

CAMPUS

AI Academy to support EDB's AI adoption efforts

● Bahrain Polytechnic's 'AI Academy' in collaboration with Tamkeen, Microsoft and Fastlane will support EDB's AI adoption efforts in the Kingdom

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Bahrain Polytechnic, in collaboration with Microsoft and Tamkeen yesterday reiterated its commitment to support Bahrain Economic Board's (EDB) new pilot that will design guidelines for the procurement of Artificial intelligence in the public sector.

The framework, produced by the World Economic Forum (WEF) Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution focuses on the acceleration and implementation of AI in the kingdom, as well as bridge the skills gap to successfully implement the technology.

The 'AI Academy', launched in April this year is aimed at schooling Bahraini students on the power of artificial intelligence to accelerate digital transformation and deliver the means to engage citizens and consumers, empower employees, optimise operations and reinvent governance and business models.

"The AI Academy has been



HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa with officials of Bahrain Polytechnic and other partners of the programme

carefully designed to hone our youth into the brightest AI minds in the region," said Dr. Jeff Zabudsky, CEO of Bahrain Polytechnic. "Relevant skills with real-world applicability are the end product of this programme, and we fully expect these new professionals to go on to contribute significantly to the delivery of Bahrain's Vision 2030. This initiative, in collaboration with trusted organizations like Tamkeen, Microsoft and Fastlane; will be a major catalyst in the digitisation of the nation."

The Academy's first batch of 60 students is sponsored by Tamkeen, that is currently undergoing training through an integrated syllabus which covers artificial intelligence, data analysis, data science and ma-

chine basics. The programme is widely considered to be a vital strategic step in cementing the regional position of Bahrain in the field of AI. Courses will continue until April 2020, giving trainees exposure to real-world use cases and problems that they will solve using the toolbox of AI.

"One of the objectives of Bahrain's Vision 2030 emphasizes the need for robust economic growth through several means, such as diversifying the Bahraini workforce to tap into the global knowledge economy, and encouraging investment in non-oil sectors," said Sheikh Saif Hilal Al Hosni, Country Manager, Microsoft Bahrain and Oman. "Following the prevalence of AI in recent years, the Academy is designed to help establish a

workforce of skilled students with robust knowledge of the field. Such skillsets easily translate to efficiencies across the Kingdom of Bahrain, as these young people take their innovative talents out into the nation's public and private sectors."

The AI Academy is also a road map for students to participate in the Khalid bin Hamad Competition for Innovation in Artificial Intelligence, an initiative launched by HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al-Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS), President of Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC). Students that are enrolled in the academy will develop a capstone project as part of their course, and become eligible to enter the competition.

Dr. Daghustani represents AGU in seminar on ethics for social practitioners

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Dr. Wid Daghustani

Assistant Professor in the Learning Difficulties Programme in the College of Graduate Studies at the Arabian Gulf University (AGU) Dr. Wid Daghustani recently participated in a seminar titled "Towards a Unified Gulf Code of Ethics for Social Practitioners".

The activity was organised by Bahrain Society for Sociologists, under the patronage of Labour and Social Development Minister Jameel bin Mohammed Humaidan, and in cooperation with the Gulf Society for Social Sociologists.

The seminar saw the participation of Social Affairs Ministers Council in the GCC, representatives of societies in the GCC, and a number of social researchers and specialists of public agencies and authorities working in the field of social work in the public and private sector, in addition to representatives of civil service bureaus in GCC States.

The participants discussed the draft of a unified Gulf code of ethics for social practitioners in the GCC. The code includes all those involved in research and social guidance and providers of various social services such as care, accommodation, rehabilitation and other services.

The seminar also addressed several other topics, such as introducing ethical codes in the GCC and other foreign coun-

tries, general principles of the ethical code, the contents of the unified Gulf code of ethics for social practitioners, and ethical responsibility towards the profession and social policies.

At the event, the participants stressed on the necessity of conduct extensive studying on social issues in a more comprehensive and broader approach, as well as the commitment to the ethical code of social practitioners to cement the basic values and principles of ethical and professional conduct for the concerned individuals.

They also emphasised on the importance of Gulf cooperation to strengthen the concept of community partnership between the different sectors, in accordance with the controls, standards, legislations and systems that ensure the moral and legal commitment regulating the practice of social professions.



Students under the Ministry of Education's 'Takween' programme at Bahrain Islamic Bank's Headquarters as part of a training programme. It aims to prepare and familiarize secondary-level students with the requirements of the modern workforce by receiving hands-on training across a numbers of departments at BisB



New Millennium School-DPS team members pose with school officials after winning Girls' Football title in the CBSE Cluster (Bahrain Chapter) Inter-School competition. All CBSE schools in Bahrain participated in the annual event. In the final, NMS-DPS overwhelmed The Indian School Bahrain (2-1) emerging as winners.



Students of Quality Education School, Bahrain during the 16th investiture ceremony of the institution. The event was organised to honour and handover responsibilities to the new student council committee of the school. The Chairman, and Chief Guest of Honour, Bhagwandas Kewalram Bhatia, inaugurated the ceremony and honoured the council members in the presence of special guest Kunal Kewalram, Principal Dr. Ravi Warriar and Vice Principal Geetha Mukkatira. The event was followed by an oath taking ceremony where members of junior and senior student council swore to conduct their duties with diligence and discipline