

Global Challenges for Arab Universities: Identifying and Responding

Leadership Programme

Gulf College, Oman

6 and 7 February 2017

This programme is for Rectors and Vice-Rectors of Universities in the MENA region.

It aims to explore the global challenges that universities in the Region are facing and facilitate participants in preparing responses to those challenges. It will focus on internationalisation and engagement with industry and commerce in particular and other topics, as raised by participants.

The programme is designed to be:

- Issue Centred: analytically focused on issues that are relevant to universities in the Region in their present stage of development.
- Purposive and Action Oriented: the experience will be geared towards assessing the relevance of the evidence provided and formulating appropriate action plans for universities.
- Collaborative: in the sense that there will be cross fertilisation of experiences and good practice through the discussion and feedback sessions; and participants will work in groups to produce conclusions for use in their universities after the programmes; and that they will give advice to each other on matters of common concern.
- Comparative: the programme facilitators will encourage participants to look at international evidence and the experience of peer institutions in Arab Countries on selected issues.
- Frank and Open: in the sense that the style of discussion will be based on transparency about the issues confronting participants and readiness to share experiences and evaluate and accept advice.
- Challenging: in the sense of providing expert and analytical questioning on the adequacy of national or international responses to the challenges in resolving the particular issues.

The Programme Director will be David Lock.

Contributors to the programme will be Dr Issa, CEO of Gulf College, Oman, Professor Cara Aitchison, President and Vice-Chancellor Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK, Professor Mohamed Loutfi, Pro Vice Chancellor (International), Cardiff Metropolitan University (UK). Professor Fábio do Prado, Rector, Centro Universitário FEI, São Paulo, Brazil, Professor Alessandra Scagliarini, Vice Rector for International Relations, University of Bologna, Italy and Alison Johns, Chief Executive, Leadership Foundation for Higher Education, UK.

Brief biographies of the team are attached.

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Monday 6 February 2017

- 09:00 Welcome and introduction
Professor Sultan Abu Orabi; Secretary General, Association of Arab Universities
Dr Issa Sabeel Al Bulushi; Chairman, Board of Directors; Vice Chair, Board of Trustees of Gulf College
David Lock; Programme Director
- 09:20 Global Challenges: a Gulf perspective
Professor Taqi Bin Abdulredha Al Abduwani, Dean, Gulf College
- 10:00 Global Challenges and opportunities for Internationalisation
David Lock; Programme Director
- 10:30 *Ethical Internationalisation*
Professor Mohamed Loutfi, Pro Vice Chancellor (International), Cardiff Metropolitan University
- 11:00 Refreshments
- 11:15 The challenges as we see them: opportunities, threats and priorities for action
Group session
- 12:00 Feedback session
- 12:45 Networking Lunch – College restaurant ground floor
- 14:00 Internationalisation: what's happening elsewhere
A case study from the University of Bologna (followed by discussion)
Professor Alessandra Scagliarini, Vice Rector for International Relations, University of Bologna
- 15:15 Refreshments
- 15:45 Engaging with Industry and Commerce
A case study from Centro Universitário FEI (followed by discussion)
Professor Fábio do Prado, Rector, Centro Universitário FEI, São Paulo
(By Skype)
- 17:00 Review of the day and identification of themes for tomorrow
- 17:15 Close of programme
- 18:00 Dinner – Roman Theatre Gulf college campus

Tuesday 7 February 2017

- 09:00 Reflection on yesterday and agenda confirmation
- 09:15 Encouraging and listening to the student voice
Professor Cara Aitchison, President and Vice-Chancellor Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK
- 10:00 Leadership capacity building for women in higher education
Alison Johns, Chief Executive, Leadership Foundation for Higher Education
- 10:45 Refreshments
- 11:00 Building capacity for responding to the challenges
Alison Johns, Chief Executive, Leadership Foundation for Higher Education
- 11:30 Group work
Pairs or small groups will evaluate the information and learning from the programme and prioritise actions for their return.
- 12:15 Feedback session and evaluation
- 12:45 Close of programme
- 19:00 Dinner & Distribution of Certificates
Invitees will include – Members of ARELEN, Gulf College's Board of Trustees, Advisory Board members of Gulf college, all participants of the conference, sponsors of Gulf College, managers from Ministry of Higher Education, Board Members of OAAA, members of OQNHE, partners with whom Gulf college has signed MOU's and Alumni of Cardiff Metropolitan in Oman.

AGENDA FOR DINNER EVENT ON 7TH FEBRAURY 2017

- 19:15 Welcome address by Dr Issa Al Balushi, Dr Sultan Abu Orabi, Prof Cara Aitchison and HE Jonathan Wilks
- 19:25 Programme Summary & Outcomes by Mr. David Lock
- 19:40 Distribution of Certificates
- 20:15 Dinner accompanied by Arabic instrumental (Oud)