

جامعة نيويورك أبوظبي

 NYU | ABU DHABI



2015-16 Highlights: UAE Impact

Contents

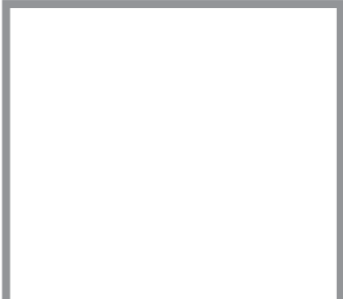
NYUAD in Abu Dhabi **2**

Undergraduate Education **12**

Research **42**

Public Programming **66**

SMSP and Summer Academy **76**



NYUAD in Abu Dhabi



NYU Abu Dhabi reflects a convergence of vision between the leaders of Abu Dhabi and NYU, both seeking to leverage education to meet the challenges of the 21st century

- NYUAD aims to become **one of the world's great research universities**, with a distinctive focus on intercultural understanding and leadership
- The University aims to contribute to Abu Dhabi as a **global capital of ideas and innovation**
- As Abu Dhabi continues its ascent as a vibrant and diverse global city, NYUAD is creating **an ecosystem that attracts leading talent and generates social value** in multiple and mutually supportive ways
- NYUAD reflects shared values that include academic excellence, openness to new ideas and perspectives, and a **dedication to finding common ground**

“NYU Abu Dhabi is the embodiment of **openness, opportunity, and optimism** – at a moment in history when those qualities are desperately needed.”

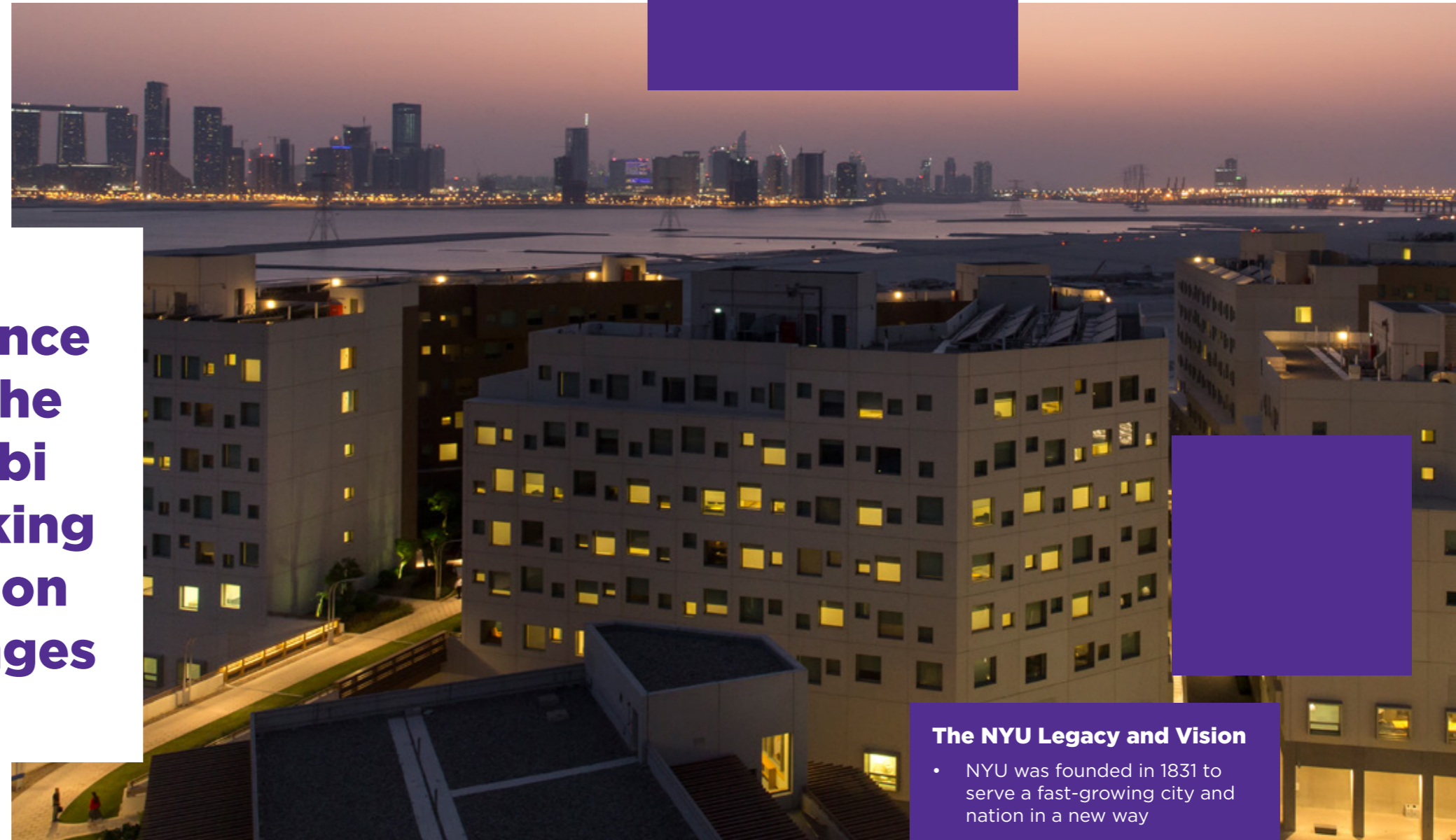
– NYU President Andrew Hamilton

“NYU has a truly unique view of a global university: not bound by precedent or place, but guided by an **absolute commitment to academic excellence** and the free flow of ideas.”

– HE Khaldoon Khalifa Al Mubarak, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Executive Affairs Authority (EAA)

The NYU Legacy and Vision

- NYU was founded in 1831 to serve a fast-growing city and nation in a new way
 - It would be **open to all students** based on merit, regardless of national origin, religious beliefs, or social background
 - It would be **“in and of the city”** – embracing and drawing strength from the world around it
- Today, NYU is also **“in and of the world”** – a highly networked global platform for teaching, learning, creating knowledge, and inventing new ways to meet humanity's vital challenges in the 21st century





NYU Abu Dhabi is a world-class institution of higher education that supports a long-term vision of academic and research excellence

Contributions to Abu Dhabi

- Advances Abu Dhabi as the region's idea capital - a leading **hub of education, research, and innovation**
- Promotes Abu Dhabi as a **global leader in reimagining higher education** for the 21st century
- Educates and assists in developing the **next generation of Emirati leaders** in a globally diverse and stimulating community of peers
- Produces **high-quality research, scholarship, and creative activity** that contribute to local and national priorities
- Attracts **talented people** from around the world to Abu Dhabi
- Enhances Abu Dhabi's **social infrastructure** through intellectual, cultural, and other community programming

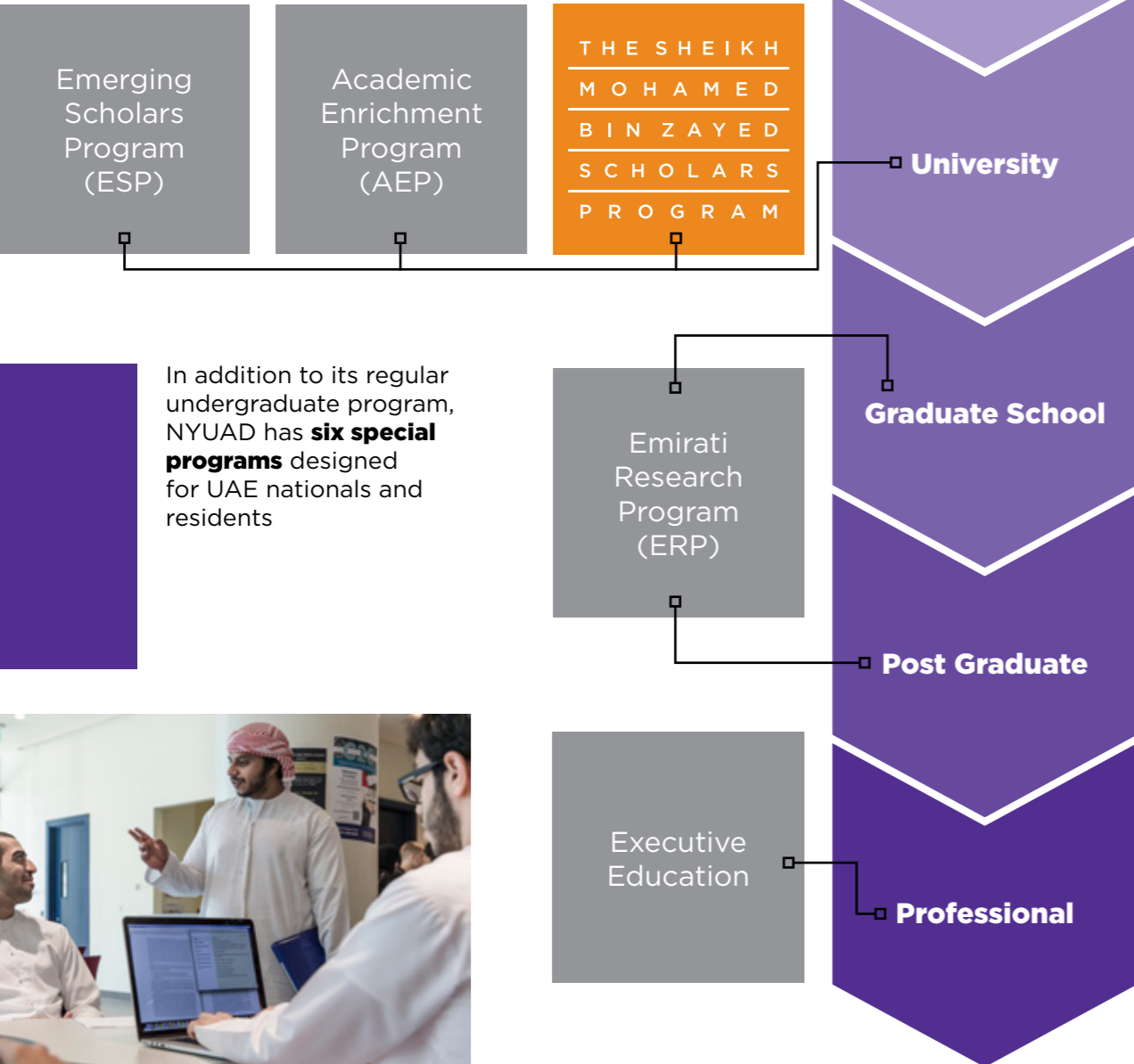


NYU Abu Dhabi is building intellectual and cultural capital that will pay off over decades

Strategy

- Attract **exceptional students** from the UAE and around the world to create a diverse student body where **no nationality is dominant**
- Recruit, retain, and support **world-class faculty** and researchers
- Create and sustain a **vibrant scholarly and research environment**
- Deliver a challenging and innovative liberal arts and sciences curriculum that gives students **critical intellectual skills** and capabilities
- Provide a campus environment and programming that promote personal and **leadership development** among students
- Emphasize **local relevance and global significance** as well as conceptual advance in research and scholarship
- Develop graduate programs that contribute to the intellectual life of the university and **train strong scholars in the UAE**
- Promote **innovation and entrepreneurship** among students and faculty
- Present public programs that foster **intellectual and cultural vitality** and contribute to the development of a vibrant local arts community
- Provide **educational and professional development** opportunities for UAE nationals and residents from high school to the executive level

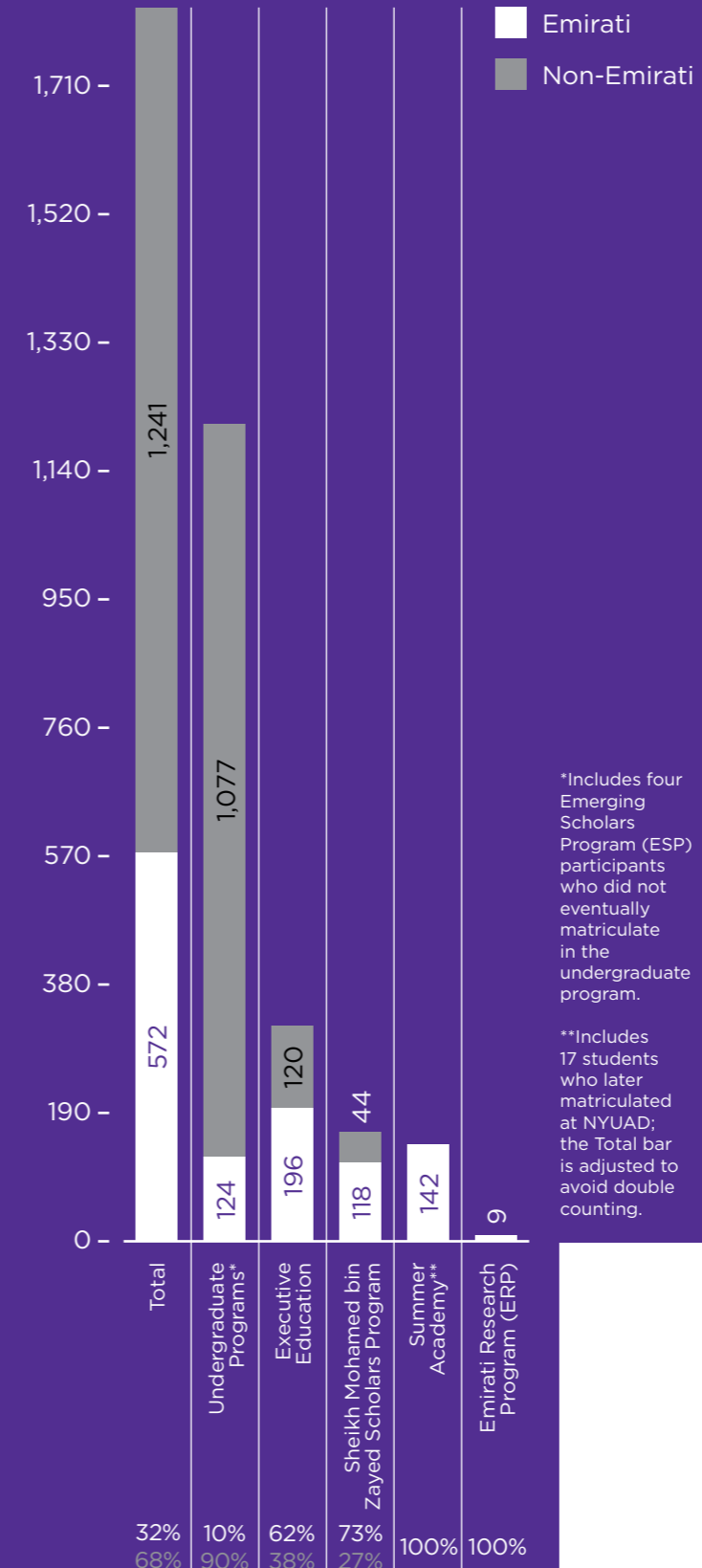
NYU Abu Dhabi leverages its resources and expertise to benefit UAE nationals across a range of educational opportunities, from high school to the executive level



In addition to its regular undergraduate program, NYUAD has **six special programs** designed for UAE nationals and residents



Participants enrolled in NYUAD academic programs, Academic Year 10-11 to Academic Year 15-16

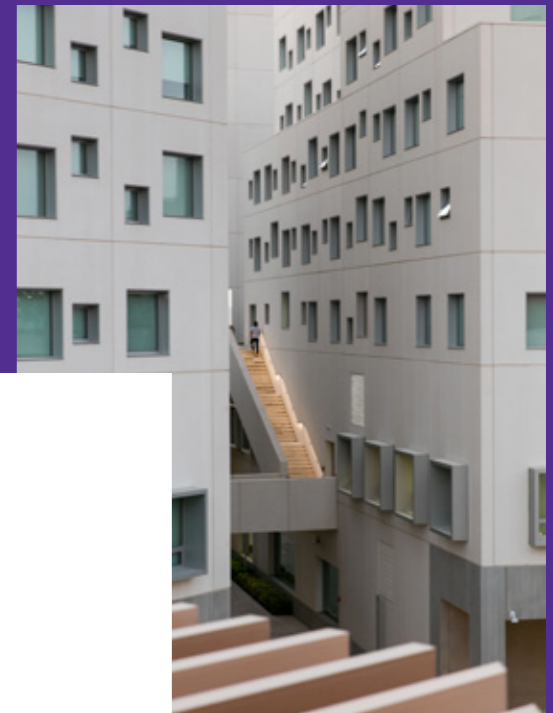


*Includes four Emerging Scholars Program (ESP) participants who did not eventually matriculate in the undergraduate program.

**Includes 17 students who later matriculated at NYUAD; the Total bar is adjusted to avoid double counting.



Over the last six years, 572 Emiratis have participated in NYU Abu Dhabi's formal academic programs, making up 32% of all participants



Undergraduate Education



“I learned to read a text from multiple perspectives of different kinds of people as opposed to perhaps the most popular or most favored reading.

I learned to question the obvious and be skeptical. It is OK to ask questions about things that puzzle you or compel you. In fact, it is entirely and absolutely necessary.”

– Student, UAE



NYU Abu Dhabi offers a comprehensive liberal arts and sciences curriculum that equips undergraduate students with critical intellectual and leadership skills for the 21st-century world

Purpose

Develop students as **future leaders for a global world**

- Build **core intellectual skills** (e.g., critical inquiry and analysis, quantitative reasoning, written and oral communication, facility with conceptual and ethical complexity)
- Emphasize **multidisciplinary and intercultural** approaches to understanding the world
- Develop **students as producers of knowledge** (e.g., through capstone research)

Set a **new benchmark for university education** in the UAE

- Offer **22 majors** plus a variety of multidisciplinary and disciplinary minors and pre-professional courses
- Maintain **small class sizes and close attention from faculty** on par with the best US liberal arts colleges
- Provide opportunities to learn from and work with **world-class, research-active scholars**
- Apply a **holistic approach to student development** that the residential campus model makes possible

NYU Abu Dhabi recruits and enrolls students who are exceptional in intellectual ability, intercultural diversity, community spirit, and potential for global leadership



Admissions Goals

- Attract students from the UAE and around the world who are **exceptional** in their:
 - Intellectual ability
 - Cultural and social diversity
 - Leadership potential
 - Dedication to community-building
- Craft a **diverse, global student body**
- Maintain a **high yield rate** on admissions offers, demonstrating NYUAD's attractiveness to top students
- Build a talented, inquisitive student body that **helps attract and retain world-class faculty**
- Continue growing the student body toward a steady-state goal of **2,200 undergraduates**

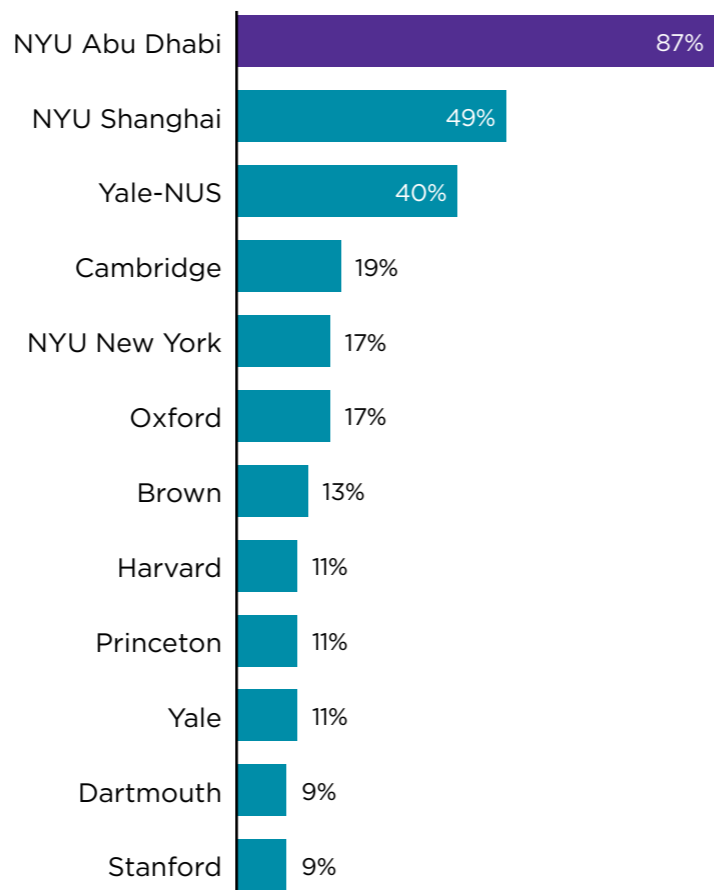
NYU Abu Dhabi's international diversity and global vision give it a key competitive advantage against other top universities, both for Emirati and international students

- In a survey of the Class of 2019, **88% said that diversity was "important" or "very important"** in choosing a university
- Many schools have 100+ countries in their student bodies, but NYUAD is unique: **no country or culture is dominant**
- **No competitors** approach NYUAD in international diversity

"Initially I had my heart set on going abroad, [but] after the Candidate Weekend I realized that the main reason I was going abroad was because I was after diversity and a world-class education. **NYUAD offered me both, in my backyard.**"

- Student, Class of 2016, UAE

Percentage of international undergraduates, Academic Year 15-16



"NYUAD is the epitome of international education.

There was and is no doubt in my mind that the student body and faculty's richness of diversity in beliefs, backgrounds, and experiences - and the effect that this diversity will likely have on my education - is **unparalleled by any other university on earth.**"

- Student, Class of 2017

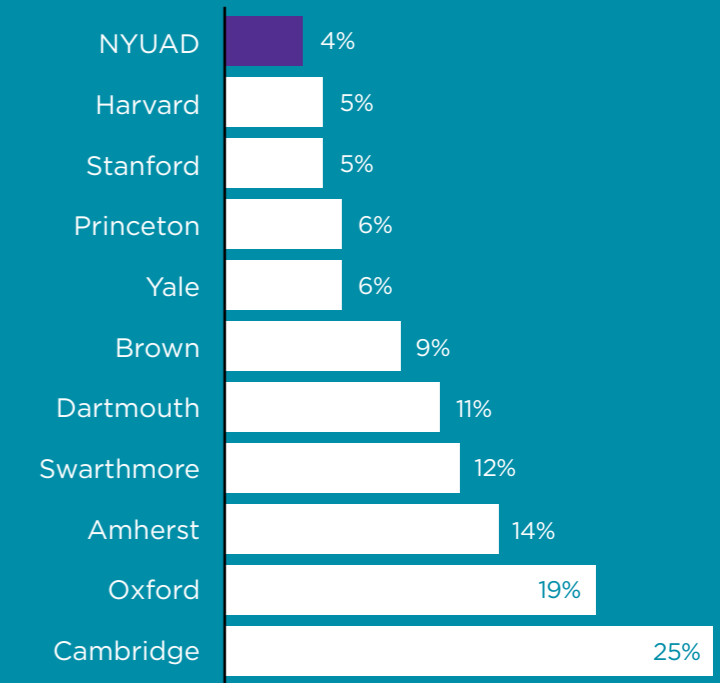
NYU Abu Dhabi brought in 323 new undergraduates for the Class of 2020, with selectivity that rivals the best universities in the United States

- Students may **apply to any or all** of NYU's three campuses
 - Primary applicants indicate Abu Dhabi is their top choice
 - Alternate applicants indicate New York or Shanghai first
- NYU admissions staff review **every application** to NYUAD
- **Candidate Weekends** give the strongest applicants an opportunity to experience what makes NYUAD unique and interact with other prospective students

Class of	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total applications	9,048	5,858	15,520	4,284	12,543	10,250	11,255
Total offers	189	195	208	204	320	370	397
Acceptance rate	2%	3%	1%	5%	3%	4%	4%
Enrollments	148	162	149	171	261	300	323
Yield	78%	83%	72%	84%	82%	81%	79%



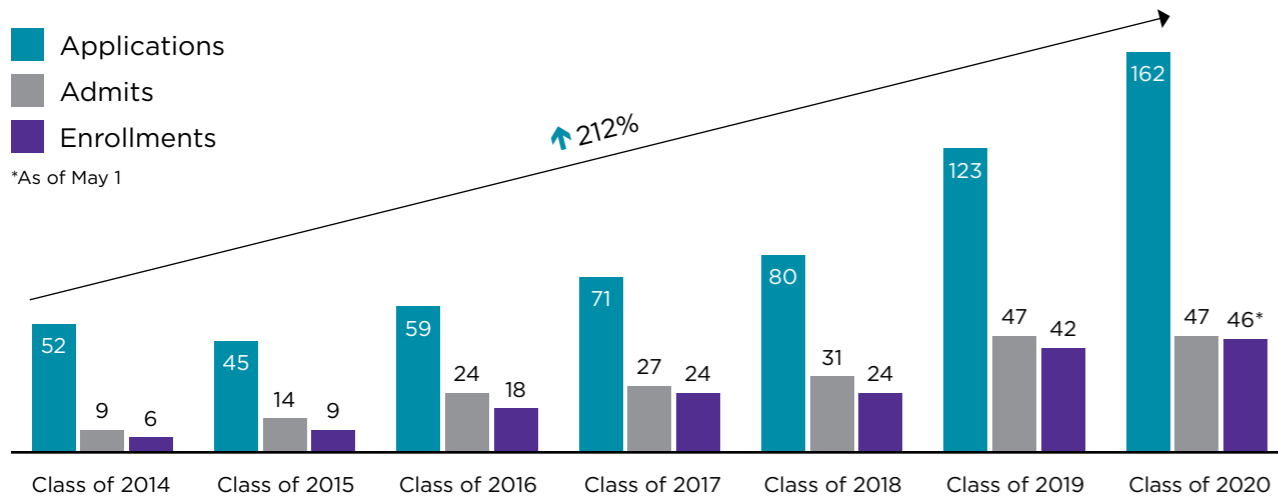
Acceptance Rate



Emirati applications to NYU Abu Dhabi have increased over 200% in seven admission cycles, demonstrating steady growth and helping to keep top national talent in the UAE



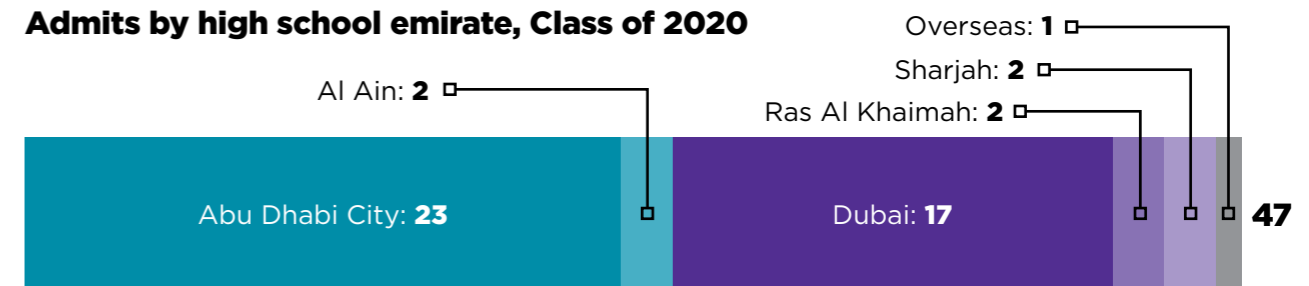
Emirati admissions statistics since inception



“What sets [NYUAD] apart from other educational institutions is that **I do not have to sacrifice quality of education to stay in the country that I love.**”

- Female student, UAE

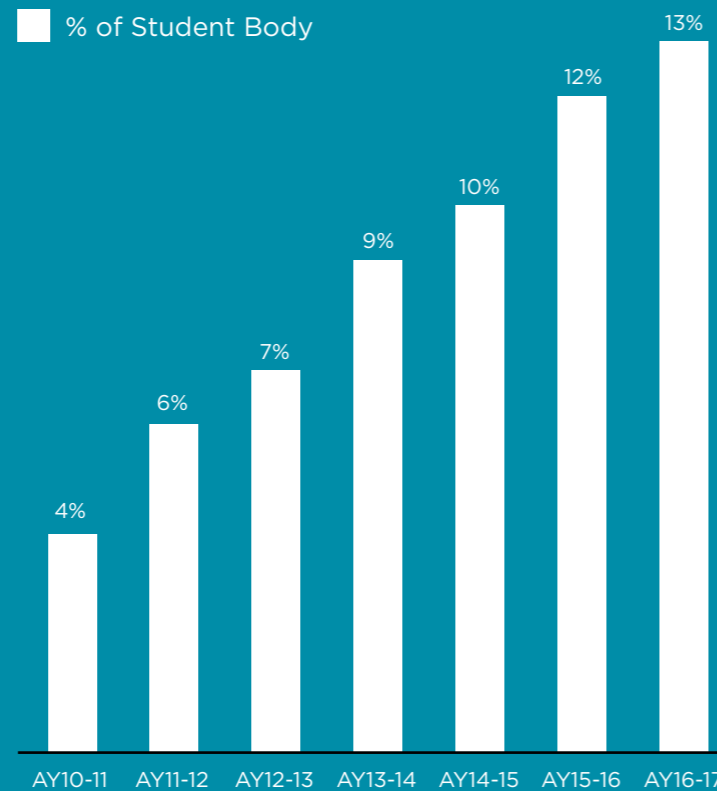
Admits by high school emirate, Class of 2020





Emirati and US students each make up 13% of the student body, the largest nationalities represented at NYU Abu Dhabi

Emirati students at NYUAD, Academic Year 10-11 to Academic Year 16-17



- Emiratis have made up an increasing share of the total student body each year
- **In Academic Year 16-17, US nationals are the second largest nationality at ~13% of the total student body**
- All other nationalities will make up 5% or less, with the largest numbers from:
 - Pakistan
 - India
 - South Korea
 - China
 - Jordan
 - Egypt



NYU Abu Dhabi integrated community-based learning into 76 courses in Academic Year 15-16, bringing students into direct educational engagement with people across the UAE

Examples of organizations participating in NYUAD community-based learning engagements in Academic Year 15-16

- Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education
- Abu Dhabi Company for Onshore Petroleum Operations Ltd. (ADCO)
- Abu Dhabi Investment Council
- Abu Dhabi Juvenile Detention Center
- Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC)
- Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council
- Alfahim Group
- Barjeel Art Foundation
- Dubai Media City
- Emirate of Abu Dhabi - Judicial Department
- Emirates Foundation for Youth Development
- Emirates Industry for Camel Milk and Products
- Federal National Council (FNC)
- Higher Colleges of Technology
- International Astronomical Center
- International Humanitarian City
- Masdar City
- MBC
- Mubadala
- *The National*
- National Archives
- National Bank of Abu Dhabi (NBAD)
- Oasis Hospital
- The Petroleum Institute
- Sharjah Art Museum
- Sharjah Center for Astronomy & Space Sciences
- Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization
- Sheikh Khalifa Medical City
- Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque Center
- Tabah Foundation
- twofour54
- UAE Ministry of Climate Change & Environment
- UAE Ministry of Religious Affairs
- Visit Abu Dhabi

NYU Abu Dhabi has produced six Rhodes Scholars over the last three years, and the first ever from the UAE



HE Shamma bint Sohail Al Mazrui, 2014

Completed a Master of Public Policy with Distinction
UAE Minister of State for Youth Affairs

Hamel Al Qubaisi, 2015

Completing an MPhil in International Relations



Charlotte Wang, 2014

Completed a MPhil in Sociology and Demography

Arfa Rehman, 2015

Completed an MSc in Sociology
Completing an MBA



Alexander Wang, 2014

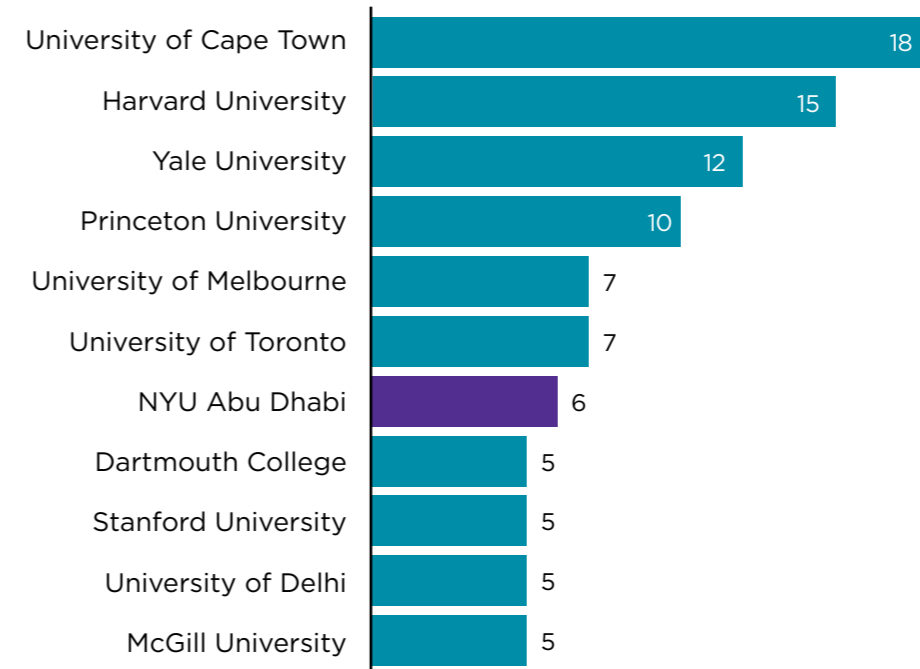
Completed a senior status BA in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Farah Shamout, 2016

Pursuing a DPhil in Engineering Science



Rhodes Scholars, 2014-16



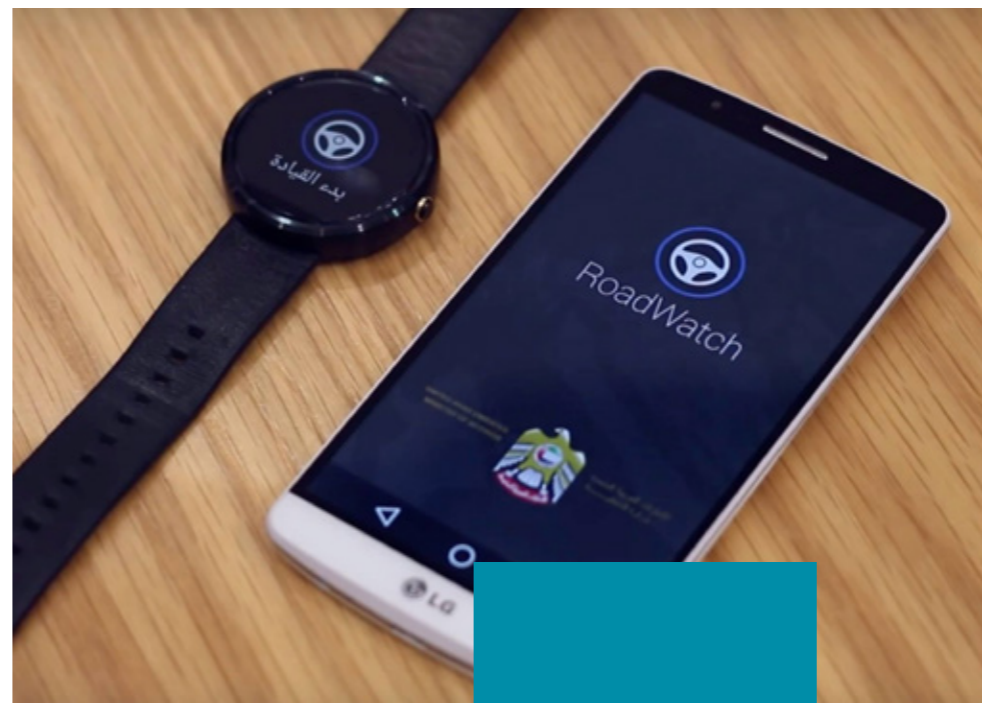
The Rhodes Trust seeks to support students who are likely to emerge as **“leaders for the world’s future,”** directly reflecting one of NYUAD’s driving principles

“It is an honor to be able to work on a project for the benefit of **both government and the people of the UAE**, and to work with a diverse team of students with a **common interest of giving back to the UAE community.**”

– Maitha Salem Al Memari, Class of 2018, UAE



NYU Abu Dhabi students' RoadWatch project took the top university prize at the 2016 Best m-Government Service Awards, winning AED 1 million at the World Government Summit

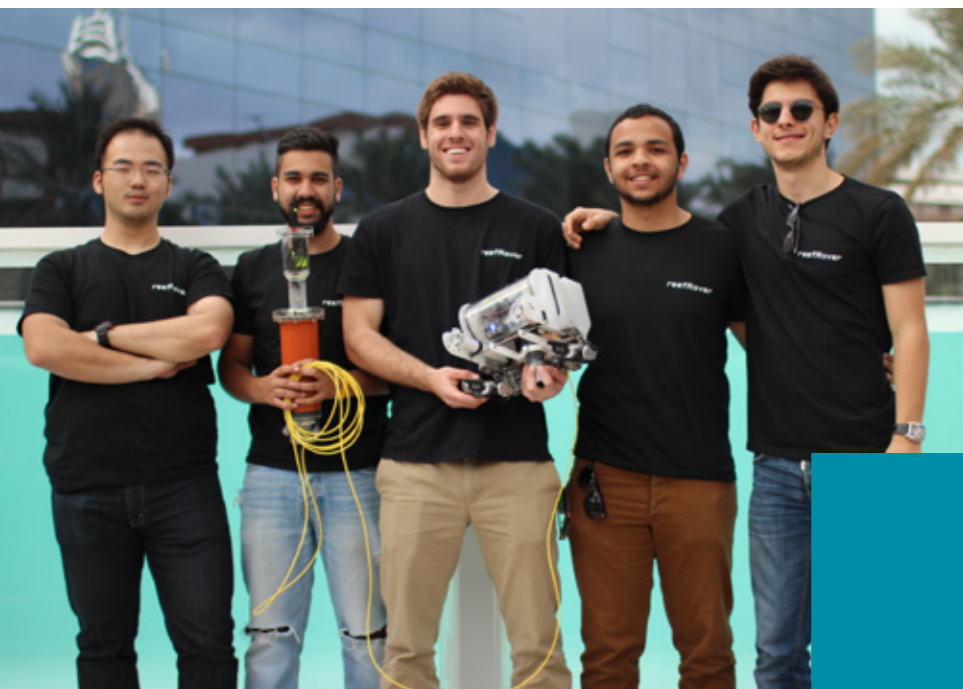


RoadWatch

- NYUAD and NYU Shanghai **students from four countries including the UAE** designed an app that promotes safe driving
- Won first prize and **awarded AED 1 million by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum** at the World Government Summit
- The **mobile app** provides live information and feedback to drivers, including indications of speeding or sleepiness
- The team **partnered with the UAE Ministry of Interior** to develop the capacity to feed anonymous data to the MOI to assist in **planning road infrastructure for better safety**



NYU Abu Dhabi students designed and built a drone to collect data on coral reefs and protect underwater ecosystems, placing second in the 2016 UAE Drones for Good Award



ReefRover

- Students from five countries **designed and built a submersible drone** that autonomously collects data on coral reefs
- Supports research and protection of **underwater ecosystems**
- A single ReefRover **can cover up to 1,400 m² per outing**, compared to only 100 m² using manual methods
- NYUAD students won the 2015 contest with the Wadi Drone, which supports wildlife conservation and ranger safety in remote regions

Student capstone research helped NYU Abu Dhabi discover that hammour fish sold locally are three distinct species, with important implications for fisheries management

- **Remi Ketchum, Class of 2015, worked in two faculty research labs** (Marine Biology Lab and Environmental Genomics Lab)
- **Sequenced DNA from 140 tissue samples** collected in UAE fish markets
- Analysis revealed the presence of **three distinct *Epinephelus* species being marketed and sold as hammour** across the UAE
- Existing fisheries management efforts assumed only one local species, likely reducing the **effectiveness of conservation efforts**
- **Paper published** in *Marine Pollution Bulletin* in 2016

“It is a rarity in most universities for an undergraduate student to produce research that leads to publication ...

We are extremely proud of Ms. Ketchum’s efforts to further our knowledge of a species of such high economic and cultural importance to the UAE.”

– John Burt,
Associate Professor of Biology

“Our initial aim was to focus on one species, but in the process, Ms. Ketchum had a ‘Eureka’ moment when she first looked at the genetic data ... The results are **a testament to what undergraduate student research can lead to.**”

– Youssef Idaghdour,
Assistant Professor of Biology



NYUAD students run the annual Public Health Think Tank conference, building local networks and knowledge that will strengthen the UAE public health community

Public Health Think Tank 2015

- Student delegates **devised public health interventions** and received lectures and guidance from leading professionals
- Challenge for 2015 was **reducing childhood obesity**, a major public health problem in the UAE
- **Seven teams with 33 participants from 13 local universities**
- Representatives from the **Abu Dhabi and Dubai Health Authorities and Sheikh Khalifa Medical Center** attended
- Earned **media coverage** in *Khaleej Times*, *Gulf Times*, *Al Khaleej*, *Emirates News Agency*, *Shafaqna*
- **Winning team** was a mixed group of students from NYUAD, Fatima College of Health Sciences, Abu Dhabi University, and Dubai Medical College





NYU Abu Dhabi students founded the Girls Education Network (GEN), which has built leadership skills in 274 girls from 19 Abu Dhabi schools, 65% of whom are Emirati

Background

- Leadership development program for girls in Abu Dhabi
- Fosters practices such as self-awareness, compassion, empathetic listening, collaboration, and design thinking
- Founded by two NYUAD students in partnership with the Campus Life Office of Community Outreach
 - **Sofia Gomez-Doyle, Class of 2017**
 - **Ritu Muralidharan, Class of 2018**
- Sofia and Ritu are the first recipients in the Middle East of the **Dalai Lama Fellowship**, which provided funding and support for GEN

Implementation

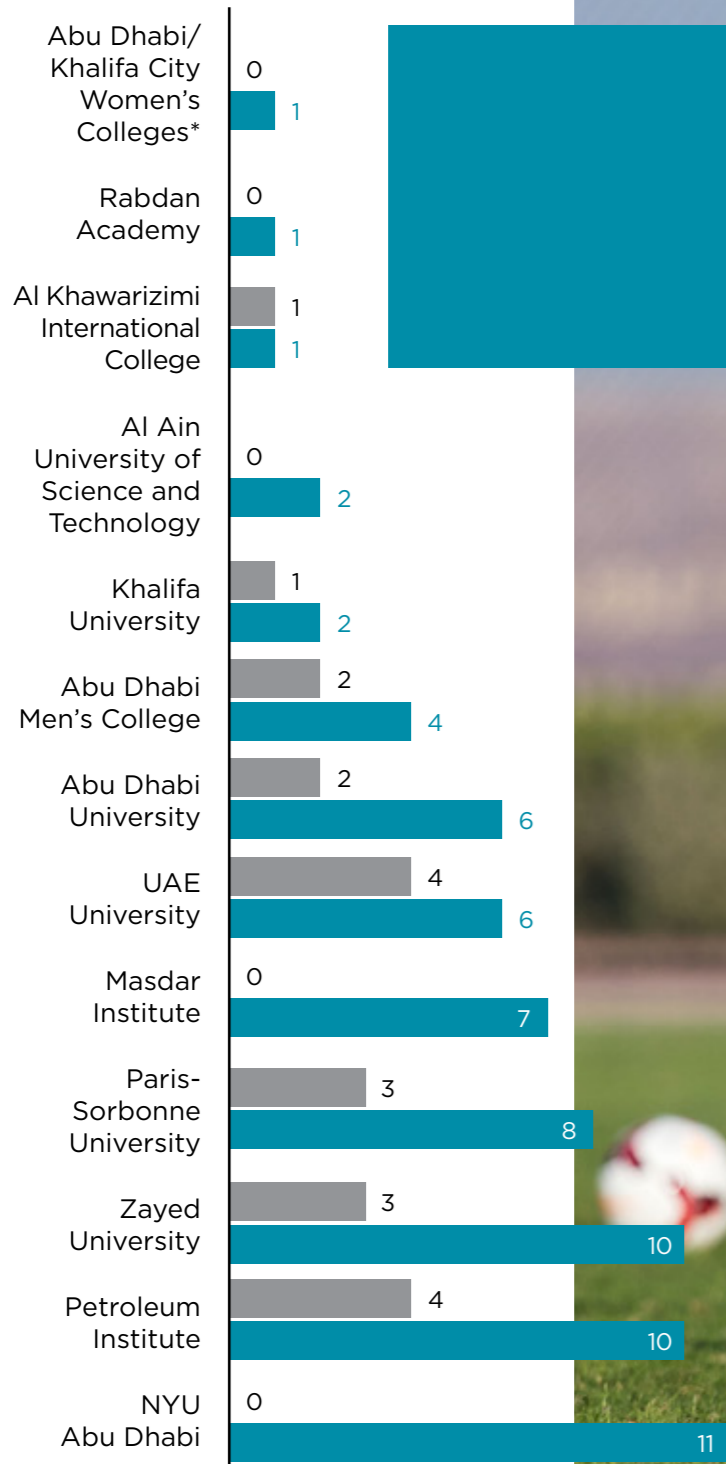
- Piloted an 8-week Leadership Development Series
- 274 girls in grades 6-12 from 19 schools have participated
 - **178 participants (65%) are Emirati**
- 59 NYUAD students have served as workshop facilitators
- Next year, the GEN program will continue to enhance and develop its curriculum while expanding outreach

“Volunteering and working with community members is a process of continuous learning, discovery, and adjustment. [It] taught me to always ask questions, engage in a process of self-reflection, and find how we can [best] provide our services.”

– Sofia Gomez-Doyle, Class of 2017

University sporting growth through ADISL

■ # of teams before joining ADISL
 ■ # of teams after joining ADISL



*Abu Dhabi Women's College and Khalifa City Women's College have one team with players from both campuses.



Through the creation of the Abu Dhabi Inter-University Sports League (ADISL), NYUAD has catalyzed 200% growth in university athletic teams around the Emirate

- Local universities have increased their number of sports teams **from 20 to 58** since joining ADISL
 - NYUAD fields an additional 11 teams
- More than 400 Emiratis** participate in ADISL teams (43% of all athletes)
- More than 300 women** participate in ADISL teams, up 86% from Academic Year 12-13
- ADISL has **partnered** with the Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies Sports Academy and the Abu Dhabi Sports Council to support women's competition and programs for high school students

94% of the Class of 2015 had jobs or were in graduate school within six months of graduation

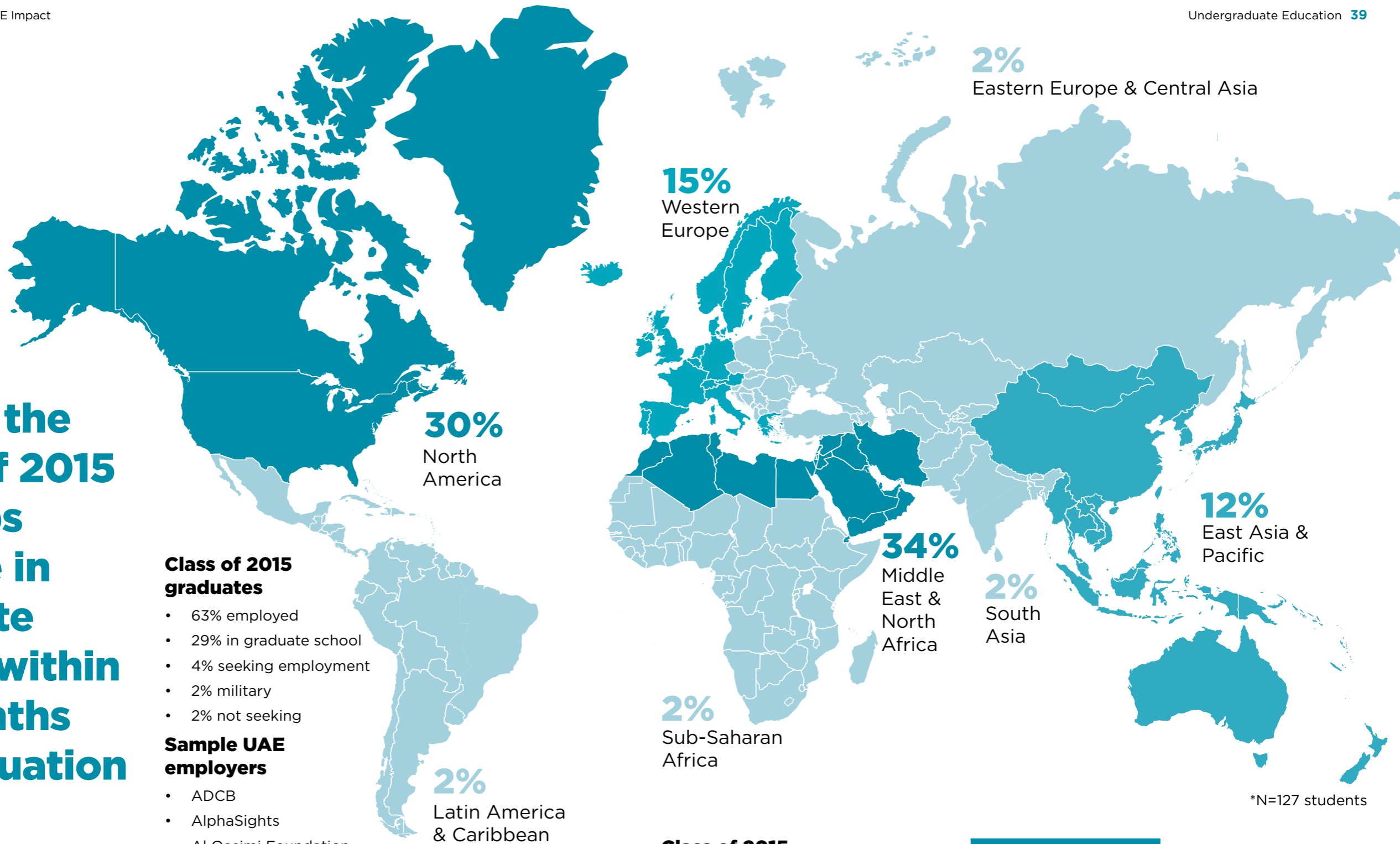
28% were employed at 24 different UAE firms

Class of 2015 graduates

- 63% employed
- 29% in graduate school
- 4% seeking employment
- 2% military
- 2% not seeking

Sample UAE employers

- ADCB
- AlphaSights
- Al Qasimi Foundation
- Booz Allen Hamilton
- Emaar
- Ernst and Young
- IRENA
- Johnson & Johnson
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- twofour54



*N=127 students

Class of 2015 Emirati graduates

- 3 employed: 1 at Emaar, 2 at NYUAD
- 1 in graduate school as a Rhodes Scholar
- 2 in military service



NYU Abu Dhabi has educated three young Emirati leaders who will directly impact national policy and who seek to inspire future generations of contributors to the UAE

- In February 2016, two NYUAD alumni and one current student were appointed to leadership positions in the UAE government
 - **HE Shamma bint Sohail Al Mazrui, Class of 2014**
Minister of State for Youth Affairs
 - **Dubai Abulhoul, Class of 2017**
Emirates Youth Council member
 - **Saeed Mohammad Al Nazari, SMSP Class of 2013**
Emirates Youth Council member
- These appointments provide **powerful validation of NYUAD's educational** model and its success in developing young Emirati leaders

“I cannot imagine a place I could have better developed as a student.

Being surrounded by the brightest and creative minds of my generation continues to inspire me every day. It has taught me that nothing is impossible.”

– HE Shamma bint Sohail Al Mazrui,
Minister of State for Youth Affairs



From left:
Dubai
Abulhoul;
Saeed
Mohammad
Al Nazari;
HE Shamma
bint Sohail Al
Mazrui



Research





Attract and retain leading faculty

- **Creating new knowledge** is central to the role of a leading academic today
- The best faculty in the world **need strong research support** to pursue scholarship and discovery



Build institutional reputation

- Research discoveries and talent position NYUAD globally alongside other world-class institutions
- **Virtually 100% of top universities in world rankings are research universities**



Attract and train top students

- Learning the process of discovery and knowledge creation is an **essential component of NYUAD's undergraduate education**
- Students **learn from active scholars** at the forefront of their fields

Research is fundamental to building and retaining a world-class faculty, attracting top students, building institutional reputation, and creating new knowledge



Create knowledge and advance society

- Applied innovation that benefits society often results from the **incremental discoveries of sustained research efforts**
- Development of **research infrastructure and talent** supports the growth of the UAE research ecosystem

Faculty research and Institute research are two distinct but complementary programs that support a vibrant and productive environment for discovery at NYU Abu Dhabi

Faculty research

- The faculty research program provides baseline support for the **core research, scholarship, and creative activity** that define a modern research university
- **Work varies widely**, from writing literary criticism to collecting and analyzing social data to designing new building materials
 - Many faculty research projects involve only the individual scholar, while some require multi-member labs
- Because NYUAD supports a research-active faculty, it offers Abu Dhabi a **deep and growing resource of expertise** for local firms and organizations across a wide range of fields
- Faculty research produces **more than 75% of all NYUAD publications**
- Faculty also seek **external grants** to support their projects and labs, with increasing success



Institute research

- The NYUAD Institute offers **substantial and sustained funding for major projects** that address questions of global significance and local relevance
- Institute research projects can tackle complex problems with **depth, scale, and longevity** that regular faculty research funding could not support
 - Most Institute projects feature large **teams, multi-year grants, and multiple sub-projects**
- The Institute catalyzed the development of premier science and engineering facilities and the Core Technology Platforms
 - **These technology platforms support research across NYUAD**, including regular faculty and student research
- Institute projects **draw top talent to NYUAD**, including prospective faculty members but also post-doctoral fellows and research staff, graduate students, and undergraduate students



imagine

SCIENCE FILMS

Imagine Science Abu Dhabi Film Festival

- Established in 2015 by Assistant Professor of Biology and Film and New Media Alexis Gambis
- Aims to bridge the gap between art and science
 - Transforming how the public encounters science
 - Encouraging collaboration across disciplines
- The 2016 festival included works from NYUAD student Dubai Abulhoul and recent graduates from Zayed University, alongside established filmmakers

NYU Abu Dhabi faculty are active members of the UAE community, promoting knowledge-sharing and developing new platforms for collaboration

NYUAD faculty enrich the intellectual landscape of the UAE through frequent engagement with local institutions, including:

- Guest lectures and workshops at other institutions
- Presenting public lectures at Abu Dhabi events and forums
- **Developing new scholarly organizations and events** to promote dialogue and new work in individual fields
- **Consultation and training** for public and private organizations



Above: Assistant Professor of the Practice of Design Felix Beck conducted a workshop on his Digital Camera Obscura at the Sikka Art Fair in Dubai, March 2016.

Left: Assistant Professor of Biology and Film and New Media Alexis Gambis at the 2016 Imagine Science Abu Dhabi Film Festival.



Examples

- Associate Professor of Chemistry Panče Naumov **founded the UAE chapter of the American Chemical Society (ACS)**
 - The chapter will foster communication and **collaboration between academia and industry** in the UAE and the region
 - The chapter's Middle East Materials Science Conference **drew 39 distinguished scientists from 12 countries** to NYUAD, including editors of several top chemistry journals
 - These efforts are **designed to support Abu Dhabi's vision** of a sustainable, technology-based society
- Associate Professor of Physics Francesco Arneodo linked the UAE and NYUAD to a **historic project to detect dark matter in space**
 - The UAE is now **one of 21 countries participating** in the project, managed by Italy's Gran Sasso Laboratory
 - **Two Emirati NYUAD students interned at the laboratory** in 2015
- The Library of Arabic Literature published **six new bilingual hardcovers** and launched a paperback series to make translations **more widely accessible**
 - The Library, now in its 7th year, is **opening the richness of Arabic literature to English-speaking scholars and general audiences** around the world and continues to earn wide praise and recognition

NYU Abu Dhabi faculty are advancing scientific research across the country and deepening the UAE's connectivity in global scientific and scholarly communities



Left: Associate Professor of Chemistry Panče Naumov (center) with President of the American Chemical Society Donna Nelson and others **commemorate the founding of the UAE chapter**. The ACS is the largest scientific society in the world, with nearly 160,000 members.

In addition to excellent research performance, Naumov has been an **active contributor to the UAE science community**. He has mentored five students from the University of Sharjah, Abu Dhabi University, and UAE University, two of whom are now members of the Student Chapter of the American Chemical Society UAE.

Below: Ahlam Al Qasim (Class of 2017, wearing yellow) and Fatema Al Khouri (Class of 2018, wearing purple) **became the first NYUAD undergraduate students to intern** at the Italian Space Agency's Data Science Center near Rome in the summer of 2015.





Right: Assistant Professor of Biology Youssef Idaghdour works to understand how genomes and environment interact to cause disease in both human and animal populations. Idaghdour was recently one of four featured UAE science innovators in *The National*.

NYU Abu Dhabi faculty research on environmental genomics is creating a new knowledge base on falcons that will lead to new tools for local traders and breeders

Faculty research: The Idaghdour Lab

- Currently running a project to **sequence the genome of three falcon species**
- Will help researchers understand **important attributes of different species**
- Will help determine the origin of falcons, along with differences between breeds found in the Middle East and Europe
- Will give falcon traders **new tools to determine pedigree** through genetic markers rather than appearance
- The NYUAD Institute-hosted “Falconry in the Mediterranean Context” conference spurred new **partnerships with local scholars and practitioners**
 - HE Mohammed Al Bowardi, Minister of State for Defense Affairs, presented a brief of the conference to HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan



Sam Ridgeway, Class of 2016

Biology and Film and New Media,
United Kingdom

- With faculty guidance, Ridgeway’s **capstone project** used genomics to classify different falcon species and their hybrids through their microbiomes. His aim is to develop molecular markers for falcon species and hybrid status identification.



NYU Abu Dhabi convened UAE authorities and leading international experts to discuss new technologies and ideas to develop the UAE's transportation system

Above: NYUAD Dean of Engineering Samer Madanat (center) in a breakout session with representatives from the Abu Dhabi Police Department. Madanat has conducted extensive research in urban transportation systems.



Mohamad Talas

Deputy Director, NYC Department of Transportation System Engineering Division

Visiting Professor of Civil Engineering, NYUAD

- Supervises planning and development of **all of New York City's Intelligent Transportation System projects**
- More than 27 years of experience in traffic engineering and operations
- PhD in Civil Engineering, NYU Tandon School of Engineering

- The Transportation for Smart Cities Symposium brought global experts together with UAE planning authorities to **improve UAE transportation systems**
- Topics included traffic management, cross-agency coordination, smart network development, and real-time data gathering
- Working sessions generated **multiple avenues for future research collaboration**



The Arab Women in Computing Network started as a faculty research project and now empowers female computer scientists in 17 countries across the region



NYUAD's Women in Computing in the Arab World Conference 2015

- More than 90 people participated, from the UAE, Algeria, Canada, Egypt, India, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Turkey, UK, and US
- Speakers and panelists came from: Anita Borg Institute, Ericsson, Flat 6 Labs, Georgetown University, IBM, Masdar Institute, National Center for Women & Information Technology, Purdue University, Qatar Computing Research Institute, and University of Sharjah

- Founded in 2012 by **NYUAD Computer Science Professor Sana Odeh (top)**
- Has grown to **17 country chapters across the MENA region**, with each chapter promoting activities and hackathons in their own countries
- The organization aims to support, inspire, and encourage collaboration among Arab women in computing, **elevating their status in the field**
 - Mentorship programs, international collaborations, and other programming contribute to this goal

Arabic Collections Online (ACO)

- The faculty research program funds this unique project under the auspices of the NYUAD Library
- **ACO is digitizing public-domain, Arabic-language content, creating an extensive library available free to global audiences**
- Provides digital access to a significant collection of books held at prominent libraries, previously only available in print
- ACO aims to make up to **15,000 volumes** in Arabic from partner university libraries available on its website
- ACO is an **NYUAD-initiated project** in collaboration with:
 - American University of Beirut
 - Columbia University in the City of New York
 - Cornell University
 - New York University
 - Princeton University

Arabic Collections Online is making a rich digital library of Arabic-language books freely available to the global public

NYUAD Library Director **Virginia Danielson** (left) and Provost **Fabio Piano** (right) accompany Mr. **Juma Al Majid**, founder of the Juma Al Majid Center for Culture and Heritage in Dubai, on a March 2016 tour of the NYUAD Library. Mr. Al Majid received a briefing on Arabic Collections Online (ACO) and the Library's rare book collections. Minister of Culture and Knowledge Development **HE Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan** also attended.

The Juma Al Majid Center for Culture and Heritage seeks to protect Arab and Islamic manuscripts, texts, and books and make them available to the public. Danielson, who is spearheading the ACO project, holds a doctorate in ethnomusicology and is author of the book *The Voice of Egypt: Umm Kulthum, Arabic Song and Egyptian Society in the Twentieth Century*.



StartAD is helping to build a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation throughout the UAE by providing community-based programming and resources

NYUAD created **Startupedia**, a free online resource with detailed articles providing guidance on how to set up and run a viable business in the UAE

- StartAD is an innovation and entrepreneurship initiative that supports the development of an **entrepreneurial ecosystem** at NYUAD and the wider UAE
- Led by Ramesh Jagannathan, Vice Provost of Entrepreneurship Development, Research Professor, and Associate Dean of Engineering

Programs include:

- **AngelRising**
 - Event for potential **angel investors** to arm them with information **on how to invest in high-tech ventures**
 - Attended by approximately 150 people from the Gulf region
- **AngelHack**
 - StartAD hosted this international **24-hour hackathon**, which was open to the community, for the first time in the UAE
 - More than 80 people participated
- **Startup Series**
 - **Free, interactive six-part entrepreneurship curriculum** for the public offered in **partnership with twofour54's Flat6Labs**
 - Topics included: business models, product development, legal frameworks, and startup scaling
 - **Startup Career Night** open to all UAE university students interested in connecting with startup companies in the UAE



NYU Abu Dhabi Institute-funded work on date palm genomics demonstrates the value of sustained investments in research in building a modern knowledge economy

The Purugganan Lab Center for Genomics and Systems Biology

- Sequenced the genomes of 62 date palm varieties across the Middle East and North Africa
- Assembled the **first comprehensive catalog of molecular variation in date palms**
- Identified genes that cultivators may use to alter fruit traits, build disease resistance, and **increase plant resilience to climate change**
- Developed **collaborations** with several organizations in the UAE and the region, including the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment
- Won the **2015 Khalifa International Date Palm Award**, demonstrating regional recognition
- Rotated research activities, both lab based and computational, between Abu Dhabi and New York, demonstrating the spirit of NYU's global network



Michael Purugganan (above), Dorothy Schiff Professor of Genomics and Professor of Biology at NYU in New York, leads CGSB's date palm research. He is the past winner of multiple prestigious fellowships and is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The UAE Healthy Future project completed a successful pilot and will be the largest health study ever conducted in the UAE, with 20,000 planned participants

- The NYUAD Institute-supported UAE Healthy Future project aims to provide the first reliable evidence on the determinants and complications of **diabetes and cardio-vascular disease in the UAE**
- The study will collect data on a sample of up to **20,000 Emiratis** at multiple points in time
 - This is the largest health study ever planned in the UAE
- A **successful pilot study** with 521 participants demonstrated the feasibility of the study procedures
- An external review recognized the project's potential importance for the **development of scientific capacity in medical research** in the UAE
- This is a **truly collaborative** project, with highly engaged partners including:
 - Abu Dhabi Blood Bank
 - Abu Dhabi Health Services
 - Sheikh Khalifa Medical City
 - United Arab Emirates University
 - Zayed Military Hospital
 - Zayed University

“There is real potential for this study to be **one of the most important public health investments** in a long-term strategy for the prevention of cardio-metabolic diseases in the UAE population.”

– External review report, October 2015



مستقبل صحي للإمارات
UAE HEALTHY FUTURE

“The fruit that we harvest from this study is to provide a better health for our people; in **collaborating with other institutions, we can build a healthier future for generations to come.**”

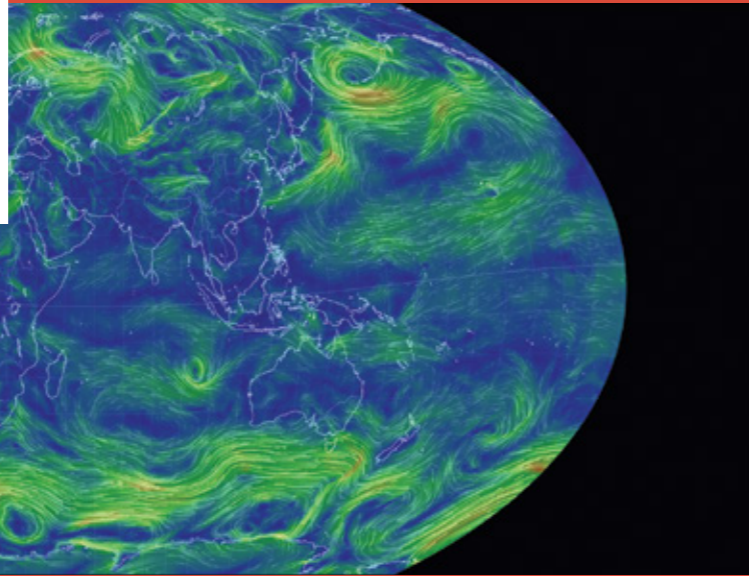
– Brigadier Dr. Abdulla Al Naeemi, Medical Director, Zayed Military Hospital



The Center for Prototype Climate Modeling is advancing critical global and regional knowledge while building a platform to train the next generation of researchers

Project overview

- The CPCM's primary mission is to bridge the gap between climate theory, modeling, and observation, with the goal of **improving the ability to predict future climate, particularly in the tropics and subtropics**



“At the global scale, the CPCM is **leading the way in developing new tools ... to model weather and climate change.**”

“At the regional scale, the CPCM is developing extremely granular tools to deeply **understand the biogeochemistry of the Arabian Sea**, its interaction with weather, and its implications for climate, species sustainability, and human society.”

“The three NYU scientists whose work is driving center activity are deeply engaged in NYUAD and [are] working to develop first-class scientific centers that will be able to **train the next generation of researchers from the region.**”

– External review report, November 2015



NYU Abu Dhabi Institute projects establish meaningful research and knowledge-sharing partnerships with other universities and organizations throughout the UAE

Highlights

- Center for Technology and Economic Development Principal Investigator Yaw Nyarko led the UAE **Ministry of Labour Research Steering Committee**
- The Neuroscience of Language Lab has **collaborated extensively with UAEU**
 - UAEU faculty are running experiments using NYUAD's brain imaging facility
 - Collaborative research projects
 - Student visits
- The Center for Space Science has presented two collaboration proposals to the **UAE Space Agency**
 - Includes a proposal for analysis of data from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory
- Public Health Research Center Principal Investigator Scott Sherman created the **UAE Tobacco Control Research Collaborative** in 2012

Public Programming



NYUAD brings high-quality artistic, cultural, and intellectual programming to the Abu Dhabi community, adding to the cultural vitality of the city


Purpose

- Present **local and international public figures** and their work on NYUAD's campus and across the UAE
- Contribute to the **intellectual and artistic knowledge, resources, and skills** of local communities
- **Build NYUAD's public profile** for curating quality academic and artistic works
- Build capacity and technical expertise in the **local arts community** by bringing a skilled workforce to Abu Dhabi
- **Bring the UAE public to campus** and engage them through meaningful artistic and scholarly programs
- Develop NYUAD and Saadiyat Island as **centers for arts and culture**, growing a knowledgeable and regular culture-going audience in Abu Dhabi



~150 **public events**
in Academic
Year 15-16

~30,000 **people**
attended



The Arts Center at NYUAD has transformed the Abu Dhabi arts scene, drawing 15,500 people to campus and reaching over 6,000 people through community outreach efforts

- Hosted **20 residencies** of about one week each
- Presented 70+ public performances
- Drew **15,500 audience members**,
- Presented **153 community outreach programs** to promote the arts and arts education across the UAE, reaching **over 6,000 people**
 - Invited performances
 - Open rehearsals
 - Panel discussions
 - Master classes and workshops
 - Class visits and artist talks
 - Community meals with artists
 - Off-campus engagements
- Cultivated **partnerships** with 15+ educational and cultural organizations
- Supported nine student productions
- Hosted four Abu Dhabi Festival events

“May 3 will mark the final concert in New York University Abu Dhabi Art Center’s **influential, incendiary, game-changing inaugural season of performances.**”

– *The National*, 1 May 2016

The NYU Abu Dhabi Art Gallery is emerging as the regional benchmark for quality art curation and is building the UAE's capacity to support world-class museum exhibitions

Capacity-building

- The Art Gallery is **training and developing professionals** and support staff, increasing the UAE's ability to host world-class artistic exhibits
- The Art Gallery supports the **Christo and Jeanne-Claude Award** for young UAE artists by advising the award committee and teaching artists how to develop professional exhibits

Recognition for quality curation

- Director Maya Allison was **short-listed to curate the UAE Pavilion at the next Venice Biennale**
- Managers of the **Louvre Abu Dhabi** project have sought the NYUAD Art Gallery's advice on producing museum-quality exhibitions in the UAE
- Allison will mentor a young Emirati curator and co-advise a production **commissioned by a UAE royal art collector** at Warehouse421 next year
- *Slavs and Tatars* (2015) was rated the #1 exhibition worldwide by the esteemed art blog Hyperallergic
- *Phantom Limb* (2016) was selected as a Critic's Pick by Artforum, the world's premiere art magazine in English



Clockwise from above: Maya Allison, director of the NYUAD Art Gallery, gives a tour to HE Zaki Nusseibeh of *Phantom Limb*; a live painting event on NYUAD's plaza hosted by the Art Gallery; *Slavs and Tatars* exhibit.



Public Institute programs and strong local collaborations advanced scholarship and knowledge around the UAE's history, culture, and heritage efforts

Fifteen UAE-focused public evening programs included:

- Al Bidiya Mosque: Photographing Architectural Heritage in the UAE
- Falconry: Heritage, History, Medicine
- Lessons from the Past: Reflections on Historical Architecture in the UAE
- Petroleomics: Chemistry of the Underworld
- Understanding Arab Gulf States in the 21st Century
- Leadership and Economic Growth in the Gulf States

Six conferences focused on the UAE and the Gulf included:

- **Social Robotics in the UAE** sponsored by the Italian Embassy and UAEU
- **Photographic Archives in the UAE** attended by the National Archives
- **UAE Math Day** annual conference enabled regional mathematicians to present and share research
- **Unframed Abstractions** hosted in collaboration with Barjeel Art Foundation

Collaborations included nine partners, local and international:

- ADMAF
- Barjeel Art Foundation
- Embassy of Italy in Abu Dhabi
- Emirates Falconers' Club
- International Association for Falconry & Conservation of Birds of Prey
- Khalifa University
- United Arab Emirates University
- The Warburg Institute
- Zayed University



Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Scholars Program and Summer Academy



The Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Scholars Program (SMSP) aims to inspire and prepare federal university students to reach their leadership potential



Purpose

- Inspire promising and high-achieving UAE federal university students to envision, reflect on, and **prepare for their roles as future leaders**
- **Expand NYUAD's educational reach** beyond its own degree students
- Expose students to **world leaders and global systems**
- Cultivate a thoughtful approach to **engaging with different perspectives and cultures**
- Prepare scholars with **critical skills** for their future professional and academic careers
- Help students **prepare for graduate education** and facilitate access to graduate education opportunities at NYU

SMSP has helped 54 alumni pursue graduate studies, supporting one of the UAE's key economic development goals

- **39% of SMSP alumni are enrolled in or have completed graduate degree programs**
- 27 Scholars are currently attending graduate programs in international and local institutions
- SMSP provides counseling and assistance with applications to graduate and professional degree programs
- A number of alumni now hold Master's degrees and **three have applied for PhD programs this year**
 - One was accepted into the NYUAD Global PhD Fellowship program for Fall 2016
- **Other post-graduate institutions attended by SMSP alumni include:**
 - Abu Dhabi University
 - American University
 - American University in the Emirates
 - Georgetown University
 - King's College London
 - The London School of Economics and Political Science
 - SOAS University of London
 - Tufts
 - University of Glasgow
 - Zayed University



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Half of SMSP graduate school attendees chose NYU New York

- 20% of all alumni have completed or are currently attending grad school at NYU in New York
- 13 alumni have graduated from and 14 are currently enrolled in NYU Master's programs
- The SMSP scholarship has supported graduate study at NYU for 27 Scholars



Many SMSP alumni contribute directly to UAE leadership initiatives through positions in government organizations

Highlights

- Khalfan Al Matrooshi (SMSP '10) was promoted to **Director of the Office of the Assistant Minister for Economic Affairs**
- Fatima Al Marri (SMSP '11) is a senior officer in the **Office of the Crown Prince of Dubai**
- Maha Al Dhaheeri (SMSP '11) completed her graduate degree in Urban Planning at NYU New York and is now a planning professional at the **Urban Planning Council**
- Fatima Mohamed Al Nuaimi (SMSP '12) is a Projects Specialist at the **General Secretariat of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council**
- Fatma Bujasaim (SMSP '12) and Hamdah Albigishi (SMSP '12) are research analysts in the **Prime Minister's Office**
- Saeed Al Nazari (SMSP '13) was appointed to the **Emirates Youth Council** and is a project manager at the **Executive Office of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum**
- Nasra Alrahma (SMSP '13) is a research analyst in the office of a **UAE Minister of State**
- Mahra Al Shamsi (SMSP '14) is a member of the **Ajman Youth Council**

In March 2016, Dr. Jill Biden, Second Lady of the United States, visited NYUAD. Dr. Biden, a lifelong educator and full-time English professor, met with SMSP students and program administrators as part of the visit.

Summer Academy helps promising Emirati high school students prepare for success at English-language universities

Purpose

- Build **intellectual resources and skills** among Emirati high school students
- Prepare students to be **competitive and successful** at high-quality English language universities
- Provide **cross-cultural experiences** through study opportunities in Florence and New York
- Develop **leadership and interpersonal skills** through classroom and co-curricular activities
- Give students **access to educational resources** and opportunities through the NYUAD community
- Introduce students to the **study of humanities** and the **value of a liberal arts education**



“The NYUAD Summer Academy not only provides our students with the intellectual resources and skill development they require for future success, but also offers them **a character-building life experience.**”

– HH Sheikha Mariam bint Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan



An 18-month academic program with four courses across three continents equips students with key skills and background knowledge needed to excel at US/UK institutions

Program Overview

- Students enter in the summer after their 10th school year
- Intensive courses are taught during two summer sessions
- Trips to Florence (first summer) and New York (second summer) expose students to important cultural and historic sites while instruction continues
- Follow-up and refresher activities take place over three academic semesters

Courses

- Mathematical Reasoning
- Critical Thinking and Writing
- Public Speaking and Leadership
- Test Preparation

Summer Academy alumni were admitted to many excellent universities in 2015, including:

- Boston University
- Drexel University
- The George Washington University
- Lancaster University
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- University of Colorado-Boulder
- University of Denver
- University of Exeter
- University of Leicester
- University of Michigan
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of San Diego

“I felt like I was going to university already.”

– Noor Al Muhairbi,
Summer Academy Class
of 2012

Summer I:
Abu Dhabi
and Florence

**Academic
Year I:**
Abu Dhabi
and online

Summer II:
Abu Dhabi
and New York

**Academic
Year II:**
Abu Dhabi
and online
(Fall only)

“NYU Abu Dhabi was an experiment that brought together some of the most visionary leaders in government and education to create a truly ‘global’ university.

To say that experiment has been a success is a profound understatement.”

- HE Yousef Al Otaiba,
UAE Ambassador to the US



“Starting with a historically-tested form of the highest quality undergraduate education and adding to it significant emphasis on global knowledge, perspective and experience ... **NYUAD has shaped a powerful model of how education can prepare leaders of a more cooperative world.”**

- NYUAD Vice Chancellor Al Bloom



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