mitigation and adaptation with its effects, and promoting the joint action in the field of environment and the relevant municipal services. Furthermore, the Council will be entrusted with overseeing the implementation and application of the UAE's Green Development Strategy.



Under the patronage
of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Opening «Hall 1» in UNESCO next October

Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Finance, welcomed the Director-General of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Dr. Irina Bokova, in his palace in Zabeel, His Highness and Bokova discussed the activities carried out by the organization, and its role in spreading education and establishing the culture of science in poor communities, whose children are deprived of educational opportunities.



The Director-General of UNESCO commended the generous support offered by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum in order to enable the organization to implement its programs in many countries of the third world, especially in Africa and Asia. On this occasion, Bokova also invited His Highness to open 'Hall 1' in October at the UNESCO's headquarters in Paris. The Hall has been

renovated and equipped with the latest sound and light systems, with a world-class furniture in order to host conferences organized by UNESCO at its permanent headquarters in Paris. His Highness promised to meet the invitation, and wished the international organization's success in achieving its goals and helping children of the world, especially children in third world

countries, in order to attain their rights to education and living a decent life. The meeting was attended by Sheikh Saeed bin Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Abdul Rahman bin Mohammed Al Owais Minister of Health and Community Protection, Dr. Rashid Ahmed bin Fahd Minister of State, Humaid bin Mohammed Al Qatami, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Director-General of Dubai

Health Authority, and Saeed Al Kindi. While the delegation accompanying the Director-General of UNESCO consisted of Cynthia Gutman, Director-General Coordination Office, Noha Bawazir, head of the Arab Bureau of External Relations, and Shanta Ratnengam, Head of Private Finance and Multi-Strategic Planning as well as a number of other dignitaries.



Including Vocational Training, Environment and School Transportation

3 Voluntary Initiatives Won 'Initiator Educator' Award



Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

Three voluntary initiatives have won the 'Initiator Educator' award, which was launched by Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance for this year only, in response to the directives of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, announcing 2017 as the 'Year of Giving'. Dr. Badria Nasser Al Junaibi, who is a professor at UAE University, won the award for her 'Mubadara' (Initiative) project for voluntary work, while Ahmad Misbah Khalifa Al Neyadi, who works for Al Tafawoq School in Al Ain, won the award for his initiative 'Beyatona Kanzona' (Our Environment, Our Treasure). The initiative 'Tajneed' (Recruit) by Shabelle Omer the third award.



This was announced by His Excellency Hussein Al Hammadi, Minister of Education and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, during a press conference. HE added that the number of participants in the award reached 72 people who work in the educational field from various emirates, and that 11 participants were qualified to the interview stage.

“The ‘Initiator Educator’ winners will be honored during the ceremony designated to honoring Hamdan Award winners in its 19th session on April 25, in Dubai World Trade Centre.

The press conference was attended by Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Secretary-General of the Award; Sulaiman Abdul Khaliq Al Ansari, CEO of the Award; Dr. Ahmad Eid Al Mansouri, member of the Board of Trustees, and Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Member of the Board of Trustees and Technical Advisor of the Award.

On his part, Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Member of the Board of Trustees and Technical Advisor of the Award said: “The Award has thoroughly examined all the ideas that participated, and relied on specific criteria in the selection process, most notably the targeted group for each initiative, the possibility of continuity and sustainability of the implementation, and the presence of a clear impact and tangible results in the community due to each initiative, as well as, not being directly related to the nature of each owner of the initiative’s field of work.”

He pointed out that a specialized team conducted interviews for evaluating the participants in order to decide on three winners, adding that the initiative was launched by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Minister of Finance, and patron of the Award. His Highness interacted positively with the Year of Giving, especially by the introduction of the Initiator Educator Award for this year (only), in order to achieve the second objective in the year,



namely, encouraging the spirit of volunteerism in all segments of society, to enable each member of the society to provide a real service to the country and benefit from competencies in all areas. The Technical Advisor for the Award stressed that the Initiator Educator award has caught the attention of many people working in general and high education, in both public and private sectors. He also added that the award achieved its objectives in terms of contributing to upgrading the level of education, noting that Hamdan Award appreciates the efforts that people put in the educational field, especially voluntary work, as well as initiatives that could enrich the

values and raise the awareness regarding the value of citizenship and serving the nation.

The Award, amounting to AED 90,000, with AED 30,000 for each winner, aims at rewarding voluntary work, especially in the field of education within the United Arab Emirates in both public and private sectors, and targets all types of employees in general education, and higher education institutions in the country.

3 Initiatives Made Difference in Society

The three winning initiatives made difference in the UAE society, and focused on the second objective of the Year of Giving, i.e. volunteerism.

Hussein Al Hammadi: 72 educators participated in the award, 11 were interviewed

Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi: the award achieved its objectives and contributed to upgrading the education system

The winners made a difference in the UAE community and focused on volunteerism

‘Mubadara’ an innovative program implemented for the 1st time in a government university in the UAE

‘Beyatona Kanzona’ aims at giving attention to our environment and teaching noble values about it

Hereunder following are some information about each initiative, its objective, and targeted group:

‘Mubadara’ Initiative for Voluntary Work

An innovative program that is implemented for the first time in a public university nationwide. It was developed by Dr. Badria Nasser Al Junaibi, a professor in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. The most important objective of the initiative is to eliminate the issue of graduates unemployment and help them find a job, by eliminating the usual phrase (I don’t have practical experience), and targets the United Arab Emirates University students.



The Initiative aims at establishing the first career center that qualifies students to graduate with the experience needed by volunteering. The program takes into consideration a modern idea in the UAE society, which is vocational education through volunteering, where students can take advantage of their free time in participating and preparing programs and project, as well as seminars, lectures and innovative campaigns in line with the UAE policy, such as innovation, reading and smart learning. Young people can, through participating in the program, integrate in local institutions, which would enable them to acquire long-term experience certificates, ranging from one to four months.

People in these centers volunteer in various activities such as seminars, campaigns, lectures, and community workshops that enable them to acquire a certificate of practical work experience in variety of areas, and not specific specialization areas.

Objective of the initiative:

The initiative aims to:

- Make a change and development in the society, and build a sense of confidence, based on the culture of volunteerism among individuals and organizations in order to re-

ceive best aid.

- Integrate all social and civil services activities to work closely with government and non-profit institutions.
- Give young people and community members the chance to acquire practical experience on various fields through voluntary work.
- Highlight the role of volunteerism, and encourage young people and community members to excel in various fields.
- Find appropriate chances and opportunities for young people to provide both services and support for the community as an integral part of the education process.
- Build partnerships in the community among various institutions in the UAE.

'Beyatona Kanzona' Initiative

This initiative was launched by Ahmad Misbah Khalifa Al Neyadi, who works for Al Tafawoq School in Al Ain, in order to teach and instill the good values regarding the local environment. The initiative was first implemented inside the school with the students, as a start of a recycling program to serve the educational process. In this initiative, students were asked to recycle materials both at school and at their homes to create designs and innovative means to

serve the educational process. This initiative that included students and their families, spread to the community later on, and then turned into an (Umbrella) that contained several programs, which serve the environmental and educational areas as well as deepening national identity.

The initiative was also aimed at national participation. Some of the programs that were covered by the initiative were (specialized environmental campaigns, environmental exhibitions and competitions, and the sorting process within the school and at home...).

The initiative later on developed to turn into a national environmental educational program, which included practical, cultural and educational aspects, and organized training programs for students, teachers and families, that provided education on how to benefit from material remnants to create designs and innovations to serve the educational process.

Objective of the initiative:

The initiative aims to:

- Link both practical and theoretical aspects in the educational curricula.
- Discover various talents and abilities that students have.
- Enrich the student's spirit of cooperation and profes-

sional work.

- Train students to develop plans, organize work, and deepen environmental knowledge.

'Tajneed' Initiative

Launched by Shabelle Omer, who works in D12 Consultancy FZE, this initiative focuses on training bus drivers and supervisor. It aims at ensuring safe transportation for students from and to school, by educating drivers and supervisors through conducting training courses throughout the week.

The training courses provide lessons that spread awareness regarding values and principles that derive from the Islamic teachings and the UAE culture. The courses also include positive messages, valuable tips, various activities, as well as entertainment aspects, and it all comes down to entrench principles and values in the minds of the targeted group, in order to educate them, and ensure the safety of clients.

Objective of the initiative:

The initiative, which focuses on bus drivers and supervisors, aims to:

- Spread happiness through education.
- Provide useful services for drivers and supervisors.
- Ensure student's safety during the bus ride to and from school.



'Hamdan for Talent' Ranks 2nd & 3rd in Arab Robot Championship

1300 participating students, forming more than 150 teams from 12 countries

UAE students acquiring necessary experience was one of the most important gains of the Championship



Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Giftedness & Creativity team won the third place in the Arab World Robot Championship, and the second place in the FLL Table Competition at the 10th Arab Robot Championship, which was held at Qatar National Convention Centre in Doha, Qatar, under the auspices of Arab Robotics Association in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in Qatar, and lasted for 3 days.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Secretary-General of Hamdan Award, said that ranking second and third by the team representing the UAE is considered a great achievement, taking into consideration that it was participating for the first time. He added that this achievement is a result of the strategic partnership between the Award and Ministry of Education. He also pointed out that the Award was keen to participate in this Championship as part of its plan to qualify students to participate in region-

al and global competitions. He also stressed that winning third place in the Arab Championship is considered a great accomplishment for the students, motivating them to participate in world competitions, while providing an opportunity to gain the necessary expertise needed to participate in these type of competitions that require many skills. He added that the Award team represents a group of talented students who were discovered and sponsored, as part of the National Talent Sponsoring Scheme carried out by the Award.

The Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Secretary-General of the Award expressed his gratitude to His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Minister of Finance, and patron of the Award for the attention and care provided in education areas, and his continuous support in the field of excellence and talent, as well as encouraging innovation, which contributes to the development of education and progress of society.

Advanced Positions

Khawla Bellouq, Executive Director of Excellence and Talent, said that Hamdan Award has adopted an ambitious vision to compete in international robotics and artificial intelligence competitions, and to achieve advanced positions, especially that talented students in Hamadan Center are subject to systematic training and have the knowledge and skills that qualify them to participate in these types of competitions. She added that the Award participated in this year's Championship with 11 students, competing against more than 1300 students forming more than 150 teams from 12 countries, which posed a great challenge that they were able to overcome. She also pointed out that one of the most important gains of participating in this Championship was acquiring the necessary experience to qualify and participate in the international competitions.

Distribution of Prizes

In the presence of Fawzia Al Khater, Assistant Undersecretary for Education Af-

fairs, and Mabrouk Al Mansouri Consul General of the UAE to Qatar, Maryam Al Awadhi, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Arab Championship, distributed the prizes to winners. Al Khater said: "This Championship receives great attention by talent centers, due to its accomplishment of educational goals, and the way it spreads vitality and enthusiasm among participants, as well as encouraging great values such as cooperation and fair competition."

This Championship is sponsored by Arab Robotics Association, and is hosted annually by one of the Arab capitals. It aims at encouraging students to innovate and develop ideas, through real scientific experience, that fosters creativity and innovation skills. It also encourages them to learn science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and promotes participation, cooperation, exchange of experience, culture and knowledge from different countries in the Arab world, in addition to helping students explore, experiment, and test their abilities.



Under a Memorandum of Understanding Hamdan Award and ADEC Agree on Implementing Excellence and Talent Projects

Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance and Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation and joint work regarding the planning and implementation of a group of projects and specialized programs in a variety of areas that include excellence, talent and innovation, which target talented students in Abu Dhabi schools, in addition to programs that are aimed at raising awareness in the community regarding educational development as well as spreading the culture of knowledge and skills to parents and school administrations, as well as coordinating joint efforts in order to enhance the students' competitiveness through internationally recognized standards.

The MoU derives from the vision and directions of the wise leadership towards education development and upgrade in order to achieve creativity, innovation, quality, and excellence, as well as enhancing efforts and practices that are applied in these areas, which help achieve these national goals and objectives through cooperation and coordination among institutions, and creating specialized initiatives in

educational work.

Both parties have been keen to achieve the public interest through strengthening the bonds of partnership and cooperation, the establishment of institutional relations, the exchange of knowledge and information, and cooperation in their areas of specialization; things which reflect the common interest in the education system, especially talented and outstanding students.

Research and Publications

Pursuant to the MoU, both parties will also exchange educational experiences and organize joint activities in the fields of excellence, talent, innovation, quality of education, and developments in education with innovative nature, in addition to cooperation in conducting joint research and studies, exchanging publications and information materials,

as well as organizing conferences, seminars, scientific forums and specialized training programs in order to develop the national human resources in the areas of excellence, talent and innovation.

Both parties will also work on exchanging information, and provide the Award with information and statistical data for different educational fields, which would help in



Establishing a joint committee to identify the mechanisms and schedule for the implementation of joint programs and activities

Periodic meetings to review what was accomplished and discuss the agreed areas of cooperation

planning various programs that target talents and innovators through the UAE, facilitate the provision of services and implementing joint projects that ensure rights for all parties, highlight the leading role of the UAE, holding meetings, and specialized workshops, as well as providing parties with technical support and specialized consulting services that are linked to standards of excellence, high quality education, innovation, talents and creativity, so as to benefit outstanding and talented students, and prevent the duplication of efforts.

Joint Ventures

Under the MoU, the two parties shall coordinate and cooperate in development plans and joint ventures in various fields that include talents, creativity and innovation, as well as working together in conducting joint research and studies, exchanging publication and information. The Memorandum also states the importance of organizing joint training programs for the development of national human resources in the fields of talent, creativ-

ity, and innovation, in addition to sending invitations to attend seminars, conferences, training courses and scientific workshops held by both parties regarding taking care of talented people. Moreover, the MoU focuses on holding meetings and specialized workshops to follow up the current coordination, and work together on finding ways to promote the welfare of talented people at the UAE level, provide them with the appropriate environment, and design programs that help develop their talents, as well as sharing experiences and best practices in spotting talents and finding ways to encourage them. The MoU provides that the parties shall form a joint committee consisting of members from each Party, in order to identify the mechanisms, frameworks and schedule for the implementation of the joint programs and activities, and to hold periodic meetings (at least once a month) to review what has been accomplished and discuss the areas of cooperation.

Development Areas

Sulaiman Al Ansari, CEO of Hamdan bin Rashid Al

Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, praised the role played by ADEC in supporting the development of education, and its great efforts in modernization, which focuses on the quality of educational services, and provide talents and innovators with the care needed, especially that these are the same areas that Hamdan Award specializes in, and has gained over the years cumulative technical and administrative experience, which enables it to move forward with projects towards achieving the goals.

He also added that the Award has a strategic partnership with the Ministry of Education, and that there are number of standing projects related to the development of education, including the discovery of talented student, and providing them with services, such as Fab Labs and others.

He stressed that the Award partnership with ADEC will enrich the process of development and be positively reflected on the learning process through the discovery of talented students, in addition to encouraging schools to

invest in student capacities, as well as directing students towards innovative thinking and practical applications, thus enhancing the chances of realistic education and achieving the goals of the UAE and society. He also explained that the Award is proud of its partnership with such a prestigious educational body, and hoped that both parties succeed in their quest to contribute to making a great shift in educational services.

Support and Care

On the other hand, the Deputy CEO of the School Education at ADEC Dr. Karima Al Mazrouei, stressed that the Council is keen to provide the necessary support and care for talented students, saying, "We aim to provide the necessary environment to motivate and encourage talented students, thus contributing to the discovery and promotion of students' talents".

She also added that the programs would include advanced skills such as critical thinking, creative thinking, problem solving, leadership skills, as well as self-learning and research methods.



Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi Presents a Paper on Teaching Thinking to Students

Hamdan Award participates in GESS Forum and Exhibition





Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance participated in the Global Educational Forum and Global Educational Supplies and Solutions Exhibition (GESS). Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Talent and Creativity pavilion attracted the visitors of GESS, which was held at Dubai World Trade Center.

Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, member of the Board of Trustees and Technical Advisor of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance, participated in the Forum, where he presented a worksheet on teaching thinking among students on

the GESS theatre during the sessions.

Al Suwaidi stressed that teaching thinking will enable children to deal with technology in a positive and responsible manner.

The Global Education Forum and Global Educational Supplies and Solutions Exhibition were launched under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

GESS gathered specialists and professionals in education at all levels, from internationally renowned speakers, providing them with the opportunity to communicate and learn from the best in the field.



Briefing Education Experts and Decision-Makers
on its Projects and Programs

Hamdan Award Takes Part in the UAE Public Policy Forum



Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance participated at the UAE Public Policy Forum organized by Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government (MBRSG), themed 'Future Directions of Education Policy', wherein policy experts and decision-makers in education were briefed in the on the projects and programs of the Award.

The Forum was held under the patronage of HH Sheikh

Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, over two days at Dubai World Trade Centre, in the presence of Hussain bin Ibrahim Al Hammadi, Minister of Education; Jameela bint Salem Al Muhairi, Minister of State for Public Education; and Dr. Ahmad bin Abdulla Humaid Belhoul Al-Falasi, Minister of State for Higher Education.

A number of officials and decision makers in the field of education policies and a number of international experts participated

in the sessions. The Forum included 13 dialogue sessions and workshops attended by more than 50 experts and specialists in various fields related to the education sector.

The Forum presented various topics on how to promote innovation in education, future prospects with greater utilization of technology and innovation in education, strengthening public-private partnerships and making recommendations that contribute to the development of the education sector in the UAE and

the region.

The Forum works through partnerships with a number of local and international institutions to promote the general frameworks related to education. Most notable among these are the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for the Distinguished Academic Performance, the Ministry of Education, GEMS Education, the National Archive, along with Dubai Knowledge and Human Development Authority, and United Nation Development Program, and Cambridge Education.



Dr. Al Muhairi: the Conference Achieved the Goals of Strengthening the Culture of Innovation and Research

Hamdan Award Sponsors the International Conference of College of Education at the UAEU

Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance sponsored the events of the College of Education at the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) under the theme 'Creativity and Innovation in Researches for a Better Education', held for three days at the UAEU campus, Al Ain, in the presence of a large number of teachers and practitioners in the field of general and higher education in the UAE.

A number of researchers and educators from around the world participated in the conference. They presented the latest ideas, experiences and research in the field of creativity and innovation that will contribute to improving learning outcomes.

The opening ceremony was attended by a number of officials, led by Sulaiman Al Ansari, CEO of the Award, Ghaleb Al Hadrami, Vice



Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi

President for Postgraduate Studies, and Dr. Ali Al Kaabi, Vice President for Student Affairs and Registration.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, the Secretary-General of the Award, delivered the opening speech, in which he stated that one of Hamdan Award priorities is to support its strategic partners, especially the Ministry of Education, the educational zones and the universities, in order to raise the level and efficiency of interaction with the Award cri-

teria and its project in taking care of its targeted talented and gifted groups.

"Sponsoring the international conference by the Award is an opportunity in the context of the advancement of education, especially that the program aims at a distinguished constellation of professors, scientists, researchers and educators in the field of research and innovation from around the world. The Award is keen to support the projects and initiatives aimed at the development of knowledge and science in the field of talent, creativity and innovation." Al Muhairi pointed out that the conference achieved its objectives, thanks to the good organization made by the administration of the UAE University, where a large number of participants from different emirates and other countries have attended. Workshops, seminars and discussion sessions were organized on the importance of establishing a culture of innovation, creativ-

ity and research, as well as how it affects the development of the entire educational system to achieve the degree of excellence in education.

On the first day, the conference included 21 educational workshops and sessions, among which a session entitled 'Fab Lab UAE' presented by Marwa Sahraoui, Head of the Innovation Section, where she introduced the participants to the latest project of the Award, dedicated to the digital fabrication and innovation through the use of the latest devices, programs and equipment of digital manufacturing in the main Fab Lab, located at the Award headquarters, in Dubai.

This conference is the first of its kind to discuss the importance of innovation in finding sustainable solutions to the obstacles that prevent educational systems from achieving the levels required to qualify them to meet the values of the future and its evolving requirements.



Training Program for Central Adjudicators



Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance organized a special training program for central adjudicators at its headquarters in Al Hudaiba. The program, which lasted until March 23, aimed at updating the adjudicators with the latest and most prominent programs presented in the academic area. The organization of the program is part of the Award's efforts to upgrade the level of the central adjudicators.

Hamdan Award Participates in the Gulf Creativity and Talent Day

Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance celebrated gifted people and their talents by organizing Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Creativity and Talent, as part of special events carried out in the Gulf Creativity and Talent Day.

Abdulaziz Al Kalbani, an entrepreneur and innovator from the Sultanate of Oman presented his experiences in the field of talent and innovation. In order to reflect the keenness of the leaders of GCC countries to pay attention to talent and innovators, and intensify the efforts of the Arab Bureau of Education in the Gulf countries

in this area, the general conference of the Bureau at its 23rd Session adopted a resolution approving the establishment of Gulf Creativity and Talent Day, which would be on the first week of March, and will be celebrated as (Gulf Creativity and Talent Day). Since its establishment, the Arab Bureau of Education in

the Gulf countries, has paid attention to talents and creativity, due to its belief that educational institutions must play an important role in cultivating the seeds of excellence and creativity, because taking care of innovative and creative people is a necessary step in order to achieve progress and advancement in various fields of life.



Registration is Opened for the Professional Diploma in Gifted Education

Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance announced opening the registration for the 2017 Gifted Diploma Education, in cooperation with Hamdan bin Mohammed Smart University (HBMSU). The Award invited those wishing to register to visit the website www.ha.ae. The program specifically serves the project of the National Plan for sponsoring the Gifted Students. It is the joint venture between the Hamdan Award and the Ministry of Education, which mainly requires to prepare cadres of specialists who have the educational and technical knowledge, potentials and skills necessary to design, develop, implement, manage and evaluate education and training programs that are appropriate for different talent types of learners and build a scientific advisory reference that would provide the education systems, school and institutional

training with the expertise that would enable them to choose, develop, manage and evaluate the systems, methods and programs for discovering gifted students and taking care of them, as well as to building a scientific advisory reference to provide education systems, school and institutional training with expertise to enable them to choose the development, management and assessment of systems, methods and programs for spotting talents and sponsoring them. Moreover, the program provides alternatives for in-service training for teachers of public education and teachers of special groups, enabling them to gain effective teaching skills through the study of subjects carefully selected to benefit them in the frames of theoretical and practical classroom for teaching gifted students. It also provides various forms of creative works in the field of distinctive education of the special groups, in such a way that the educational institutions will get use of in

pre-university and university, government and non-governmental organizations and institutions concerned in the UAE gifted students. The program prepares human resources that would lead the education development movement for rising the creative child in public and private education in the UAE and the GCC Countries.



جامعة حمدان بن محمد الذكية
Hamdan Bin Mohammed Smart University

Hamdan Award and HBMSU concluded a partnership agreement last October to implement the vocational Gifted Education Diploma (GED) program, which is directed to the male and female teachers in government schools who are specialized

in educating gifted student, targeting the qualification of the UAE teacher to be distinguished in discovering gifted students, sponsoring and developing them in a creatively, to cope with the requirements of the ambitious developmental marsh in the UAE. According to the strategic partnership, HBMSU shall invest its scientific competency, specialized academic experiences, infrastructure and sophisticated technology to implement the vocational GED, which represents an advanced boost for forming and developing human potentials and energies that are necessary for building a scientific and practical system to be a reference and expertise center in the field of educating gifted students, in such a way to cope with the national efforts aiming at promoting the UAE to be among the most advanced prominent nations in the world, depending on creativity, innovation and knowledge.t

Concentrating on the Award Experience in Sponsoring Talents Dialogue Session in 'Innovation Arabia 10'

Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance organized a dialogue session at the 'Innovation Arabia 10' Conference (Smart Learning Conference). During the session, Dr. Mariam Al Ghawi, Director of the Gifted Welfare Department, presented a paper on the Award experience in the field of sponsoring giftedness. The session was chaired by Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, member of the Award Board of Trustees. The Conference was held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh

Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and President of Hamdan bin Mohammed Smart University (HBMSU), under the theme 'Innovation and Entrepreneurship: The Engines of Sustainability'. The conference included a series of extensive discussion sessions to identify best practices and emerging trends to drive innovation and continuous development across all vital sectors in the Arab world. The conference was attended by a wide range of government dignitaries, officials, decision-makers, academics, researchers, media professionals and representatives

of international organizations from around the region and the world. The conference focused on the development of new creative ideas that support the transition to knowledge-based economies in the Middle East to pave the way for the transition to advanced stages of economic integration, community development and environmental sustainability among the most important sectors of the economic and social map, on top of which smart education, healthcare, entrepreneurship and environment as key pillars of community building and advancing the overall cultural renaissance.



Dubai Leads and 3 Winners in Initiator Educator

137 Winners

in 19th Session, and Honoring Ceremony on April 25

Dubai - 'Al Tamayoz News'

The 19th session of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance has ended, announcing the number of winners, which reached 137, including 110 participants in local competitions, 22 at the Gulf countries level, 2 in the Education-Supporting Institutions, and 3 in the Initiator Educator. The winners will take the podium at a grand ceremony hosted by Dubai World Trade Center on April 25.





Dubai Educational Zone (DEZ), and Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) took the lead with 32 winners, followed by Sharjah Educational Zone (SEZ) with 23 winners, Abu Dhabi Education Council (ADEC) with 21 winners, Fujairah Education Zone (FEZ) with 14 awards, Ajman Educational Zone (AEZ) with 3 awards, Ras Al Khaimah (RAKEZ) with 2 awards, and finally Umm Al Quwain (UAQEZ) with one award.

Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Secretary-General said during a press conference to announce the results of the 19th session, that the Award could establish a culture of excellence in the educational field, and created an ideal intellectual environment for all elements of the educational system to open up to the science of quality, creativity, and the development of its performance towards excellence, which enhanced the chances of improving the level of education and striv-



Dr. Jamal Al Muhairi:
The Award created ideal intellectual environment for all elements of educational system



Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi:
Upgrading the Award's criteria contributes to the promotion of educational excellence



ing to achieve its goals and objectives.

Developments

Al Muhairi added that the 19th session witnessed several developments during competitions, where two new categories were introduced to local competitions, namely, Initiator Educator and Distinguished Educational Administration. Initiator Educator received 17 participants, while Strategy and Future Department in the Ministry of Education participated in the Distinguished Educational Administration category.

In addition, the Distinguished Mentor and Specialist categories were merged into one, namely, Distinguished Educator, while Distinguished Educational Zone and Central Administration were merged into Distinguished Educational Administration category, and finally, Applied Educational Research was merged with Educational Research at the Arab World level.

This session also witnessed the increase of the financial



rewards in most categories, which ranged between 14 and 50 percent. Initiator Educator Award was also launched exclusively in 2017 in line with the Year of Giving, in order to promote the voluntary work of individuals working in the field of education in the UAE, with a reward of AED 30,000 per winner (3 winners only). A total of 72 applications were submitted, 11 of which were qualified for the interview phase. In addition to making substantial amendments to Education-Supporting Institutions award, changing the number of categories to 12.

Raising Performance Level

He stressed that Award, through the developments and updates, contributed to raising the level of performance to reach the level of excellence, adding that the continuous development of its standards and categories contributes to the promotion of educational excellence, spreading the culture of creativity and quality, in addition to highlighting the roles of the parties supporting the culture of excellence. The winners of the categories were as follows: 96 in Distinguished Student category, 6 in Distinguished School & School Administration, 15 in Distinguished Teacher, 1 in Highly Distinguished GCC Teacher, 5 in Distinguished Educator, 2 in Best Applied Project, 2 in Best Scientific Innovation, 1 in

Best Educational Research at the Level of Arab World, 4 in Distinguished Family, and 3 in Initiator Educator which was launched in the Year of Giving. Both companies of the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) through their initiative Smart Government Innovation Center, and Ajman Police General Headquarters' Future Police, have won Education-Supporting Institutions.

Participants

The number of participations increased by 6%, compared the previous session. Abu Dhabi Education Council took the lead in the number of participations, with 110 applications, with an increase of 18 % more than the previous session, where the number was 92 applications. Sharjah occupied the second rank, as related to the number with 102 applications, increasing 5 % more than the previous session with its 97 participations. Dubai ranked third, with 95 participations, by 17% increase more than the previous session, in which the number of participations reached 81. Fujairah Educational Zone occupied the fourth rank, where the number of participations amounted to 35, compared to 36 in the previous session, while Ras Al Khaimah Educational Zone came in the fifth place, with 15 participations, compared to 14 participations in the 18th session. Ajman

came sixth, with 13 participations, compared with 15 applications in the previous cycle. Umm Al Quwain Educational Zone came in the seventh rank, whose participations rose at a rate of 100% to 6 participations, compared to 3 applications in the previous session.

Competition

Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Technical Advisor to the Award, General Coordinator of the Arbitration Committees and member of the Board of Trustees said that the increased number of participations in the Award confirms that its standards have strengthened the spirit of competition on the field of education among different categories, which contributes to the development of the educational process on a wide scale, in addition to keeping up with the development pace in the education sector. He added that continuous development of the Award's criteria contributes to the promotion of educational excellence, spreading the culture of creativity and quality, as well as highlighting the role of parties supporting the culture of excellence. The participations were distributed on 399 local participations from the educational zones, higher education institutions, and centers of special need in different categories, with 6% rise more than the

Abu Dhabi leads with 110 participations, followed by Sharjah with 102

Increasing financial rewards in the Award's categories by 14 to 50 percent

6 winners in the Educational Research in the Arab World since 2006

96 winning Distinguished Students and 15 Distinguished Teachers in the current session

235 GCC winners, with Saudi Arabia leading

160 participants received Certificate Of Excellence in all categories



previous session, wherein the number of participations amounted to 375. The GCC participations increased by 13%, to 98 participations, compared to 87 participations in the 18th Session. However, the participations of the Educational Research in the Arab World in the current session amounted to 16 participations, compared to 20 participations in the last session.

Local participations were distributed according to the following categories: 34 in Distinguished School & School Administration, 355 in Distinguished Student, 59 in Distinguished Teacher, 4 in Highly Distinguished GCC Teacher, 17 in Distinguished Educator, 6 in Best Scientific Innovation, 6 in Best Applied Project, 29 in Best Educational Research at the Level of Arab World, 9 in Distinguished Family, and 1 in Educational Administration. While 5 participations were in Education-Supporting Institutions.

He also explained that the increase of number of participating students reached 8 percent, and that the number of participants in the Distinguished Family category increased from the previous year. "The number of participants from higher education was 15, where 12 students participated in Distinguished University Student, 3 in Best Scientific Innovation, while the number of participants from social affairs centers reached 3 in the current session, namely, one participation in each of the following categories: Distinguished Student, Distinguished Teacher, and Best Applied Project. 5 participations have also applied to Education-Supporting Institutions," he added.

GCC Participations

The number of GCC participants increased by 11 percent compared to the previous session, with participation in all countries increasing at varying rates. In Qatar, number of participations rose by 75 percent compared to the previous session.

The total number of participations from GCC countries has reached 943 since the Gulf

competitions began in 2003 until 2016. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ranks first, followed by Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Oman.

The total number of participations in the Best Educational Research at the Level of Arab World reached 29 researches from 7 Arab countries in the current session, led by Saudi Arabia with 12 researches, followed by United Arab Emirates with 11 researches. The number of participants in Best Educational Research at the Level of Arab World since the launch of the Award in 2006 until the current session reached 388 researches.

The number of winners of in Best Educational Research at the Level of Arab World during the Award's session was only 6 researches from 2006 to 2016.

Al Suwaidi said that the number of winners in the Gulf competitions for the current session was 22 winners in different categories. Saudi Arabia topped the list with 11 awards, followed by Bahrain with 4 awards, Qatar with 4 awards, and Kuwait with 3 awards.

The total number of winners from the GCC countries has been 235 since the Gulf competition began in 2003 until 2016, which is led by Saudi Arabia, followed by Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Oman.

Rashid Mohammad Saeed Rashid Al Saridi from Sharjah City for Humanitarian Services – Ministry of Community Development won the people with special needs category, since the beginning of accepting entries from these centers at the 17th session.

While Lolwa Ali Malfi bin Duheim from Saudi Arabia won Highly Distinguished Teacher Award for this session.

The total number of winners reached 160 participants in all categories, out of which 159 in Distinguished Student, adding up the number of winners and distinguished participants to reach 271 out of 399 participants in this session.

The winning quota has completed in the following categories: Distinguished Student, Distinguished Family and Initiator Educator

58 Arbitrators at the 19th Session



The number of arbitrators at the local, GCC and Arab competitions for the current session was 58 arbitrators who assessed the participants' applications for the Award.

The first stage of the theoretical arbitration of applications at the local and GCC competitions began on December 24 and lasted to 29. The second phase, which includes field visits and interviews of candidates in all categories within the UAE, began on December 31, and lasted to February 2. The number of candidates qualified to the second phase amounted to 286, forming 72% of the total participants in the current session.

The second stage of arbitration for the GCC competitions started on February 12 and lasted to 23. The number of candidates for this stage reached 54, forming 56% of the total participants in the current session.

In the category of educational research, a specialized committee was formed from the United Arab Emirates University to undertake the tasks of assessing and studying the researches submitted by the researchers participating from the Arab countries and then providing the administration of the Award with the final results.

The committee started working in November 2016 until February. 4 researches qualified to the second phase of arbitration, which is the external arbitration. A committee for technical audit was formed and the applicants' results were reviewed at the local and GCC levels to verify the compliance with the terms of participation and meeting the regulations in force in the Award.

Training Workshops

Training workshops were organized within the 11th Annual Arbitration Forum for the arbitrators of Teacher and Highly Distinguished Teacher categories in the educational zones and the GCC countries. As well key work papers were presented at the 11th Annual Best Practices Seminar tackling the UAE's experience in the Expo 2020 program, including the presentation of the distinguished practices, implementation of an accompanying photo gallery for the 11th Annual Best Practices Seminar, which includes the stages of the achievements of the Award in 18 years.