



Press Release

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QU receives Chair in Architecture from DOHALAND

An educational partnership to explore development from a regional perspective

Qatar University (QU) and DOHALAND signed an agreement of cooperation yesterday to collaborate on the design, planning and overall quality of the architectural environment of Qatar.

Under the agreement, DOHALAND will establish a Faculty Chair Professor in the field of Architecture at the university's College of Engineering under the title 'DOHALAND Chair in Architecture'. The Chair position will be for two years during which he/she will develop a research program in the fields of architecture and urban design addressing the dialectical relationship between tradition, modernity, and identity.

The objective of the agreement is to provide assistance to QU in order to graduate qualified Qatari nationals to work in the design professions as they relate to creating responsive environments amenable to meeting environmental needs, heritage and historical constraints, and social and cultural aspirations of the Qatari society.

The Chair will offer a platform for discussions on traditional architecture in the region, its context and elements, and put it in a modern perspective. The objective is to aid in the development of an architectural language that reflects the local needs and aspirations of Qatar, while helping to advance the dialogue around the wider issues of sustainable and culturally-relevant development regionally and globally. The Chair Faculty will also provide technical consultation, representing Qatar University in DOHALAND, with regard to planning, spatial regeneration and design for sustainable communities.

The agreement also stipulates that DOHALAND will contribute to an overall program of societal awareness of the value of architecture and design, and the Chair will play a key role in developing and conducting awareness workshops engaging different types of stakeholders representing the Qatari community.

Commenting on the agreement, QU President Prof Sheikha Abdulla Al-Misnad said: "This agreement is indicative of the value the industry sector places on the vision and mission of Qatar University and their support of our commitment to ensuring that our programs reflect the societal and cultural needs of the

community”.

Chief Executive Officer DOHALAND Eng Issa M Al Mohannadi stated: “DOHALAND has been actively engaged in its role in the forward-thinking vision for Qatar, and we are happy to lead innovation in education by supporting this Chair at Qatar University. Innovation and enrichment are linked to a sustainable vision as pillars of DOHALAND, creating a new architectural language that evolves without losing its ethnicity. Our partnership with Qatar University gives us an opportunity to place our activities on a learning curve and provide an educational, research-based perspective; sharing and engaging with the youth who will lead new projects in the future”.

Dean of QU College of Engineering Dr Mazen Hasna said: “This is a great start to the newest program at the College of Engineering. Through the partnership with DOHALAND, our students will have the chance to be part of the design of the Heart of Doha under the supervision of a leading architect who will fill the position. In addition, joint research topics will be defined and pursued in line with the needs of DOHALAND”.