



برنامج التميز الأكاديمي  
The Honors Program  
جامعة قطر QATAR UNIVERSITY



نادي برنامج التميز الأكاديمي  
Honors Student Association

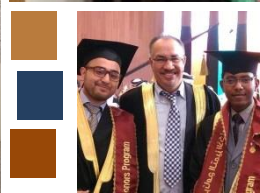
# QU Honors Program

## Community of Distinction



## HONORS STUDENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

### ISSUE 03 2013-2014 & 2014-2015



## Special points of interest:

- \* Honors Events
- \* Honors Students' Achievements
- \* Honors Writing Competition

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# Qatar University Honors Student Association Newsletter

## Issue 03

### VP and CAO Message



Qatar University seeks to create a community of creative students provide academic challenges and offers personal care that allows them to achieve excellence and leadership in both professional and academic level; and this is what Honors Program provide. Honors Program provides opportunities for the development of creative thinking, and appreciation of cultural diversity, and the development of oral and written communication skills. "Where students are selected and the students outstanding academic according to clear criteria. Honors courses outcomes aim to support and enrich the other courses in the study plans.

**Professor Mazen Hasna, Vice President and Chief Academic Officer**

### Director's Message



The Honors Program at Qatar University provides a highly intellectual environment for exceptional students to explore and achieve their full potential. Our main objective is to recruit high achieving and motivated students and faculty and provide them with ample resources in the form of interdisciplinary courses, small seminars, and engaging discussions and debates in the classroom and in Honors planned events. If you are a student who is curious, who finds new ideas engaging, and who enjoys exploring the meaning of science, art, literature, politics, history, and ethics, then you are on our radar screen of student candidates that we would hope to admit to our program.

I invite you to explore our website to learn more about the program. I will be happy to meet with you individually during my office hours and by appointment to discuss and answer any questions regarding Qatar University Honors Program.

I wish you success in your academic endeavor.

Sincerely,

**Professor Majeda Khraisheh, Director of Honors Program**

## QU Honors Mission and Vision

### Mission Statement

The Honors Program at Qatar University provides a highly intellectual environment for exceptional students to explore and achieve their full potential. It is designed to support self-motivated students in developing critical thinking skills and to foster their scholarly and intellectual curiosity. The enriched interdisciplinary curriculum prepares the students to face the challenges of an ever-changing world.

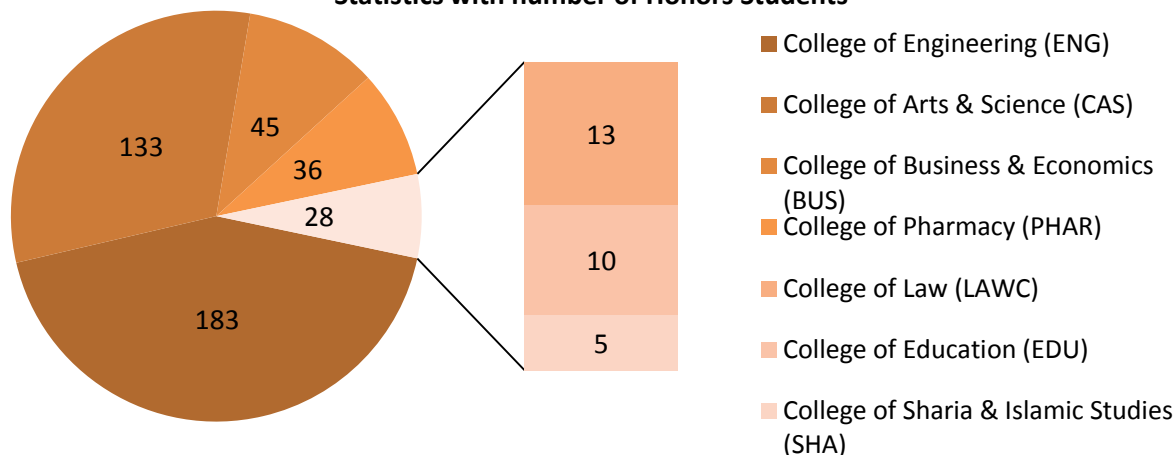
### Vision Statement

The Honors Program at Qatar University will be a community where exceptional, motivated, and innovative minds are challenged. It will serve as a vehicle to enhance the intellectual caliber and to inspire the overall academic culture of the university

## Statistical Facts

The Honors Program is designed for highly-motivated and academically-inquisitive students who are looking for an enriching college experience. The program was established in Fall 2009 with four students. Today, the program has evolved into a university-wide community with an overall student enrollment of 425 in AY 2014 – 2015. This year 28 Honors students had graduated bringing the total number of Honors graduates to 49.

Statistics with number of Honors Students



## Honors Program Benefits

There are priceless benefits for the Honors Program both for the honors students and the honors faculty members.

### Honors Students Benefits

- Recognition at graduation and on the academic transcript of successful participation in the honors program.
- Opportunity to get enrolled into special courses particularly designed for honors students by outstanding scholars/ instructors.
- Advising and intensive faculty guidance facility.
- Honors students have the priority of participating in Undergraduate Research Funding (UREP) Projects.
- Scholarship opportunities.
- Opportunities for outstanding honors students to attend national and international conferences.
- Annual Honors Program Awards.
- Honors students have the opportunity of joining QU clubs for free and they can join clubs outside QU with 25% reduction on fees.

# Chapter One

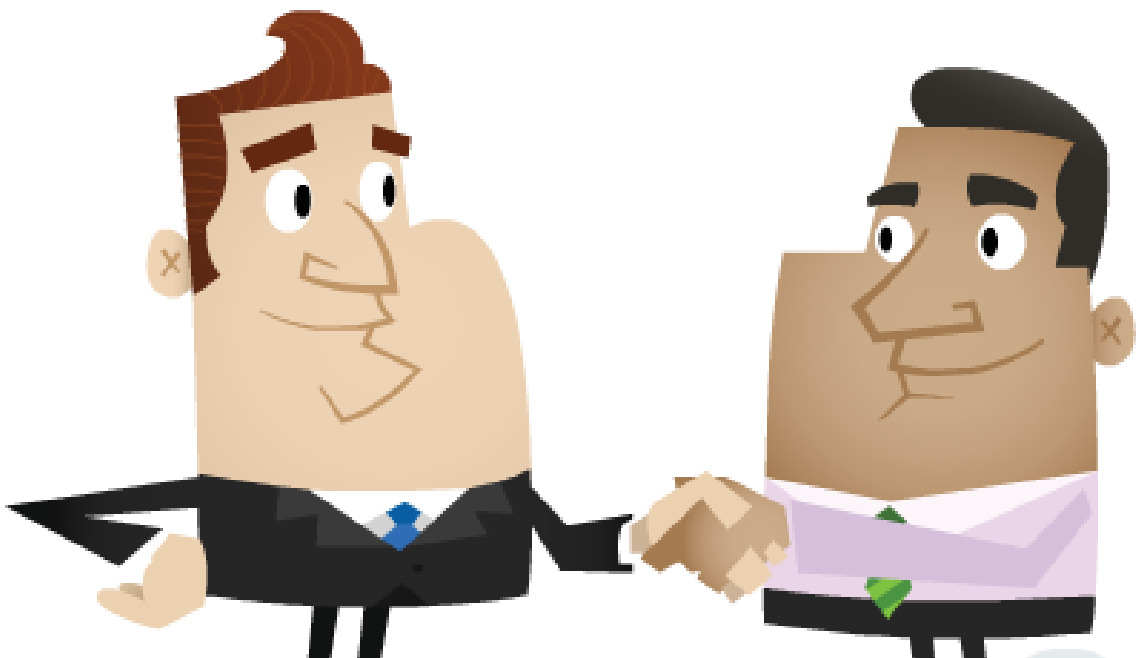
## What they say about the Program?

### Faculty Members:

Dr. Hala Mundhir  
Prof. Abdulkader Bakhoush

### Graduate Students:

Mohammad Mahjob  
Nazar Salim  
Eiman Al-Shimary  
Maryam Abo shreda





## { Honors Faculty Members }

### Dr. Hala Mundhir

Dr. Hala Mundhir Fattah has been a professor, researcher and administrator throughout her professional career focusing on Arab Studies. She was the regional representative for two American NGO's interested in cross cultural exchange with Iraqi Professors. In addition to teaching at Georgetown University in Washington DC, she was a researcher in Prince Hassan bin Talal's Office in Jordan.

She says: "A number of people worked to upgrade the Honors Program, of which Dr. Majeda Khreishah was the principal champion." Dr. Hala is responsible to introduce students to research and academic writing skills, including proper use of resources, research design, critical reading, analysis, and academic writing. She Said: "For these skills to take hold, I relied on significant input from librarians and other specialists to construct a step-by-step approach to constructing the research paper". She also learned from the program that people, including students, hear what they want to hear, so she found ways to persuade them that there are different sides to a problem. She judges from her two years teaching experience in the program that students who sought help from her and other research professionals at QU developed a huge expertise in grasping ideas by reading and reading.



### Prof. Abdulkader Bakhoush

Prof. Abdulkader Bakhoush is a professor of Islamic Culture and Religions from the College of Sharia and Islamic Studies. He has expressed the extent of his admiration for the Honors Program for both the academic and the non-academic opportunities and different benefits that the program offers for enrolled students. He declared that the Islamic Culture courses have been improved significantly in two years just because it is one of the commissioned Honors Courses at Qatar University. This played a major role in enriching the curriculum of Islamic Culture, in the sense of getting students involvement in delivering the course material and in research. Which led to oblige all students, whether they are enrolled in the program or not. He concluded by sending his deep gratitude to all crew members of the Honors Program, particularly Dr. Majida Khraisheh for the fruitful effort being done to promote the values of competition and excellence among university students to become leaders in various fields and life. He added that he is very glad to see a very remarkable turnout of many students to join the program.

## { Honors Graduate Students }



### Eng. Mohamed Mahjob

Eng. Mohamed Osama Mahjob is a 2014 electrical engineering graduate. Mahjob holds the Medal of Excellence as he is one of the top academic achieving students at Qatar University. At the mean time Mohamed is continuing his education in the Master program at QU and working as a Graduate Teaching Assistant. He says: "The experience that I went through in the Honors Program is fascinating, one of the ways that the program posts up your self-dependency and critical problem solving skills is when you are in a foreign country and have to take care of yourself. I've been in USA and Germany and learned a lot". Mahjob also says: "One of the funny memories I have is at the first day in Germany when I realized how serious it is that I don't speak German language, this one situation have opened my mind to different people and cultures and encouraged me to develop my communication skills". My happiest moment is in the graduation ceremony, it is unforgettable when H.H. Sheikh Tammim Al-Thani Told me: "Insha'Allah you excel". Also all the hard work I did was worth it when I saw the faces of my family and how proud I made them." Mohamed is one of the best students in the program, he excelled in various areas including debating.



### Maryam Abo Shreda

Joining the honors program was a dream come true to me, I gained so many skills from this experience such as being part of the volunteering team in the program in so many events, and it improved my writing and research methods. I also had the chance to meet students from different cultures and different backgrounds, which enriched my knowledge. I think this program is for the students who are able to give more of their time for their studies to achieve their goals, so hard work is highly required, but this work is not as the new coming students imagine. I think that the effort is reasonable comparing to the importance of this program.



### Eiman Al-Shimary

Eiman Al-Shimary, an honors graduate student from College of Arts and Sciences has stated her amazingly enriching experience with the Honors Program. She has described the Program as an environment where the standards and the quality of courses are higher and clearer more than regular university courses. The graduate Eiman advises Qatar University students to get enrolled into the Honors Program to improve their personal standards of excellence, to experience an unique enriching college experience full of joy and success, be their experience enjoyable, and to develop their skills. She has added that the program helped her to achieve academic excellence which sparked her good reputation among professors and lecturers. Perhaps a lot of people did not appreciate the value of the Honors Program until the last graduation ceremony, where a lot of attendees from students and parents were asking about the secret of this program.

### Eng. Nazar Salim

Eng. Nazar Salim is a computer science graduate. He joined the program in 2010, Nazar says: "I joined the program by friend recommendation, it was my second semester and I loved to challenge myself and develop it because I wanted to continue and excel in the academic side, and I knew that the Honors Program is the right way to do this". He graduated in 2014 and now he is completing his master's degree in computing in addition to working as a Graduate Assistant in the IT section of QU. He says that the reason that made him pursue his graduate studies is his love to education not to mention the experience he gained from working at QU. Nazar believes that the honors program allows students to challenge themselves and explore their limits. One of the things he loves about the honors program is the positive attitude and the proud feeling that comes with being an honors student especially when dealing with professors. "Being an honors students gives you more privileges in several sports facilities, not to mention the "nerdy" concepts that honors students understand among each other", Nazar says.



# Chapter<sub>Two</sub>

## HSA Boards and Achievements

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### HSA 2013-2014

**President:**

Mohammed Shaheem Purayil

**Vice President:**

Salem Mohamed Al Yafei

**Coordinator:**

Fatma Jaber Al-Ahbabi

**Secretary:**

Muhsin Uftade Karagulle

**Treasurer:**

Shifa Shaikh

### HSA 2014-2015

**President:**

Randa Sheikh

**Vice President:**

Kaniz Fatima

**Coordinator:**

Tazeen Qureshi

**Secretary:**

El- Rumisa Mohamed

### New HSA Board Members 2015-2016



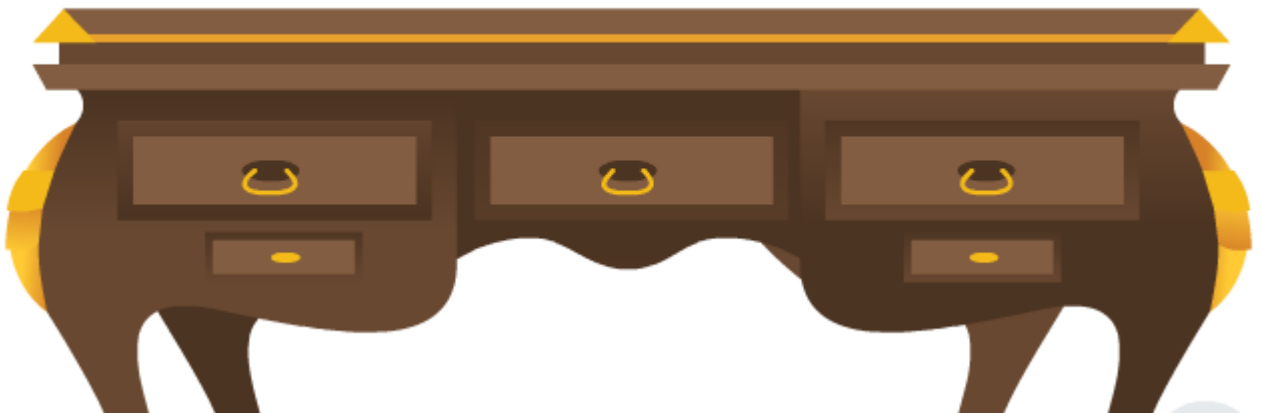
## HSA 2014-2015 Board Members



As the HSA board of years 2014-2015, the president and her colleagues organized several activities, educational trips, and competitions. During the year there were two trips, one to the Museum of Islamic Art and another to the Purple Island. Two debates were held among the honors students in both languages, Arabic and English. They organized three competitions as well: writing competition, logo competition, and poster competition. As an educational and entertaining event, a traditional cuisine was organized in front of the honors office where students got together and tried different dishes of different countries.



Randa Sheikh the President of HSA during the academic year 2013- 2014



## HSA 2015-2016 Board Members



The HSA Board Membership application took place in May. Five candidates applied for board membership and according to the election results shown below, the top four candidates were selected as the new board members for the HAS.

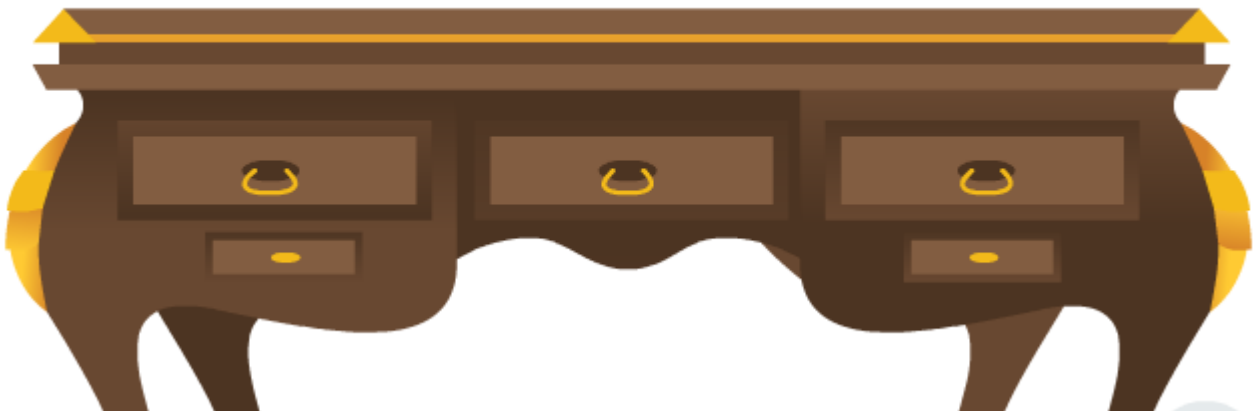
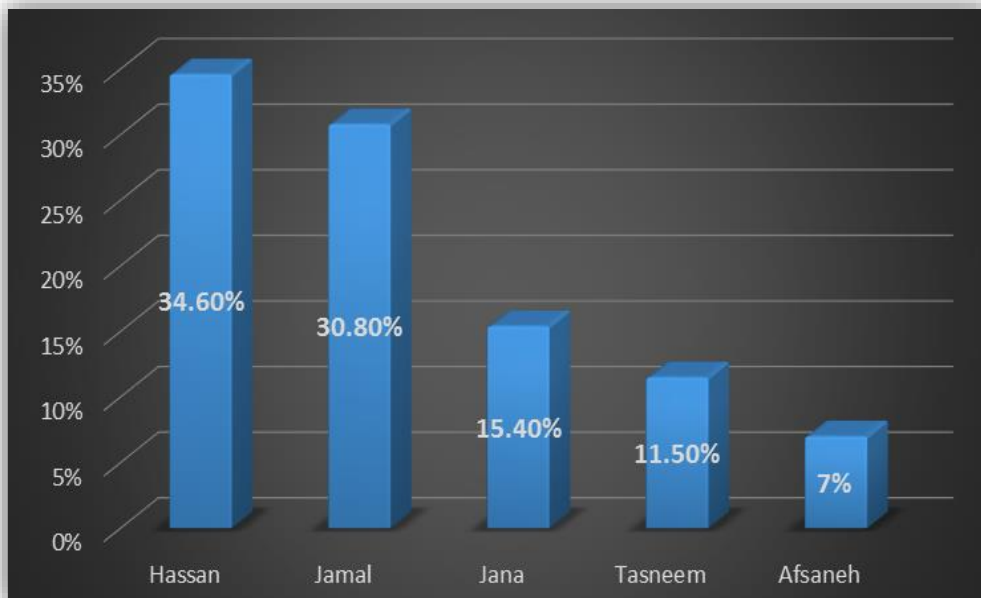
New HSA Board Members were announced during the End of Year Events and are listed as follows:

**HSA President:** Hassan Sayed

**HSA Vice President:** Jamal Adel Hannun

**HSA Treasurer:** Jana Jamaledin

**HSA Secretary:** Tasneem Hussain



# Chapter Three

## Honors Events



## 2013-2014 Events

### New Students Orientation

Honors Program has taken very significant place in the new students' orientation day that Qatar University organize before the beginning of each semester. Honors Program has taken the opportunity on that day to introduce the new students to the program and encourage them to apply and to get enrolled into the program.



### Open House Event

Open House Event is an event that Qatar University arrange for Freshmen Students to familiarize the them with the facilities within the university. Honors Program had a booth in that event to attract and introduce the students to the program.



## End of Year Event 2013-2014





## 2014-2015 Events

# CLUBS FORUM.

### The Honors Club's Booth



## Purple Island Trip

Purple Island Trip is an event mutually arranged by the Honors Students Association and the QU Environmental Club. The trip aim is to get the students closer to the environment and nature.





## Traditional Cuisine

Traditional cuisine is an event that was organized by Honors Program for the first time this year in 7<sup>th</sup> of April. The purpose of the event is to show and present different cultures within the honors program and to taste food from different countries. Many students, staff and faculty members have joined the event and participated with different dishes and special customs to present their cultures.



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## Debate Competition

For the first time in the Honors Program, the Honors Students Association (HSA) have organized a debate competition event. The president of the association Randa Sheik came up with the debate competition idea as part of her plan to connect the honors club members and the debate club members to improve persuasion skills and acceptability of the other side opinion. Two debates took place; one in English and the other in Arabic where teams consisted of four speakers per team. .





## English Debate Theme: Banning School Uniform

The theme of English Debate was "Banning School Uniform". Very strong arguments and critical point were raised by both proposition and opposition team which have created very challenging and interesting atmosphere. The very unique combination of creative minds within the program have added value to the competition and it was very difficult to make judgment as both teams showed extraordinary debate skills. Majd Sameer; an English debater, said: "It is remarkable how this event allowed me to prove my point of view, it will be beneficial for me in all aspects of life".



## Arabic Debate Theme: Allowing Child labor in Developing Countries

The second part of the competition was Arabic Debate under the theme: "Allowing Child Labor in Developing Countries". Both opposition and proposition have surprised the audience with statistical fact which have opened new horizons to view the problem . In this debate the proposition team was excellent in analyzing and connecting the arguments with their goal. The debate was judged by the Honors student, Sara El-Nour, who won the 6<sup>th</sup> Best speaker in the International Universities' Debate League in Arabic.

Mariam Mohammed from proposition said: "It was hard to convince any one with our point of view, but by dividing the problem we were able to simply show how our opinion is better for all the involved parties".

## End of Year Event 2014-2015

Honors Program is closing an academic year full of accomplishments and success with the end of year event. The event took place on May 28<sup>th</sup> in the Research Complex building and had a very special audience represented by the sponsors which are Oryx GTL, a number of faculty members and large crowd of honors students.

The ceremony began with a brief introduction to the event by Eng. Abdulqader Al-Khouzaam, Honors Program Specialist, followed by Dr. Majeda's welcoming speech expressing how glad is she by achieving a significant success proven by the expansion and growth of the honors program. Moreover, she stressed on that the program is seeking to create an environment and community of excellence to help the students to excel academically. On this regard, Dr. Majeda stated that; "The Honors Program is especially designed for students who are seeking excellence and is designed to engage students who are self-motivated to develop their analytical skills, interpretive skills and critical thinking skills. As well as, the program provides them with stimulating resources to provide the best, to maintain an outstanding academic performance, and urged them to continue diligent and diligence during the academic careers, which would contribute to motivate them to complete their higher studies in the future. Ultimately, the Honors Program's exceptional intellectual environment helps students to explore their full potential and achieve. "

Dr. Majeda's inspiring speech was followed by a word given by Mr. Mohamed Al-Anzi; the Quality Manager at Oryx GTL. He confirmed that the company's commitment to support educational initiatives like the Honors Program is now considered as an integral part of its strategic plan. This is to support the major educational institutions in order to qualify and prepare the next generation of industrial and business leaders and in many other disciplines. Mr. Al-Anzi showed his admiration to the End of Year Event and he said; "This ceremony reinforces the students' confidence and self-motivation which reflects positively on the person and his/her society."



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The ceremony had an awarding session to award the outstanding students from different majors and classes for variety of accomplishments. The awards and winners were classified as follows:

- The Best Thesis Award; is an award for distinguished graduation projects. Both Hessa Al-Thani a Student from the College of Art and Science and Jamila Fouladi from the College of Engineering won this special award.



- Best Services Award; which is an award for outstanding student services; was given to Muhammad Ali Al-Abrash from the College of Sharia and Islamic Studies and Tasneem Mohamed Hussain from the College of Engineering.



- Best Academic Award; is an award given for distinct academic performance. Winners of this award were Khaled Hosni from College of Business and Economics, Safaa Naim Sultan and Eman Saleh Al-Shimmari from the College of Art and Science and Jamal Adel from the College of Engineering.





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- Honors Graduates With Distinction Award; is an award given to honors graduates with GPA above 3.80. Winners were Ali Abdel-Aal, Jamila Fouladi, Umammah Osama and Mariam Elnour from the College of Engineering; Haya Al-Ghoneim and Mariam Al-Hothyfi from College of Law, Anab Sondos from College of Business and Economics; Eman Al-Shimmari, Wadhaa Nihayann and Toqa Saleh from the College of Art and Science.



- Best Poster Award; this is the first time for this award to be distributed due to outstanding scientific posters designed by some honors students. Winners of this award were Wajeha Ghazi from the College of Art and Science and Mustafa Hussein from the College of Engineering.



Sponsors and Some Members of the Honors Council were also awarded during the event's awarding session.



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The event closure was a nice session where 3 teams presented their ideas for the 15<sup>th</sup> Intercollege Environmental Public Speaking Competition that will be held in Dubai this November. This was followed by the announcement of Best Article Competition and Best Logo Design Competition winners. Moreover, the new HAS board members for the academic year 2015-2016 were announced.





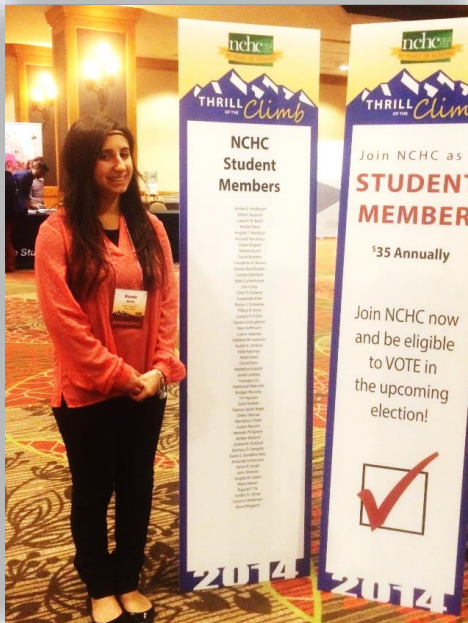
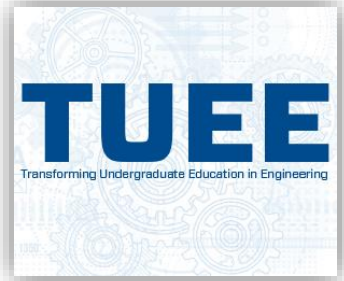
# Chapter **Four**

## **Honors Students' Achievements**



Amongst 30 different American educational institutions, Qatar University was the only participating Arabic institution. **Dalia Abo Mazid** is a Chemical Engineering student who was selected to present Qatar University and to attend an educational workshop titled "Transforming Undergraduate Engineering in Education" or TUEE in Washington D.C., USA. The workshop was organized by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE). TUEE aim was to analyze and study the weaknesses of today's engineering education. Consequently, creative solutions and suggestions were encouraged in order to make changes in engineering curricula, methods of instruction, and academic environments. Ultimately, those positive changes will help future engineers in gaining and adopting more skills and multiple abilities. In the workshop, students were grouped and they were assigned to discuss and answer a questionnaire that was examining the different aspects that the engineering education is lacking. All questions were related to the Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSAs) not being practiced in different engineering institutions. Moreover, students' discussion was focusing on engaging different KSAs into their engineering curricula which adds very notable value to their education.

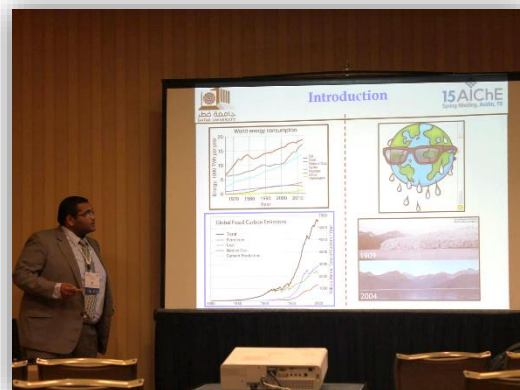
Dalia is very pleased by having that opportunity and she sends her deep gratitude to Dr. Majeda Khraisheh for supporting the Honors Students during the trip and she acknowledges the professional trainers and organizers for making TUEE a well-established workshop.



The president of the HSA, **Randa Sheikh**, attended the National Collegiate Honors College Trip to Denver Colorado chaperoned by Dr. Majeda Khraisheh. Randa describes her trip as one of the most beneficial conferences she has ever attended. The conference held only honors students from all around the world, which was a huge delight to Randa as she was able to meet with people sharing the same interest. The conference included four workshops about different topics such as the importance of the role of trips and exchange programs for honor students and how to successfully write a senior thesis paper. On the last day of the conference, Randa gave a presentation about E-books. She conducted research about the topic with her colleague Khalid Hosny, also an honors student. Everyone at the conference enjoyed the presentation since it held a frequently faced issue: dealing with E-books. Randa ended her speech thanking the director of the honors program and her chaperon Cr. Majeda Khraisheh, in addition to her colleague Khalid Hosney and the Honors Program for their committed work.

**Moustafa Hussein Ali**, Honors junior chemical engineering student and the president of the society of petroleum engineers' student chapter got accepted for presenting his research paper in AIChE spring meeting 2015 with a complete fund from the honors program – Qatar University.

AIChE spring meeting 2015 is an abbreviation of American institution of Chemical Engineers spring meeting 2015 where all researchers specially engineers and scientist come to present their accepted research paper in the conference. This give a great opportunity for any engineer to discuss his/her work with the other researcher in order to get more experience and gain more knowledge and represent his university, collage, company or institute.



**Wajiha Ghazi** is one of our Honors Students who distinguished themselves in research area. She is involved in two projects and gaining first-hand experience in applied research.

She is participating as second author in a project titled "Preferred walking patterns among young male and female Qatari adults: study of spatiotemporal and psychophysiological parameters". She also work as an undergraduate research assistant in studying the "Relationship between physical self-concept and health- related physical fitness in young Qatari adults"

Wajiha also participated with her team at the Qatar University Annual Research Forum 2015 and won the second prize for best Undergraduate research poster.

**Alya Babiker**, a pharmacy Honors Student was one of the members of the first place winning team in the first Mental Health Student Competition in September. The team faced other students from University of Calgary-Qatar, WCMC, and College of North Atlantic. The competitors were asked to choose one competition theme and work on an original idea to raise awareness about mental health.



**Nazar Salim**, a student majoring in computer science has participated in several activities and was highly recognized. In January 2014, Nazar, with his team, won the Best Technical Challenge at Carnegie Apps 2014 Hackathon which is a 24-hour event where students can work individually or in a team to build a cool application using technology. His team also won the second place in Qatar Collegiate Programing Contest-QCPC 2014. This contests put each three university students in a team where they have to solve eight or more complex real world problems with a five hours deadline. Nazar was also the Runner up of Best Course Project Award and he won the Second Best Senior Project Award for Computer Science major. Lately, Nazar won the Best Thesis Award provided by ORYX GTL to honors students.

**Khaled Hosny**, a Business Honors Student represented the Honors Program in the Dean's List Day for the College of Business in a speech about the Program.





Honors Program students won the wooden bridge competition for undergraduate students of the Department of Civil Engineering. **Jamal and Jameel Hannun and Hassan Sayed** built a wooden bridge of 100 pieces of wood connected by using wood glue. Honors Students Bridge have been able to carry 16 kg safely. Making them among the winning teams. Jamal Hannun says, "It's a great feeling where yesterday I participated in the schools competition version, and today win in the students of civil engineering version, it is useful competition for the student where he learn the core of Civil Engineering, doing and applying the engineering design on the fullest face". Both students and the Department of Civil Engineering at Qatar University were glad for the contest success where it was held for the first time for university students and the third time for school students. Dr. Onur Avci the competition's founder in Qatar University said: "in this year the participants' bridges was able to support heavy loads and we expect that these records will be broken in the next year with the increase of participants".



**Asmaa Saleh Mubarak** is an Honors graduate of Spring 2014, won the Best Thesis Award in the department of Architecture and Urban Planning.



**Randa Issam Sheikh** won the Honors Program Student Services Award and the QU Non-Academic Students Award- Services Award in Spring 2014.

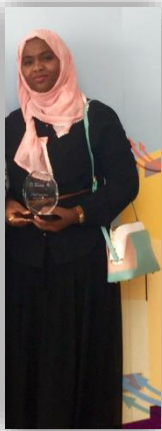
**Shifa Mohammed Shaikh** won the Best Thesis Award in the Department of Chemistry.



**Souad Marasstani** majoring in sports science was awarded a medal with a certificate of appreciation for Best 2<sup>nd</sup> Debate Speaker and a trophy for Best 2<sup>nd</sup> Team in Qatar Debates.







**Tasneem Hussain**, an Electrical Engineering Honors Student, won Stage 1 of Shell Ideas 360 Global Competition. Moreover, Tasneem's idea was selected among the top 50 most innovative ideas ranked as 25<sup>th</sup> innovative idea and the 2<sup>nd</sup> most innovative idea in Qatar.



**Ula Hajawi** an Electrical Engineering Honors Student won the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award in AINAC 2013 Competition held in Amman, Jordan. The project title is: Design and development of smart gas leakage, Qatar University won the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place out of 24 accepted papers.



**Sarah ElNour** a Law Honors Student won the 6<sup>th</sup> Best speaker in the International Universities' Debate League in Arabic.

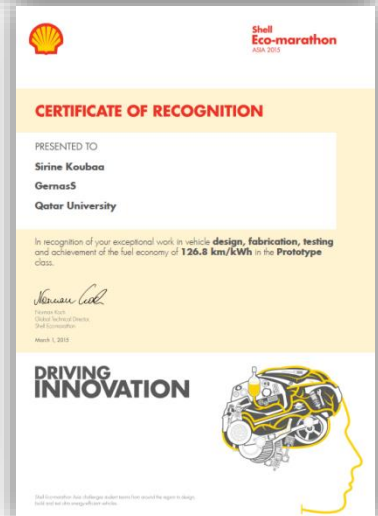
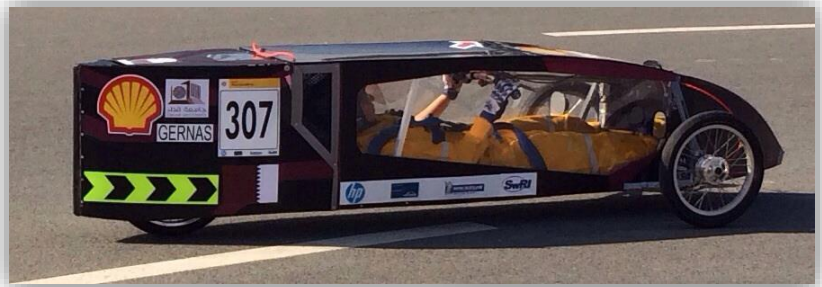


**Sarrah AlJaili**, and **Hala Moussa** a DELL Honors Student tied in the 9<sup>th</sup> place for the best Top 10 speakers in the National Qatar Universities Debate League.

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**Sirine Koubaa** is an Electrical Engineering Honors Student who have been selected to represent Qatar in Shell Eco-Marathon Global Competition held in Manilla, Philippines. Challenging the best teams of Asian Universities at the Shell Eco Marathon Asia 2015, CENG students managed to technically qualify against 38 different teams at the prototype category. Realizing CENG vision and mission, Gernass teams spread their wings again in Asia achieving the 6<sup>th</sup> award against very competitive Asian teams.



## رياضتنا الجوية تتوج بفضية الشواطئ الآسيوية



**Abdullatif Al-Qahtani** is an Honors Student who have won the Silver Medal with Qatar's team for Paragliding and he won the Bronze Medal in The Asian Beach Championship.

# Chapter Five

## Honors Writing Competition





## Honors Writing Competition



Writing Competition is a competition for students who are interested in essay writing to give a short reflection about their experience with the Honors Program and their university majors. The essay can be in either Arabic or English.

The article should be related to student's major & Honors Program highlighting the following points:

- o What attracted you to join the Honors program.
- o What are the main features that Honors Program added to your major?
- o What are the main impacts of Honors Program on student life?
- o What are the challenges you are facing?
- o How would you describe the effects of Honors Program on your skills (research, critical thinking, teamwork, communication, problem solving, etc.)?

The best English articles were selected to be as in the following pages.



## Best Two Articles in English

### The Journey To Success Wajiha Ghazi

Born and raised in the North of Pakistan, an area known for its backwardness and precarious security situation, I was brought up with a mindset of a warrior. I was taught to be brave and was fortunate to be given the freedom by family to do things that sparked my interest. Despite being a female in a male dominated society, I was self-determined to achieve the goals I had set for myself. Growing up in a household of accomplished athletes influenced me to passionately be involved in playing sports throughout my primary and high school years.

During these early years, I realized that sport is much more than just physical activity. I started playing competitive sports on a regional level and was fascinated by the deep values I was learning each day: values like honesty, dedication, hard work, respect, self-confidence, discipline and the desire to succeed. All these principles are now embedded in my personality as I continue my undergraduate degree in the field of sports. My fascination for sports grew more each semester and I started writing about the importance and participation of women in sports in my research papers. The yearning to work for the betterment of female health and increasing the participation of women in sports has become stronger through the course of my studies and experiences at Qatar University.

I was dreaming of becoming a Sport and Exercise Scientist and realized that joining the Honors Program would be the perfect way to undertake a rigorous academic experience. After joining the program, I could see myself as a scientist in the making. The ethics and values I have learned from the major I was in, then qualified me for the Honors Program. My desire to learn more, challenging myself and making a difference in the world confirmed my spot in the Honors Program.

The Honors Program course work improved my critical thinking and research skills. The dense work material pushed me to the limits where I would not have reached otherwise. It not only impacted my academic life but also strengthened the relationship with my professors.

My professors showed more confidence in me and my major course works. Their seriousness in my efforts and dedication towards the achievements of my goal to become a research

scientist was shown by the opportunities they gave me in many research projects. The Honors Program opened doors of opportunities that I would not have imagined otherwise. It not only challenged me in my major courses but also engaged me in interdisciplinary education. The exposure towards other fields of education broadened my attitude towards other disciplines.



Moreover, being part of the Honors Program community is a huge responsibility, where the professors expect you to be on the top level and the students look up to you and would ask for academic advices. Maintaining your position in terms of both grades and character is necessary and sometimes becomes stressful. One of the difficulties I faced in the program was the scarcity of time. Finding the time needed to absorb the heavy course material and to be active and show excellence in all the extracurricular activities as well as other commitments was a challenge. However, the Honors community itself was a big motivation for me. The end of year events showed the accomplishments of other members of the community which proved that the Honors program is truly for highly motivated students. My fellow Honors Program colleagues inspired me to unlock my maximum potential. Over the semesters, I achieved many research accomplishments and surpassed the challenges of proving myself in both academic and extracurricular activities. The Honors Program not only allowed me to master learning but I also grew personally and socially, for example, by arranging trips and training workshops, rewarding the students, and organizing debates and cultural events for students. This therefore, gave me a chance to know my abilities. This is what all the students need in their university life—an opportunity to be aware of their maximum abilities, appreciation by the community and overcoming their weaknesses. That is why I feel the Honors Program is the best example of providing such opportunities, as it has polished me for my future endeavors.

In closing, the Honors Program has enriched my university life with excellence, compassion and resilience in academics, as well as in my career as a peer tutor. Through the confidence that the Honors Program has given me, I am not only working on attaining my personal academic goals but am also helping other students to achieve excellence in their respective fields. My passion towards my field of study and the desire to learn and develop is driven by the Honors Program. In this journey of success, I am embracing each and every moment in the University as an Honors student with joy and enthusiasm.

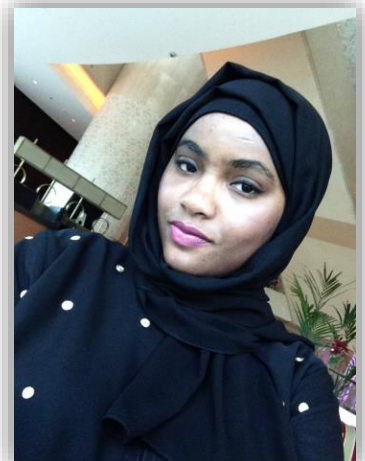
**Short Reflection:**  
**My Enriching Experience with Electrical Engineering and The Honors Program**  
**Tasneem Hussain**

The Honors Program is designed by Qatar University to provide the best environment for highly motivated and academically inquisitive students to optimize and unlock their full potentials. I joined the program because I always strive to challenge myself and to gain an enriching experience. Honors Program keeps the enrolled student highly inspired and motivated to achieve and realize his/her ambitions. What have attracted me to join the program is that it surrounds the students within a community of distinction which guides them to succeed. In fact, I am really glad to be part of the program as it is a very nice big family. The Honors Program always encourages the students to build collaborations with fellow students, instructors and professors which culminate in effective knowledge transfer and cumulative team build up.

Taking Honors classes was amazingly interesting experience as the nature and environment of the class were totally different than my regular classes. What also makes Honors classes special is that everyone in the class wants to learn, share experience, and get the advantage of having multi-disciplinary class with colleagues from all different majors and backgrounds. Being in such a class has improved my self-confidence, critical thinking and teamwork skills as most of our in-class activities were based on group work and interactive discussions, debates and constructive criticism.

I am a student of Electrical Engineering and I believe that; Electrical Engineering is the cutting edge of technology and the engineering of the future generation as the next decade is the era of renewable energy sources and efficient energy use. Moreover, energy is becoming the most epic challenge of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and apparently, there is a sense of urgency about the global environmental problems. Furthermore, being an Electrical Engineering Honors Student had given me a lot of opportunities in research, designing special projects and taking some honors addendum assignments which gave me the confidence to dig deeper in my major. I really enjoyed taking some major courses as part of the honors curriculum in the study plan

of electrical engineering students. Even though those courses were quite demanding for me because we had to do extra work, assignments and add extra applications to our term project design, it was very great experience that has enriched my knowledge a lot. Furthermore, the honors extra assignments and design requirements have improved my critical thinking and engineering Design creativity in proposing different solutions to encountered design problems.





One interesting experience for me with major honors courses is when I participated in a conference with a full research paper in "The 8th International Conference of Engineering and Technology Research" that was held in Dubai April, 2014. Working on my first conference paper was privilege for me and absolutely new learning experience. The project was under the theme of solar energy challenges and the research was aiming to study and compare different solar photovoltaic technologies and their efficiencies under the harsh environmental conditions of Qatar. That was in fact very interesting study that clarified some misconceptions about the use of solar panels in hash environments and how can hash climates destructively influence their performance. The research was supervised by one of the honors faculty members in the Department of Electrical Engineering; Dr. Farid Tuoti and the conference paper was successfully accepted. However, due to some visa issues I did not get the chance to travel and present it.

I was lucky enough to be selected as a representative for the department of electrical engineering in a number of global events like the International Petroleum and Technology Conference (IPTC 2015) that will take place this December, Middle East Student Branch Congress (MESBC 2015) that will take place this August and many others. The priority of selection was given to me due to my affiliation in the Honors Program. Therefore, I would like to send my deep acknowledgement to the Program and particular thanks to Dr. Majeda for her influential and inspiring personality.



# Chapter Six

Honors  Graduates



## 2013 – 2014 Graduates

### Female Honors Graduates

- **College of Art and Science**

Maimoona Rahman  
Walaa Mustafa Abdessaied  
Ruqiya AbdiRahman



- **College of Business and Economics**

Sehide Ruken Birinci  
Fareed Unissa Begum  
Tahniyath Fatima



- **College of Engineering**

Reem Youssef Awaad  
Asmaa Al Mohannadi  
Noura Dawass

### Male Honors Graduates

- **College of Art and Science**

Mohamed Shaheem Purayil



- **College of Business and Economics**

Hayder Almazraqchi



- **College of Law**

Marwan Zaieddin

- **College of Engineering**

Mohamed Mahgoub  
Saad Abdelati Elasad  
Musab N A Almozien  
Nazar Salim



## 2014 – 2015 Graduates

### Female Honors Graduates

- **College of Art and Science**

Omama Osman  
Wadha Nehayan  
Tuqa Saleh  
Faid Emad Mola  
Eiman Alshamari  
Hessa Al-Thani  
Kaniz Fatima Ali Hossain

- **College of Business and Economics**

Anab Sundus  
Marwah Mir  
Randa Sheik

- **College of Engineering**

Jamila Folady  
Mariam Elnour  
Shifa Shaikh  
Muneera Al-Ahbabi  
Noha Selim  
Hena Alpona  
Sara Amin  
Rawda Mohammed AlMesallam

- **College of Law**

Haya AlGhunam  
Sarah ElNour  
Maryam Abdulla Alhedaifi



### Male Honors Graduates

- **College of Law**

Ramy Hatem Khalaf

- **College of Engineering**

Ali Abd Elaal  
Abdelrahim Mohamed  
Alkhzami Al-Harami  
Anas Tahir





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## End of the Editorial

DON'T  
FORGET  
TO BE  
AWESOME.

Honors Student

### Done by:

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Jamal Hannun  
Jana Jamaledin  
Mohamed Rabie

### Reviewed by:

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