UDST POST

OCTOBER 2026

جامعة الدوحة للعلوم والتكنولوجيا
UNIVERSITY OF DOHA FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



CONTINUOUS INSTITUTIONAL EXCELLENCE

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Message from the President

Dear Wolves,
Welcome to the forty-sixth issue of the **UDST POST**.

This edition reflects another important chapter in the University of Doha for Science and Technology's journey, marked by achievements that reinforce our commitment to quality, innovation, and meaningful engagement with our community and the world around us.

A significant milestone this month was UDST's achievement of National Institutional Accreditation, awarded by the National Committee for Qualifications and Academic Accreditation. As the first university in Qatar to receive this accreditation, UDST has demonstrated its commitment to meeting national standards of academic and administrative quality and continuous improvement. This recognition reinforces the importance we place on maintaining high standards across the University and strengthening the quality of the education and services we provide.

Our international engagement also continues to create opportunities for learning and institutional development. UDST's selection for the inaugural Innovation Sandbox of the Future Universities Alliance, a global initiative incubated by Duke University, places us among 49 institutions from 23 countries across five continents. As the only institution from Qatar and the Gulf represented in this inaugural cohort, we look forward to exchanging ideas, exploring new approaches to higher education, and contributing to conversations shaping the future of universities.

Closer to home, welcoming the Doha 2030 Asian Games flag to our campus brought the excitement of this major sporting event to our University community. As Qatar prepares to host the Games, this visit offered an opportunity for our students to connect with a national occasion that celebrates sporting excellence, cultural exchange, and international cooperation.

I extend my appreciation to our students, faculty, staff, and partners for their continued dedication and contribution to the University. Together, we remain focused on advancing quality, embracing new opportunities, and creating an environment where our community can learn, grow, and make a lasting impact.

Dr. Salem Al-Naemi
President,
University of Doha for Science and Technology



Securing institutional accreditation from Qatar's National Committee for Qualifications and Academic Accreditation

The National Committee for Qualifications and Academic Accreditation has awarded the University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) the National Institutional Accreditation Certificate after the University fulfilled the accreditation requirements in accordance with the approved national standards. UDST is now the first university in Qatar to receive this accreditation and the second higher education institution to obtain it, following Community College of Qatar. This achievement reflects the University's commitment to academic and administrative quality and continuous improvement.

The certificate was presented at the headquarters of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in the presence of H.E. Lolwah bint Rashid bin Mohammed Al Khater, Minister of Education and Higher Education. The ceremony was followed by a press conference outlining the assessment stages, accreditation standards, and procedures, as well as the significance of this achievement in enhancing the quality of higher education and confidence in its outcomes.

Prof. Mazen Omar Hassane, Chairperson of the National Committee for Qualifications and Academic Accreditation, confirmed that the accreditation was granted following a comprehensive evaluation process. This included a self-study prepared by the University and an on-site visit conducted by a team of six experts from Qatar and abroad to verify compliance with five key standards: institutional mission and organization, integrity assurance, institutional resources, planning and institutional effectiveness, achievement of the institutional mission, and the institution's impact on its surrounding community.

He explained that the decision was based on independent reviews and the findings of the on-site assessment. He noted that the accreditation report highlighted areas of institutional excellence, alongside recommendations to support continuous development. He also confirmed that the accreditation is valid for five years.

Professor Hassane further noted that approximately 14 higher education institutions in Qatar are currently undergoing institutional accreditation procedures. On-site visits have been completed for seven institutions, while the remaining seven are preparing their self-study reports during the current year and the following year.





For his part, Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of the University of Doha for Science and Technology, expressed his pride in this achievement, describing it as a significant milestone in the University's journey and a responsibility to continue advancing the quality of applied education and strengthening institutional excellence.

He explained that the accreditation reflects the clarity of the University's mission, the strength of its governance framework, its commitment to integrity and quality standards, and the effectiveness of its planning. It also enhances the value of its academic qualifications and strengthens the confidence of labour market partners in the competencies developed by the University.
He emphasized that the accreditation marks the starting point for further development in applied education, research, and innovation, as well as for translating knowledge into practical applications that serve the community and support the objectives of Qatar National Vision 2030.

Established pursuant to Cabinet Decision No. 12 of 2022, the National Committee for Qualifications and Academic Accreditation oversees and updates the National Qualifications Framework, accredits qualifications offered by higher education institutions, and supervises institutional and programme accreditation in accordance with national standards based on international best practices.





Welcoming Applications from Local and International Students for Fall 2027

UDST announced that admissions for the Fall 2027 semester are now open, inviting prospective students from Qatar and around the world to pursue their academic and professional ambitions at Qatar's first applied university.

Applicants will be able to apply online for Master's, Bachelor's, and Diploma programs through udst.edu.qa. UDST offers 12 types of scholarships and tuition fee exemptions for eligible students, including Qatari nationals and children of Qatari women for undergraduate programs, subject to applicable requirements.

With more than 80 academic programs across its five colleges, UDST combines academic knowledge with practical experience, preparing students with the skills required to succeed in their chosen fields.
Prospective students are encouraged to visit udst.edu.qa for admission requirements, available programs, and scholarship opportunities.



Announcing Advisory Board Members of the Center of Excellence- Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Innovation

UDST has announced the formation of the Advisory Board of its Center of Excellence - Artificial Intelligence and Innovation (CoEAII), bringing together professionals with expertise across cybersecurity, investment and government section to support the Center's strategic direction and growth.

The formation of the Advisory Board strengthens CoEAII's connection with industry and national sectors, ensuring its initiatives respond to emerging opportunities and align with Qatar National Vision'2023 priorities in artificial intelligence.

The Advisory Board includes Eng. Dana Yousef Al-Abdulla, Maryam Hamad Al-Malki, and Mr. Youssef Jaber Al-Jaber, bringing expertise in cybersecurity, investment, strategic partnerships and government development.

The Board will contribute to CoEAII's strategic initiatives and support opportunities for engagement across academia, private sector, and government.
Through the Advisory Board, UDST continues to strengthen the link between academic expertise and national and industry needs, supporting the responsible development and application of artificial intelligence in Qatar.



Introducing the CORE Wellness Program

The College of Health Sciences at UDST has introduced the CORE Wellness Program, a curriculum-wide initiative that integrates holistic health into students' education as they prepare for professional practice.

CORE stands for Clinical, Occupational, Resilience and Emotional Wellness. The program recognizes that health professions education involves developing clinical and technical skills alongside the ability to understand and manage the demands of training and professional practice.

The program progresses through three stages across students' education. Exposure in Year 1 introduces the foundations of wellness. Immersion in Years 2 and 3 will provide opportunities to apply wellness strategies in laboratory and practice-based settings. Mastery in Year 4 will connect wellness with professional identity, leadership and practice.

Commenting on the initiative, Dr. Shahrokh Esfandiari, Dean of the College of Health Sciences said: "We believe preparing health professionals extends beyond clinical knowledge and technical competence."

The initiative is being implemented across programs within the College of Health Sciences and complements UDST's 2025–2027 Wellness Strategy.



Launching eUDST, a New Platform for Applied Online Learning

UDST has launched eUDST, a new platform offering online courses, programs and stackable micro-credentials designed to support professional development and skills development.

The platform enables learners to access online learning opportunities from anywhere and at their own pace, with the guidance of UDST faculty and e-learning specialists. eUDST also brings the University's applied learning approach into the digital environment by connecting knowledge with practical and hands-on learning.

eUDST offers courses and learning pathways across areas including education, health, engineering, business and professional skills. Its stackable micro-credentials provide structured opportunities for learners to build expertise through a combination of courses and assessments.

The launch of eUDST marks the beginning of a broader effort by UDST to expand flexible, applied learning opportunities and support the continued development of the country's workforce.





UDST Selected for Inaugural Innovation Sandbox of the Future Universities Alliance

UDST has been selected for the inaugural Innovation Sandbox of the Future Universities Alliance, a global learning network incubated by Duke University in the United States of America. UDST is the only institution from Qatar, and the only one from the Gulf, selected for the inaugural cohort, which brings together 49 institutions from 23 countries across five continents.

The Innovation Sandbox is the Alliance's 12-month global peer learning program for institutions pursuing ambitious, institution-shaping change. Participants bring active institutional challenges into facilitated pod sessions, milestone meetings, and the annual Global Summit.

UDST is participating in the "New Initiatives in Existing Institutions" pathway bringing an AI framework built in-house to the Sandbox. In this system, multiple independent AI agents review exam questions. They check that each question genuinely measures the learning outcomes a course promises, at the right level of thinking, and a question is accepted only when the agents agree. The framework is already running in UDST courses. Through the Sandbox, the university aims to develop it into a method that other universities can adopt.



Creativity met sustainability at UDST's Club Hub

Environmental Health students and the Environment Club, in collaboration with the Art Club, hosted a Junk Journaling event attended by around 60 students. The activity encouraged students to explore how everyday materials can be repurposed into personal, artistic journal pages.

By giving used paper and other leftover materials a second life, junk journaling demonstrates practical ways to reduce waste, extend the useful life of resources, and rethink what we throw away. The event aimed to raise awareness of recycling and creative reuse while inspiring more mindful consumption.

Alongside its environmental message, the session offered students an opportunity to unwind, express themselves, and connect with others through art. Bringing together environmental awareness and personal wellbeing, the collaboration highlighted how simple, enjoyable activities can encourage sustainable habits and enrich campus life.





Promoting Sustainable Science Through Student Outreach Workshop

Dr. Vajiheh Akbarzadeh, Lead Principal Investigator (LPI) of QRDI Project FSC05-0403-240021, in collaboration with project team members and Abdulrahman Al-Kuwari, Chair of the Qatar National Youth Chapter, organized an educational workshop at the Japanese School of Doha (JSD) to introduce students to hydrogel composite technology and its applications in sustainable agriculture.

The workshop formed part of the project's ongoing community outreach activities, which aim to share research outcomes with younger generations and raise awareness of sustainable solutions.

Representatives from the Qatar Research, Development and Innovation (QRDI) Council, including Dr. Ameni, and participating professors from UDST attended the workshop.

The session featured an interactive presentation introducing students to hydrogels, their natural sources, and how hydrogel composites can help retain water in agricultural soils, supporting sustainable agriculture in Qatar's arid climate.

Students then participated in a practical demonstration of hydrogel composite bead synthesis, observing how scientific research can translate into practical environmental applications.

The event concluded with participation certificates signed by Dr. Akbarzadeh and Abdulrahman Al-Kuwari, recognizing students' engagement and participation.



Marking World Mental Health Day Through Campus-Wide Program

UDST marked World Mental Health Day with a campus-wide program that encouraged students to express themselves, connect with others, and explore practical ways to support their mental health and wellbeing.

Organized by the Student Counselling and Accessibility Services Department, the event featured creative and interactive activities designed to promote inclusivity and awareness of mental health.

A key highlight was the Art and Photography Exhibition, featuring entries from the "Your Voice, Your Story, Your Well-being" competition. The Trap I Wove by Donna Grace Ziganay took first place, and The Pulse Behind Silence by Dalal Humran took second place.

Students also participated in meaningful discussions, explored available support services and resources, and took part in several competitions.
World Mental Health Day is part of UDST's 2025–2027 Wellness Strategy, promoting awareness and encouraging healthy practices across mental, physical and social wellbeing. As a FISU Healthy Campus Platinum label holder, UDST continues to promote a holistic approach to wellbeing.



Doha 2030 Asian Games Flag Visits UDST

UDST welcomed the Doha 2030 Asian Games flag as part of the national tour organized by the Doha 2030 Asian Games Organizing Committee, bringing the upcoming sporting event closer to students and the wider university community.

The visit follows the State of Qatar's official handover of the Olympic Council of Asia flag during the closing ceremony of the 20th Asian Games Aichi–Nagoya 2026 in Japan, marking a significant milestone in preparations for Doha to host the Asian Games in 2030.

The visit to UDST provided students with an opportunity to see the flag up close and engage with the spirit of the Games, highlighting the values of sporting excellence, ambition and unity. It also underscored the role of young people and educational institutions in building community engagement and excitement ahead of this major sporting event.

As the flag continues its journey across schools, universities and institutions throughout Qatar, the initiative aims to inspire future generations, strengthen public engagement and build anticipation for Doha 2030 under the Games' slogan, "The Games We Live For."



From Doha to NASA: UDST Student Earns Appreciation

What begins with curiosity can lead to extraordinary achievements. For Siddiqe Ahmad Al Hasani, a passion for understanding how technology works has grown into a cybersecurity journey that earned him recognition from NASA,all while pursuing his degree at the University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST).

Born and raised in Doha, Siddiqe began exploring cybersecurity in 2020, developing his skills through independent learning, practical experimentation and personal projects. His dedication recently earned him an official Letter of Appreciation from NASA after he responsibly identified and reported a security vulnerability within the organization's authorized disclosure program. He was also featured in NASA's Security Researcher Hall of Fame.

Now a first-year Bachelor of Science in Data and Cybersecurity student at UDST, Siddiqe balances university studies with independent research and entrepreneurial projects, continuing to build his expertise and explore new opportunities in the field. His advice to aspiring cybersecurity enthusiasts is simple: start with curiosity, build practical skills consistently, and always act ethically. His journey demonstrates how determination, responsible research and a commitment to lifelong learning can turn a passion into meaningful achievement.



Signing MoU with Qatar Cool to Strengthen Industry-Academia Collaboration

UDST and Qatar Cool signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation in student innovation, applied learning, research, professional development, and sustainability.

The MoU was signed at the University of Doha for Science and Technology by Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of the University, and Mr. Nahar Saleh Al-Mutawah, Acting Chief Executive Officer of Qatar Cool, in the presence of representatives from both sides.

The collaboration will include student competitions and hackathons, innovation and applied learning initiatives, research projects, curriculum development, internships and training, and initiatives focused on sustainability and energy efficiency.

The partnership builds on the successful Qatar Cool Hackathon, organized in collaboration with UDST's College of Engineering and Technology, where students developed innovative solutions addressing industry-related challenges.

Following the MoU signing ceremony, Qatar Cool distributed commemorative plaques to the students who won the hackathon, recognizing their achievements and contributions.

The partnership connects education with industry needs and supports Qatar's energy and sustainability priorities.

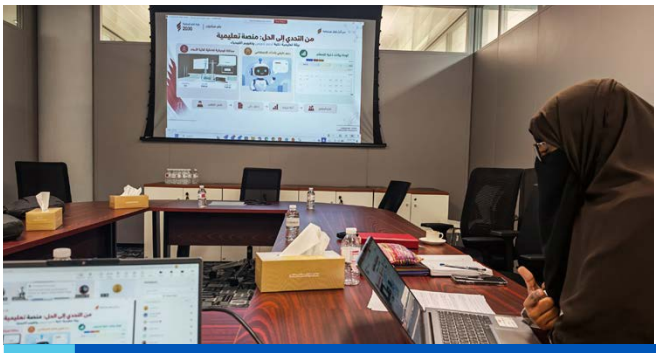


Showcasing Applied AI Innovations at World Summit AI 2026

UDST participated in World Summit AI 2026 as an Exhibition Partner, showcasing the work and achievements of its Center of Excellence – Artificial Intelligence and Innovation (CoEAII), officially launched in Fall 2025.

Through its exhibition booth, UDST highlighted a range of AI-driven solutions developed by the Center, including Insights, a platform supporting faculty workload analysis and academic planning; Vetra, an intelligent recruitment support system; SyllaBot, an AI assistant for course syllabus analysis and curriculum enhancement; and AutoSLR, which automates systematic literature reviews. The exhibition also featured research initiatives in AI in education, trustworthy AI, bias detection, and applied AI solutions.

The UDST delegation included Dr. Zakaria Maamar, Dean of the College of Computing and Information Technology, and Dr. Oussama Djedidi, Manager of CoEAII. The participation aimed to strengthen UDST's international visibility, showcase applied research, engage with industry stakeholders, and explore future collaboration opportunities, supporting Qatar National Vision 2030.



UDST Graduate Student Advances STEM Education in Qatar Through Innovative Digital Chemistry Lab

Ms. Sahar Saeed Mohammed, a graduate student in the Master of Science in STEM and TVET Education program at the University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST), is already making an impact on STEM education in Qatar. Sahar, who is also a chemistry teacher at Qatar Secondary School for Girls, was recently invited by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) to deliver professional development training for chemistry teachers across Qatar, showcasing an innovative educational project she developed as part of her graduate studies at UDST.

Sahar co-developed LabU, an interactive digital laboratory platform that allows students to explore chemistry concepts through virtual simulations, including water electrolysis and its connection to green hydrogen production. The platform also features a teacher dashboard that provides insights into students' progress, activities, and learning difficulties, supporting teachers in making informed instructional decisions.

Currently working on her master's thesis, titled "Secondary Chemistry Teachers' Interpretation and Use of Dashboard Information: A LabU Case Study," Sahar is investigating how chemistry teachers interpret and use information from the LabU dashboard to guide their instructional decisions. She is expected to graduate in May 2027.

Her achievement reflects the mission of UDST's MSc in STEM and TVET Education program: empowering educators to become leaders, innovators, and researchers who contribute to advancing STEM teaching and learning in Qatar.

Congratulations to Sahar on this remarkable achievement.



Signing MoU with Al Wakrah Municipality to Advance Innovation and Sustainability

Al Wakrah Municipality and UDST signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen cooperation, exchange expertise, and advance innovation and sustainability.

The memorandum was signed by Jaber Hassan Al Jaber, Director General of Al Wakrah Municipality, and Dr. Salem Al-Naemi, President of UDST, in the presence of officials from both sides.

The agreement covered research and applied cooperation in developing smart and sustainable municipal solutions, using artificial intelligence and modern technologies, and advancing sustainability, research, and innovation. It also included support for student initiatives and projects, alongside joint awareness and training programs.

Both parties highlighted the importance of combining municipal expertise with academic and applied knowledge to develop innovative solutions, improve services, address shared challenges, and support sustainable development. The partnership will also create opportunities for students and researchers to contribute to initiatives that serve the community.



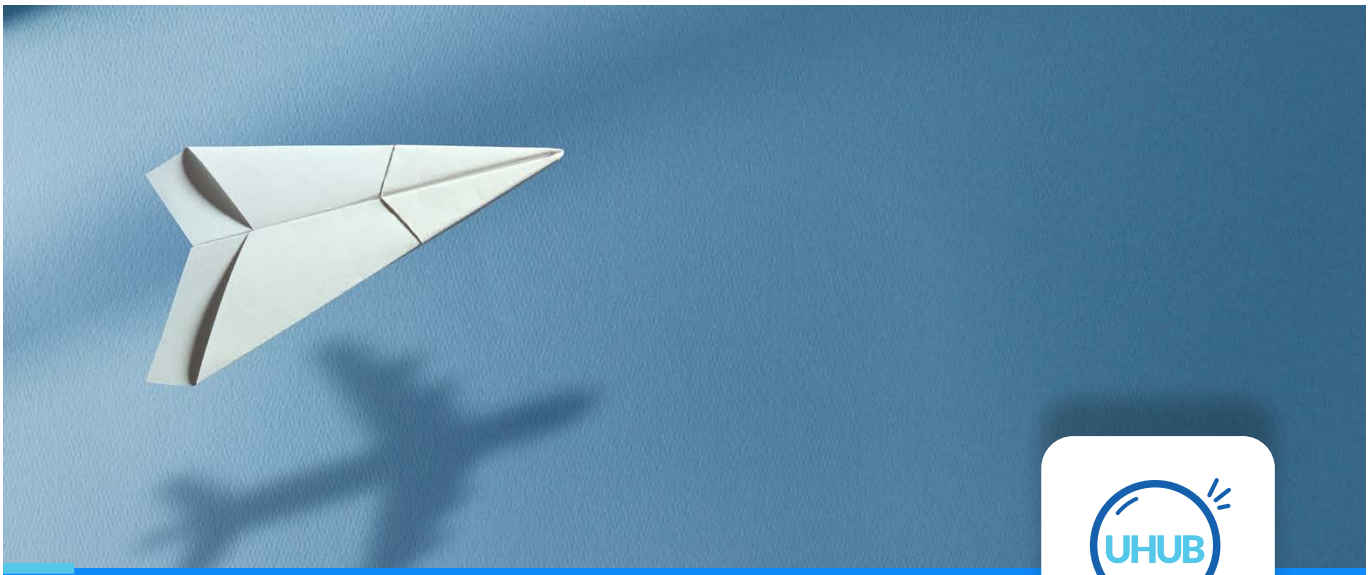
Hosting Workshop on Maritime Arbitration and Dispute Resolution

Through its Maritime Training and Simulation Centre (MTSC), UDST hosted a workshop titled “Practical Applications of Maritime Arbitration and Dispute Resolution”, bringing together maritime expertise and advanced simulation technology.

The workshop featured Capt. Dr. Abdulamir Al-Faraj, President of the Kuwaiti Maritime Association, who shared his expertise in maritime arbitration and dispute resolution. Combining theoretical insights with practical training, participants used UDST’s Full Mission Bridge Simulator to explore realistic maritime incident scenarios, assess navigational decisions and operational errors, and examine their potential implications in maritime disputes.

The workshop highlighted the role of maritime simulation beyond education and professional training, demonstrating its value in accident investigation, operational analysis, and dispute resolution. The initiative also reinforced UDST’s commitment to advancing knowledge exchange and strengthening connections between maritime education, industry, and professional practice.





In the Startup Mindset: Real-world lessons and campus-wide challenge

UHUB Welcomed its October Entrepreneur in Residence, Bilel Al Souaied

UHUB welcomed its October EiR, Bilel Al Souaied, an operator and investor with experience across startups, venture capital, and investment banking. He is the founder of Nodes Technologies and has invested in startups including Snoonu, Urban Point, and Emma Systems through QDB. He is also the author of Can Unicorns Walk on Sand?, a book on building and investing in MENA.

Bilel began his residency with an interactive Founder Q&A session, giving participants the opportunity to ask questions and discuss startup-related topics. He will also be offering mentor office hours and future workshops for the UHUB community.



Treasure Hunt

UHUB hosted its annual Treasure Hunt, turning the building into an interactive adventure filled with clues and challenges. Participants worked their way through the clues, exploring themes of entrepreneurship and innovation along the way. The hands-on activity encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, and creative thinking while bringing students together for an engaging experience.




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24 نوفمبر: من 10 صباحاً إلى 6 مساءً
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November 24: From 10 am – 6 pm
November 25: From 10 am – 3 pm

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