

CAMPUS

RCSI Medical University of Bahrain Mobilises Students Around Sustainability During Health & Sustainability Week

Manama

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) - Medical University of Bahrain reaffirmed its commitment to sustainability and responsible citizenship during its annual Health & Sustainability Week, held from February 7-14.

The week brought together students, faculty and staff in a dynamic programme linking human health, environmental stewardship and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At its core, the initiative underscored a simple message: healthy people and a healthy planet are inseparable.

As part of its longstanding Green Campus initiative, RCSI Medical University of Bahrain continues to embed sustainability into daily operations and community engagement. The annual beach clean-up at Al Sayah remains a flagship example, addressing marine pollution and supporting SDG 14 (Life Below Water).

Throughout Health & Sustainability week, the University held a range of activities promoting health and wellbeing, preventive healthcare and sustainable living. These included a blood donation drive, preventive health screenings, awareness campaigns on mental wellbeing, and the promotion of physical activity and healthy food choices. Each initiative is directly aligned with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and reinforces the University's role in shaping future healthcare leaders who understand the broader determinants of health, including lifestyle and climate.



A key academic highlight was the introduction of the book titled "Antibiotics and the Microbiome" by Dr Patrick Walsh, Senior Lecturer in Phys-

iology, which aims at encouraging the University community to examine the responsible prescription and use of antibiotics through a sustainability lens

and the impact on long-term global health resilience.

The week also advanced SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Produc-

tion) through the creative and impactful "Thrift Trip Extraordinaire." In partnership with the Bahrain Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BSPCA), students participated in a hands-on thrift shopping experience designed to promote conscious consumer behaviour. By choosing second-hand fashion, participants reduced textile waste, supported ethical consumption and contributed funds to a local charitable cause. The experience continued with an interactive upcycling workshop that highlighted how small lifestyle shifts can collectively reduce environmental impact.

Mr Stephen Harrison-Mirfield, Managing Director of RCSI Medical University of Bahrain, commented: "Our Health & Sustainability Week demonstrates how education, advocacy and action can intersect to drive meaningful change. By empowering students to understand the interconnectedness of health and climate, RCSI Medical University of Bahrain is nurturing socially responsible healthcare professionals equipped to lead in addressing global challenges in healthcare and beyond."

The University extends its sincere appreciation to its student clubs, societies and departments whose collaboration made the week both impactful and inspiring.

At RCSI Medical University of Bahrain, our community continues to demonstrate how responsible everyday choices can drive lasting impact, contributing to Bahrain Vision 2030's goals of building a sustainable and socially responsible nation.

AUBH Partners with Savvy Games Group to Expand Hands-On Training Opportunities in Game Design



Manama

The American University of Bahrain (AUBH) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Savvy Games Group, a leading games and esports company headquartered in Riyadh, to strengthen collaboration in student training and professional development within the games and interactive entertainment sector.

This collaboration is part of Savvy Academy, Savvy's flagship initiative focused on developing local talent for the games and esports industry. This collaboration reflects AUBH's com-

mitment to aligning academic learning with industry practice and supporting the growth of the creative and digital economy in Bahrain and the wider region.

Under the MoU, AUBH and Savvy Academy will explore several areas of cooperation aimed at providing students with direct exposure to professional environments in the gaming industry. These include internship opportunities for students from AUBH's College of Media and Design, as well as organized studio visits and industry engagement opportunities with Savvy Games Group's teams in Riyadh. These initiatives are designed to bridge theory with practice by

allowing students to engage with real-world workflows, industry tools, and professional production environments.

The partnership comes at a time of increasing demand for game art, game design, and interactive media talent across Bahrain and the wider region. The rapid growth of the global games and esports industry has increased demand for talent with a blend of creative and technical skills, as well as an understanding of modern production pipelines. This collaboration directly responds to these evolving needs by supporting the development of a skilled, industry-ready talent pool.



By engaging with a leading games and esports company, AUBH contributes to strengthening local and regional capacity in the creative industries while supporting students' transition from academic study to professional practice. The partnership equips students with skills that enhance their employability and readiness to contribute to the growing creative industries. Exposure to real industry environments also encourages students to explore innovative projects and future career pathways within the sector.

Commenting on the partnership, Dr. Loyal Halawani, Dean of the College of Media and

Design at AUBH, said: "We are proud to sign this MoU with Savvy Games Group, as this partnership brings significant added value to the learning experience of our students in the College of Media and Design and opens new horizons for them in the field of game design. Connecting our academic programs with real-world industry experience and providing students with direct exposure to leading creative organizations reflects AUBH's vision of preparing graduates who possess the knowledge and skills needed to excel in their careers, particularly in emerging and future-focused fields."

Amr Sager, Group Chief of

Staff, Savvy Games Group, stated: "As the games and esports sector continues to expand across the region, it is increasingly important to build stronger links between education and industry. Partnerships like this help ensure that students gain early exposure to how games are created in professional environments, while also giving industry access to the next generation of creative and technical talent. By working closely with institutions such as the American University of Bahrain, we aim to support the development of a more connected and sustainable talent pipeline for the regional games ecosystem. This partnership also supports the goals of Savvy Academy, which focuses on building sustainable pathways for talent development across the region's games and esports ecosystem."

The partnership forms part of Savvy Academy's broader efforts to collaborate with leading academic institutions across the region to expand access to hands-on learning, industry exposure, and career pathways in games, esports, and interactive media. Through these initiatives, Savvy Academy aims to help build a strong, future-ready talent pipeline aligned with the rapid growth of the global games industry.