Acknowledgments

In 2004, Carnegie Mellon and Qatar Foundation began a partnership to deliver select programs that will contribute to the long-term development of Qatar. For nearly two decades, we have shared a mission: to provide a world-class education to students in Qatar.

Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar thanks His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani, Amir of the State of Qatar, for his leadership and commitment to progress and education.

We also express our deep appreciation to His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation, and Her Excellency Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani, Vice Chairperson and CEO of Qatar Foundation, for their vision and leadership.
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We are Carnegie Mellon

Our Vision
Carnegie Mellon University will have a transformative impact on society through continual innovation in education, research, creativity and entrepreneurship.

Our Mission
To create a transformative educational experience for students focused on deep disciplinary knowledge; problem-solving; leadership, communication and interpersonal skills; and personal health and well-being.

To cultivate a transformative university community committed to:

a. attracting and retaining diverse, world-class talent;

b. creating a collaborative environment open to the free exchange of ideas, where research, creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship can flourish; and

c. ensuring individuals can achieve their full potential.

To impact society in a transformative way—regionally, nationally and globally—by engaging with partners outside the traditional borders of the university campus.
Since its inception in 2004, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar has reflected this university's commitment to apply a globally inclusive mindset to our role as educators, knowledge creators and engines of economic impact.

Today, CMU-Q continues to train the world's most talented students, enrolling a total of 469 from 60 countries. I was thrilled to join CMU-Q for its commencement this year and celebrate more than 100 graduates from the Class of 2023, bringing the total number of CMU-Q alumni to more than 1,200. By empowering these talented students with the tools they need in biological sciences, business administration, computational biology, computer science and information systems, we are preparing the next generation to be global leaders in a knowledge-based economy.

A focus on innovative learning and a transformative student experience defines CMU-Q. In addition to its popular academic programs, the campus continues to engage with the CMU global community. This year, 44 CMU-Q students spent a semester on our Pittsburgh campus, while others participated in the Washington Semester Program and IMPAQT: Initiating Meaningful Pittsburgh and Qatar Ties over spring break.

We continued important initiatives like the Technology Consulting in the Global Community program and our micro courses, which allow CMU-Q students to engage in topics that typically lie outside CMU-Q offerings, including artificial intelligence and society, blockchain, and computational medicine.

Of course, our success in Qatar would not be possible without the support of the Qatar Foundation. I continue to be deeply grateful for the founding vision and partnership of His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, and Her Excellency Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani.

I invite you to explore the events and accomplishments from the past year outlined in this annual report, along with our vision for the continued growth of CMU-Q. I congratulate you on what we have accomplished together, and I look forward to seeing how CMU-Q continues to contribute to our global Carnegie Mellon community.

Farnam Jahanian
President, Carnegie Mellon University
This past year was an extraordinary example of how community enhances learning. We started the fall semester early to accommodate the World Cup schedule, and as the semester unfolded and social distancing restrictions were lifted, the campus came alive. Classrooms and study areas were busy, the food court filled with conversation, people gathered for lectures, events, and discussions.

CMU-Q is a vital part of Education City, and our collaborations within QF took place at every level. Our faculty and staff members served on initiatives to enhance the multiversity experience. CMU-Q was a key organizer of the Women in Leadership Conference that explored how we can make university leadership more equitable. Our student sport teams played in Education City tournaments. Each year we deepen these connections within QF, and find new ways to work together.

The Qatar campus is deeply connected to the global Carnegie Mellon community as well. Last year faculty and staff from the Pittsburgh and Qatar campuses collaborated remotely and in person. We offered more than a dozen micro courses taught by Pittsburgh-based CMU professors. Our connections with the CMU Eberly Center continued to foster thoughtful teaching strategies. Many of our students spent a semester in Pittsburgh, studying, researching, and experiencing the Tartan spirit from a different vantage point.

CMU-Q students are fortunate that the wider Qatar community is so generous with time, interest, and expertise. Throughout the year, members of the community come to our building to mentor our students, judge competitions like Meeting of the Minds, and share their perspectives on industry, technology, government and health. And through clubs, initiatives, course requirements, and internships, students have explored how to give back to this community and contribute to the development of Qatar.

I invite you to browse through CMU-Q Annual Report 2022-23. This is just a glimpse at the achievements, milestones and memorable moments that made it a truly exceptional year.

Michael Trick
Dean, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar
Faculty in Memoriam

Remembering Dean Ilker Baybars
Dean Ilker Baybars, the dean emeritus of the Qatar campus, passed away in December 2022. One of the longest-serving and most impactful academic leaders at Carnegie Mellon University, Dean Baybars spent over half a century at CMU. A strong advocate of innovation in education, he brought this vision to CMU-Q during his tenure as dean from 2011 to 2017. Dean Baybars was the CMU George Leland Bach Professor of Operations Management.

Professor Lansiné Kaba
Professor Kaba joined the CMU-Q faculty in 2009 as the Thomas M. Kerr Distinguished Career Professor, and taught history at the campus until his retirement in 2020.

Professor Terrance Murphy
Professor Murphy was a teaching professor of chemistry at CMU-Q from 2008 to 2016, and helped shape the biological sciences program in its early years.
For each student, graduation marks the end of the undergraduate journey and the start of a new era within the Carnegie Mellon alumni network. There are more than 1,200 alumni from the Qatar campus, and they are working and contributing to Qatar and the world. Our graduates form a strong support network for one another and our current students.
Class of 2023

In May, the CMU-Q community celebrated the graduation of 104 students at a ceremony in front of faculty, family, friends, alumni, and special guests.

104 GRADUATES
32 NATIONALITIES
30% QATARI CITIZENS

“Class of 2023, the world will continue to change in unexpected ways, but you know how to face change and drive progress in a way that will make the world a better place.”
Dean Michael Trick

Graduates by program

Biological Sciences: 18

Business Administration: 35

Computational Biology: 1

Computer Science: 19

Information Systems: 31

“Class of 2023, we made it! We are a very special batch of students and I am honored to stand here today to represent us.”
Malak Alseaf
Class of 2023 Student Speaker

“Graduates, the world is eagerly awaiting to hear what you have to say and to absorb the impact of your work. I am confident that when you speak, you will speak with confidence and with kindness. And when you act, you will act responsibly, applying your talents and intellect for widespread benefit.”
President Farnam Jahanian
The CMU-Q alumni network is within Qatar, the region, and beyond. Our alumni work at top organizations and innovative startups. They are influencing government policy, analyzing big data, spearheading creative projects, educating people, researching new ideas and working to improve the lives of others.
Achievement and Impact

From our first graduates in 2008 to the latest class in 2023, CMU-Q alumni are contributing their talents, creativity and insight in endeavors around the world.

Education Excellence Day awards
At the 2023 Education Excellence Day award ceremony, two CMU-Q graduates were presented awards by His Highness the Amir, Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani. Mohammed Al-Qassabi (IS 2023) received a platinum award and Abdulla Al-Kaabi (BA 2023) received a gold award.

Women in STEM
CMU-Q alumnae in the early stages of their STEM careers spoke with the Education City community about their work experiences. Panelists included Rahaf Abutarbush (IS 2022), lab lead in emerging technology at PwC Qatar; Hend Gedawy (CS 2009), postdoctoral researcher at CMU-Q; Weilin Li (BS 2021), Ph.D. candidate at École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne; and Safa Salim (BS 2017), Ph.D. candidate at the College of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, HBKU.

Tartans on the Rise
Haris Aghadi (IS 2014) was included in the 2023 “Tartans on the Rise,” an annual list of recent CMU alumni who are making an impact in their communities through leadership, innovation and career achievements. Aghadi is the founder of Meddy, now HeliumDoc, a leader in e-health in Qatar and the UAE.

World Cup entrepreneur
CMU-Q alumnus Khalifa A. Hakeem Al-Naimi (BA 2018) and three fellow Education City graduates created a pop-up shop to introduce Qatari culture to World Cup fans. The company, Ghutra Mundo, was a fan favorite, featuring ghutras emblazoned with team flags.

“We wanted to do something positive, to open a conversation with the fans who would be visiting Qatar.”

Education Excellence Day awards

Mohammed Al-Qassabi
Abdulla Al-Kaabi

Women in STEM

Aghadi

Tartans on the Rise

Haris Aghadi

World Cup entrepreneur

Khalifa A. Hakeem Al-Naimi

Alumni in memoriam

Mohammed Al-Qassabi
Abdulla Al-Kaabi

Soon after his graduation, Anirban Lahiri (CS 2008) joined a panel of experts to advise the Qatar government as they created Mada-Qatar Assistive Technology Center. He worked at Mada for more than a decade, conducting research and doing exemplary work in the field of assistive technology.

Raggi Al-Hammouri graduated from CMU-Q in 2012 with a degree in computer science and joined the team at Qatar Computing Research Institute. In 2022, he embarked on a research project at CMU-Q in the area of football analytics.
Alumni Connections

As each new class begins their careers, they are welcomed into a growing network of young professionals, a network that extends across Qatar and around the world.

Alumni reunion

More than 350 alumni from CMU-Q returned to campus to reconnect and network, including members of each of the 15 graduating classes. Alumni speakers included entrepreneur Asma Al Kuwari (BA 2011) and Đorđe Popović (CS 2022).

Alumni senior gathering

CMU-Q alumni welcomed the Class of 2023 to the alumni network at a Ramadan event, including more than 200 alumni, graduating seniors, faculty and staff.

Carnegie Mellon in Dubai

More than 30 alumni from three Carnegie Mellon global campuses gathered in Dubai to reconnect and network. The event laid the groundwork for stronger ties among CMU graduates living in the GCC region.

Tartan Talks

During the 2022-23 academic year, alumni from four programs shared their experiences with current students at Tartan Talks: Reem Al-Haddad (IS 2021), Osama Ali (IS 2018), Albandari Al-Khater (BS 2019), Khalifa A. Hakeem Al-Naimi (BA 2018), Dona Ferdinando (BS 2020), Kevin Isufaj (CS 2021), Khaoula Maatallah (BA 2018), and Divi Mishra (CS 2020).

“The CMU-Q alumni community enriches our entire university with new ideas, new ways of thinking and an obvious passion for learning. You represent the kind of globally-focused innovation that is needed in the world today.”

President Farnam Jahanian

Alumni reunion
Our Student community is at the heart of all we do at Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar. During the admission cycle each year, we seek out applicants who are motivated and eager to learn. Together, our enrolled students form a global-minded community that is enthusiastic, encouraging and supportive.
Our Student Community

CMU-Q students come from remarkably diverse backgrounds, and they possess a wide spectrum of interests, talents and aspirations. Together they form a vibrant and supportive learning community.

469
STUDENTS ENROLLED

116
FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

35%
QATARI

59%
FEMALE

60
NATIONS REPRESENTED

Our Student Community

Financial aid

Financial aid options are a vital component of a diverse, competitive and strong CMU-Q student community.

In 2022-23, there were several types of financial support available for our students:

- Amiri scholarship, Ministry of Education and Higher Education
- Sponsorship from a national organization
- Qatar Foundation need-based grant
- Qatar Foundation financial aid
- Qatar Foundation scholarship
- Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar scholarship
- FAFSA loans for U.S. citizens

Alfardan Group
Amiri Diwan
Aspire Zone Foundation
Embassy of the State of Kuwait
ExxonMobil
Ministry of Education and Higher Education
Ministry of Interior
Ooredoo
Qatar Airways
Qatar Armed Forces
QatarEnergy
Qatar Foundation
Qatar National Bank

Students enrolled, by program
The Admission Process

Each applicant to CMU-Q is considered as a whole person: we look for academic excellence, special interests, leadership qualities, and a motivation to learn. Through this process, we select a diverse, talented group of students each year who will support and challenge one another.

Welcoming the Class of 2026

The Class of 2026 was welcomed to CMU in July 2022 through the academic preparatory Summer Edge Program, followed by First-Year Orientation. The class was formally acknowledged at Convocation, a ceremony to introduce new students to the community.

Recruiting the Class of 2027

Pre-college workshops and programs

Throughout the year, CMU-Q offers workshops and programs to middle and high school students to explore the disciplines we teach. For many of these students, pre-college programs lead to an interest in biological sciences, business administration, computer science, information systems, or mathematics, and many go on to attend CMU-Q as undergraduates.

- Alice Programming Competition
- Discover IS
- Experience CMU-Q
- MindCraft Alpha
- MindCraft Camps
- Pi Day Mathematics Competition
- Summer College Preview Program

Early Decision

The Early Decision round of admission for the Class of 2027 included 31 students from 18 schools and 10 nations. More than half of the Early Decision students were Qatari nationals.

Regular Decision

For the Class of 2027 regular decision, application numbers rose by 45% to a record high, with more than 2,400 students applying for 115 spaces in the first-year class. The admitted class includes many students who have won notable national awards, and many are considered among the very best students in their respective countries. The Class of 2027 began their studies in August 2023.

“A CMU-Q education is about more than just classes: we are a learning community that encourages and supports students during their educational journey. Over the next four years, this community will be a crucial resource to you as you learn and grow.”

Dean Michael Trick
Convocation, Class of 2026

1600+ APPLICATIONS
116 STUDENTS
45 QATARI CITIZENS
31 NATIONALITIES

Experience CMU-Q
Alice Programming Competition
Summer College Preview Program
Early Decision

QATARI CITIZENS
APPLICATIONS
NATIONALITIES
STUDENTS
The Carnegie Mellon approach to education supports and challenges students throughout their undergraduate years. We prepare students to problem-solve creatively, think analytically, create value thoughtfully and make decisions ethically.
Academics at CMU-Q

At Carnegie Mellon, students receive a broad introduction to their major, as well as the arts and sciences, during the first semesters. Students then focus on major core classes in the middle semesters, and they deepen and broaden their scope in the last semesters through advanced electives.

Qatar Foundation Next GenEd

Next GenEd is one of Qatar Foundation’s six flagship initiatives to build a multiversity, where students can personalize the learning experience by leveraging the opportunities of the many partner universities, research institutions and entities within Education City.

Chaired by Michael Trick, the Next GenEd committee explores how partner universities can work together to make general elective courses available and easily accessible to Education City students. General education courses, which include a wide variety of disciplines in the arts and sciences, expand students’ knowledge, encourage new interests, and provide context to the degree programs.

“Multiversity is not something that happens to you. It is something that you create.”

Dean Michael Trick
Chair, Next GenEd Committee

Courses at CMU-Q: 289 courses offered over 3 semesters

Micro courses

Micro courses offer CMU-Q students a sampling of CMU’s broad range of disciplines, taught by faculty members from Carnegie Mellon’s Pittsburgh campus. Three micro courses are equivalent to one semester course.

- Immersive digital storytelling using VR and AR to explore language, culture, and identity, Stephan Caspar
- Demystifying Freud and the discipline of psychology, Crista Crittenden
- Internet ethics, John Hooker
- Pleasure, addiction, attention and obsession, Ken Hovis
- Idea lab, Chris Labash
- Sustainable architecture and urbanism for the Gulf region, Vivian Loftness
- AI and emerging economies, Ganesh Manu
- The TransOceanic Railway, Henry Posner
- Stayin’ alive: Human immunity, Gordon Rule
- Intro to design for zero carbon lifestyle, Peter Scupelli
- Basics of food science, Gloria Silva
- The politics of fake news and misinformation, Daniel Silverman
- Discovering the data universe, Emma Slayton
- Women’s bodies and cultural politics, Lisa Tetrault
- Making short films, Dylan Vitone

New minors

CMU-Q added two new minor options for students to pursue. The Media and Politics minor is a joint program between CMU-Q, Georgetown University in Qatar and Northwestern University in Qatar. The Tech Entrepreneurship minor provides students with an interdisciplinary understanding of digital technologies and startup ventures.

Study abroad

There were 44 CMU-Q students who spent a semester on the Pittsburgh campus, as well as one who studied abroad at Yonsei University in Seoul and one at University of Bocconi in Milan.

Experiential learning

Nine students traveled to Salamanca, Spain, for an immersive Spanish language experience in May 2023. As well, ten CMU-Q students participated in an experiential program through CMU’s Department of Modern Languages, studying in China, Costa Rica, Germany, Jordan, and Madrid, Spain.
Faculty

CMU-Q faculty members are experts in their fields, providing individualized attention and focused instruction so that all students can reach their potential.

Number of faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Systems</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teaching professor emeritus

The CMU Board of Trustees named Selma Limam Mansar a teaching professor of information systems emeritus in recognition of her many years of exceptional scholarship and service. Limam Mansar joined CMU-Q in 2007 and served in many roles, including senior associate dean for education and senior associate dean for faculty and research. She is the first professor emeritus from the Qatar campus.

Meritorious Teaching Award

Ihab Younis was named the Meritorious Teaching Award recipient at the Class of 2023 Graduation Ceremony.

Academic promotions

Effective July 1, 2023

- Iman Adeinat
  - Associate Teaching Professor
  - Operations Management
- Fuad Farooqi
  - Teaching Professor
  - Finance
- Annette Vincent
  - Teaching Professor
  - Biological Sciences

Leadership appointments

Effective July 1, 2022

- Serkan Akguç
  - Associate Area Head
  - Business Administration
- Houda Bouamor
  - Associate Area Head
  - Information Systems
- Hasan Demirkoparan
  - Area Co-Head
  - Arts and Sciences
- Giselle Reis
  - Associate Area Head
  - Computer Science

Academic promotions

- Iman Adeinat
  - Associate Teaching Professor
  - Operations Management
- Fuad Farooqi
  - Teaching Professor
  - Finance
- Annette Vincent
  - Teaching Professor
  - Biological Sciences

New faculty

- Mohammad Aazam, assistant teaching professor, information systems
- Cristian Dimitriu, visiting associate teaching professor, philosophy
- Layan El Haji, associate professor, mathematics
- Madhavi Ganapathiraju, visiting associate teaching professor, computational biology, computer science
- Maher Hakim, distinguished career professor, business administration
- Reya Saliba, instruction and outreach librarian
- Mazen Sidani, visiting assistant teaching professor, biological sciences
- Anthony Weston, associate teaching professor, mathematics
Biological Sciences

The biological sciences program falls within CMU’s Mellon College of Science, which is nationally recognized for its approach to science education. During their undergraduate education, biological sciences students develop into scholars, professionals, global citizens and balanced individuals.

Honors research
To earn College Honors, students must conduct an independent project and prepare a formal thesis that is written and defended in the senior year. In the Class of 2023, there were 11 biological sciences graduates who earned College Honors, a record number at the Qatar campus.

Evolutionary biology workshop
Mohamed Bouaouina organized a two-day workshop on teaching evolutionary biology in the MENA region. The event was a collaboration with faculty and researchers at Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar and the University of Oslo Natural History Museum, and drew nearly 30 participants from Qatar and UAE.

Alumnae at EUREKA
Biological sciences graduates Albandari Al-Khater (2019), Najlaa Al-Thani (2019), Aisha Fakhroo (BS 2019) and Shahad Younis (2021) shared their early career experiences with first year students in the seminar course, “EUREKA: Discovery and Its Impact.” The course equips new students with foundational knowledge, skills and perspectives that will support their development as emerging scientists.

QBRI summer research
Sanaa Al-Marri and Kainaat Nadeem Khan completed the 2022 QBRI Summer Research Program, an intensive program that includes instruction in various disciplines of biomedical research. Al-Marri and Khan were two of only 21 students accepted into the program.

Inclusive teaching fellowship
Nesrine Attara was awarded a Provost’s Inclusive Teaching Fellowship for the 2023-24 academic year. Sponsored by the provost and administered by the Eberly Center, the program aims to enhance diversity, equity, and inclusion in CMU courses.

Class of 2023 awards
Outstanding Academic Achievement
Zoya Farooqui

Qatar Campus Scholar and Andrew Carnegie Society Scholar
Fatima Alhamadi
Business Administration

Business administration students learn quantitative decision-making, our pioneering approach to business education. With an emphasis on analytics and leadership development, students are prepared for the challenges of the global business landscape.

INJAZ Al Arab

Latifa AlNaimi and Maria Sultana Mina were part of the first team from Qatar to win Company of the Year at the regional INJAZ Al Arab competition. The team was mentored by Noura Al-Jurdi, an alumna from the Class of 2015.

Innovation Scholars

Three students were named Innovation Scholar by the Swartz Center for Entrepreneurship at the CMU Pittsburgh campus. Asad Abdurazzakov is in the Class of 2024 cohort, and Mukhammadjon Gafurov and Maria Sultana Mina are in the Class of 2025 cohort. The two-year program is done in conjunction with the participants’ regular studies, and includes academic coursework, work experience, networking and mentorship.

QatarEnergy LNG mentorship

Seventeen QatarEnergy LNG employees visited CMU-Q to share their expertise and insights with students in the business administration program. The QatarEnergy LNG session was part of a course in organizational behavior taught by Cecile Le Roux.

SDG showcase for Earth Day

To commemorate Earth Day, students in the Emerging Markets and Commercialization and Innovation courses held a poster showcase of innovative ways that companies are incorporating Sustainable Development Goals into their strategic operations. SDGs were adopted by the United Nations as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

Climate risk research

Agustín Indaco co-authored a paper that details how people in the United States are moving in disproportionate numbers to regions that are high-risk for climate hazards. Indaco has presented his findings at conferences on three continents, including one at the World Bank in Washington, D.C.

Class of 2023 awards

Outstanding Academic Achievement

Ekram Bouhrour

Qatar Campus Scholar

Ihsane Sadiki
Computer Science

CMU-Q follows the curriculum of CMU’s renowned School of Computer Science. Students learn the theoretical foundations of computing as well as the practical skills to push the frontiers of the field and make a real-world impact.

Qatar Collegiate Programming Competition
A team from CMU-Q took the top spot at the 2022 Qatar Collegiate Programming Competition (QCPC). Thang Bui, Andrey Genze and Ulan Seitkaliyev also placed in the top two of last year’s competition. The silver medalist team was from Qatar University. CMU-Q hosts the national event with collaboration and support from Qatar Computing Research Institute, Nestlé, Rimads and Snoonu.

AI-based medical assessment tool
Mohammad Hammoud created an AI-based medical assessment tool called Avey, which uses artificial intelligence to provide fast and accurate self-diagnosis. In 2022, Avey won the MENA InsurTech Hackathon, a competition that included 137 startups from 33 countries. Avey was also a global finalist for the KPMG Private Enterprise Global Tech Innovator competition in Lisbon, Portugal.

Honors research at IEEE
Đorde Popović (CS 2022) presented his honors thesis research at the 13th IEEE International Conference on Cloud Computing Technology and Science in Bangkok. The project developed a method of distributing computing tasks and resources that optimizes efficiency and preserves data privacy. Khaled Harras and Hend Gedawy (CS 2009) served as advisors.

Student co-authors IEEE paper
Diram Tabaa (CS 2022) co-authored a paper that was published in IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics and Security. The research was based on Tabaa’s internship work with the Qatar Computing Research Institute (QCRI).

Pizza and Programming
CMU-Q opened up its long-standing Pizza and Programming extracurricular sessions to students from other institutions. For the first event, 40 teams were selected, including 15 high school teams. Giselle Reis and Eduardo Feo Flushing were organizers.

Alumni in the Qatar tech industry
Omar Shafie (CS 2018), Syed Hashim Moosavi (CS 2014) and Lamana Mulaffer (CS 2015) returned to campus to speak with computer science students. The three alumni participated in a question and answer session about their work experiences in the tech industry.

Class of 2023 awards

Outstanding Academic Achievement
Computational Biology
Nour Ali
Computer Science
Abubakr Mohamed

Qatar Campus Scholars
Computational Biology
Nour Ali
Computer Science
Mohammed Al-Jawaheri

Andrew Carnegie Society Scholar
Mohammed Al-Jawaheri

COURSES
105
STUDENTS
10
FACULTY MEMBERS
35
COURSES
204
ALUMNI
Information Systems

Information systems students learn to design, deliver, and use information and communication technologies to solve problems for companies, governments, and society.

Business Incubation and Acceleration Hackathon

Two information systems students won top prize in the FoodTech category at the Qatar Development Bank competition. Mohammad Annan and Lujain Al Mansoori created an idea for 3D printed vegetables, an alternative to farming that could bolster food security in places like Qatar where there is very little arable land.

Provost’s Inclusive Teaching Fellowship

Nui Vatanasakdakul has completed the yearlong Provost’s Inclusive Teaching Fellowship, having adapted the course, E-business and Design Thinking, to explore how the Qatar culture affects male and female entrepreneurs differently.

Journal of Human Behavior and Emerging Technologies

Faiq Defiandry (IS 2020) published an article in the Journal of Human Behavior and Emerging Technologies based on research that began as his senior honors thesis. Under the guidance of faculty advisors Nui Vatanasakdakul and Chadi Aoun, Defiandry’s research explores the consumer’s perspective of adopting social commerce.

Master of Laws in Information Technology

Chadi Aoun completed a Master of Laws in Information Technology Law, with distinction, from the University of Edinburgh. He is now offering a course on cyber ethics and regulation and pursuing research on digital privacy, artificial intelligence regulation, and human rights.

Class of 2023 awards

Outstanding Academic Achievement
Erin Thomas

Qatar Campus Scholar
Premices Irakoze
Arts and Sciences

Students in all majors learn to draw connections and work effectively outside their majors through study in the arts and sciences. Courses included required subjects such as English, math and physics, as well as electives in a wide variety of disciplines.

Pi Day Mathematics Competition

The 2023 Pi Day Mathematics Competition, organized by Zelealem Yilma and the mathematics faculty of CMU-Q, included 500 high school students for the preliminary round. A total of 126 teams participated, representing 82 government and private Qatar high schools. Teams from DPS Modern Indian School took the top two spots in the final round.

Language, Place, and Identity in Qatar 2022

Silvia Pessoa and Thomas Mitchell taught a course on the World Cup 2022 in relation to language, place, and identity. The class led to an IRB-approved independent study for three students, involving interviews with 81 participants on their expectations and experiences of the World Cup.

Majāl Undergraduate Journal

Kira Dreher, Jeffrey Squires and a student editorial team published the first issue of Majāl Undergraduate Journal. The journal, which is the first multidisciplinary undergraduate journal in Qatar, showcases the spectrum of student research and coursework at CMU-Q.

Psychology of climate change

Two senior students, Rafay Khan and Uzair Ahmed, won the Most Promising Research award at Meeting of the Minds 2023 for their study into how climate change knowledge and willingness to change behaviors differ across genders. The work was presented later by faculty advisor Jennifer Bruder at the International Conference on Environmental Psychology in Denmark. Taeyong Park was also an advisor on the project.

Language Landscape in Qatar

Dudley Reynolds delivered an address and Pia Gomez-Laich, Thomas Mitchell, and Silvia Pessoa led a roundtable discussion at the Language Landscape in Qatar workshop at Georgetown University in Qatar.
Academic Resource Center

The ARC provides students with the support, resources and opportunities to improve learning and succeed academically.

Library

The CMU-Q Library supports the academic and research programs at the Qatar campus. Students, faculty and staff have access to a large collection of databases, ejournals and ebooks, as well as print resources.

Consultations with students

The ARC provides individual and group consultations for students who have questions about their course material or wish to challenge themselves academically. There were 2146 consultation visits in the fall semester, and 2526 in the spring semester.

MENA Writing Center Alliance

CMU-Q, along with the other QF partner universities, participated in the biennial conference for the MENA Writing Center Alliance. Sheren Saad, an educational support specialist at CMU-Q, was a co-organizer of the conference. The event brought together professionals who support student writing from across the MENA.

Summer Edge Program

Created in 2016, the Summer Edge program helps prepare new students for their first year. The program was delivered online over three weeks, and 33 students participated.

Select workshops offered in 2022-23

- How to become a critical reader
- Feel confident for midterms: Planning effective study sessions
- Write your way out of writer’s block
- The art of revising your academic writing
- Creating a final exam study schedule
- Managing anxiety and stress during finals
- Academic kaizen
- The nuts and bolts of personal statement writing
- Reading and understanding science research articles

Outstanding Academic Support Award

Anilish Sridhar (BA 2015), educational support specialist, received the 2022-23 Outstanding Academic Support Award for exceptional commitment to tutoring undergraduate students.

New librarian

Reya Saliba joined the library team as the instruction and outreach librarian. She previously served as the education and research librarian at Weill Cornell Medicine–Qatar.

Demystifying AI

The CMU-Q library collaborated with the student-led Robotics Club to host Demystifying AI, a community event for students unfamiliar with coding and artificial intelligence. The session taught basic coding concepts using a small robot. Tatiana Usova presented this approach to improving digital literacy at the International Association of University Libraries conference in the UAE, where she won the best poster award.

CMU Libraries visitors

Several members of the CMU Libraries team visited the Qatar campus to share their expertise.

- Sayeed Choudhury, associate dean for digital infrastructure, spoke to the community about case studies in open science. Choudhury’s presentation was a Gloriana St Clair Distinguished Lecture in 21st Century Librarianship.
- Emma Slayton, data curation, visualization, and GIS specialist, offered a session in research data management.
We have strong, living connections to the global Carnegie Mellon community, Qatar Foundation, our strategic partners, and the wider Qatar community. Engaging with the community offers rich learning opportunities for our students, and contributes to the development of Qatar.
Collaborations with Qatar Foundation

We are an integral part of Qatar Foundation, and our students, faculty, alumni and staff work with entities across Education City to build a hub of learning, cooperation and discovery.

Al Ihsan award

At the Qatar Foundation Convocation, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser presented the new Al Ihsan award. Mathuso Molapo and Saifudden Nassar, both graduates from CMU-Q’s Class of 2023, received the award for academic excellence and leadership.

Women in Leadership

CMU-Q gathered a multi-institutional organizing team for the inaugural Women in Leadership conference. CMU-Q faculty members Annette Vincent and Cecile Le Roux joined organizers at Georgetown University in Qatar, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, HEC Paris in Qatar, Qatar Financial Center, and Texas A&M University at Qatar.

After the conference, the team developed a white paper of recommendations and presented it to the president of higher education for Qatar Foundation. Vincent now leads a QF-wide task force for leadership for women in higher education.

H.E. Sheikha Hind at Dean’s Lecture Series

CMU-Q hosted H.E. Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani at the Dean’s Lecture Series. Students, alumni, faculty, and staff from across Education City took part in a thoughtful conversation about education rooted in purpose.

QF Math Circle

Associate teaching professor of mathematics Anthony Weston was part of the team that created Qatar Foundation Math Circle, an inquiry-based afterschool mathematics program to introduce high school students to new mathematical ideas, concepts and applications. Weekly sessions were led by mathematics professors from CMU-Q, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Texas A&M University at Qatar, VCUarts Qatar, and Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar.

Statistical Consulting Center

The CMU-Q Statistical Consulting Center opened its services to the Education City community. Co-directors Taeyong Park and Daniel Phelps provide statistical advice and support in areas that include research design, psychometrics, statistical modeling and analysis and data visualization.

QSTP Demo Day

Mohammad Hammoud, associate teaching professor of computer science, was a guest speaker for the XLR8 Demo Day at Qatar Science and Technology Park. Hammoud spoke at a fireside chat about the opportunities and challenges of using artificial intelligence in startups.

“When Qatar Foundation was established 25 years ago, it was founded out of a growing need to provide quality education for its community; an education that was excellent, as well as rooted, in our traditions and teachings about the meaning of life.”

Her Excellency Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani
Vice Chairperson and CEO, Qatar Foundation
CMU-Q Dean’s Lecture Series

Mathuso Molapo and Saifudden Nassar
Our Community Partners

We are proud to have strong, collaborative relationships within the Qatar community. Each year, we strive to strengthen these connections, and make new ones.

Hamad Bin Jassim Center
For five years, the Hamad Bin Jassim Center for K-12 Computer Science Education has been fostering knowledge and inspiring curiosity in computing among the students in Qatar schools. A collaboration between CMU-Q and the Jassim and Hamad Bin Jassim Charitable Foundation, the center organizes a slate of programs and workshops for students, as well as teacher training sessions.

MindCraft computing camps
The HBJ Center launched summer camps in computer science for middle and high school students. The camps are an extension of MindCraft, the one-day workshop that has introduced computing to more than 14,000 students in Qatar. The MindCraft one-day workshops will continue to run as an introduction to computing.

"After running the MindCraft workshops for so many years, we were finding that students wanted more. These camps are an opportunity to delve more into programming and computing concepts and really challenge the students.”

Khaled Harras
Area Head and Teaching Professor, Computer Science
Director, HBJ Center

Qatar Investment Authority
CMU-Q and QIA have come together to form a new center that is dedicated to enriching business education in the Gulf region. The QIA Center for Professional Education and Research will foster an environment of learning and innovation in business administration in Qatar.

As part of the agreement, CMU-Q will provide education and training for the QIA apprenticeship program. The QIA Center will also support CMU-Q faculty to develop Qatar-specific business cases that can be used for teaching business students in the Gulf.

Game Development Academy
Game Development Academy was a three-week program delivered remotely to students between 13 and 18 years old. The 63 participants learned foundational concepts of game creation, and applied them to create their own games.

Alice Programming Competition
More than 80 students from around Qatar competed in the Alice Programming Competition. For the competition, the students were challenged to create a video or game using the Alice programming software. Abu Issa Holding sponsored the prizes.

Gulf Organization for Industrial Consulting
CMU-Q and GOIC signed a memorandum of understanding to collaborate on education, scientific research, and community development. The agreement was inked by H.E. Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Mohammed, GOIC CEO, and Michael Trick.
Carnegie Mellon Connections

We are proud to be part of the Carnegie Mellon global community, connected to the scholarship, research, spirit and culture that defines Carnegie Mellon worldwide.

President Jahanian visits

Farnam Jahanian, president of Carnegie Mellon University, visited the Qatar campus for the CMU-Q alumni reunion and spoke to the more than 350 graduates who attended. He returned for the graduation ceremony of the Class of 2023.

“As a hub for knowledge, innovation and research, Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar prepares the next generation of students to be global leaders and citizens of a rapidly changing world.”

President Farnam Jahanian
CMU-Q Graduation, Class of 2023

Distinguished Lectures

It is a hallmark of a Carnegie Mellon education to build a broad base of knowledge in the liberal arts and sciences. In this tradition, the Distinguished Lecture Series provides a glimpse into the breadth of scholarship of our academic visitors.

A. Nico Habermann Distinguished Lecture in Computer Science
Martial Hebert
Dean, School of Computer Science
Attacking AI challenges at the School of Computer Science

Bill Brown Distinguished Lecture in Biological Sciences
Veronica Hinman
Dr. Frederick A. Schwartz Distinguished Professor of Life Sciences, Professor
Head, Department of Biological Sciences
Regrowing Your Head: Regeneration in the Sea Star

Richard M. Cyert Distinguished Lecture in Business Management
Anita Williams Woolley
Professor of Organizational Behavior
Associate Dean, Research, Tepper School of Business
People, processes, and incentives: Collective intelligence and the future of organizations

Gloriana St. Clair Distinguished Lecture in 21st Century Librarianship
Sayeed Choudhury
Director, Open Source Programs Office
CMU Libraries
Case Studies in Open Science
Diversity and Inclusion

At Carnegie Mellon University, the principles of diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging guide our values and serve as our foundation. The Qatar campus is committed to building a campus climate that embodies these principles.

CMU's vice provost for diversity, equity, and inclusion
Carnegie Mellon University's inaugural vice provost for diversity, equity, and inclusion, Wanda Heading-Grant, and her team visited the Qatar campus to share their vision. Heading-Grant is also CMU's chief diversity officer and a distinguished service professor at the Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy.

Women in STEM
CMU-Q hosted a discussion among women who are pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering or mathematics. The panelists included CMU-Q alumnae in the early stages of their STEM careers: Rahaf Abutarbush (IS 2022), Hend Gedawy (CS 2009), Weilin Li (BS 2021), and Safa Salim (BS 2017).

Data and Research Group
Led by Taeyong Park, the Data and Research Group worked on two projects as a part of a data-driven strategy towards improving diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging at CMU-Q. They explored professional development opportunities and faculty course evaluations.

Teaching With Intention
Led by Kira Dreher, Teaching With Intention is a series created in collaboration with CMU’s Eberly Center. The topic for the academic year was inclusive mentoring.

Bias Awareness Workshop
The Bias Awareness Workshop was developed at CMU-Q in collaboration with the Carnegie Mellon Office of the Vice Provost and PwC Middle East. The workshop includes scenarios unique to CMU-Q. Ten CMU-Q faculty and staff members completed training to facilitate workshops for the community.

Diversity Dialogues
Diversity Dialogues is a professional development program for community members to strengthen their connections, engage in conversation, and foster positive relationships.

Community Conversations
These sessions create a safe space that fosters connection, discussion, and support. This year, the topics included tolerance, the crisis in Ukraine, and colonialism.
Sustainability

For Carnegie Mellon, promoting, improving and embracing sustainability is an institution-wide priority. At the Qatar campus, faculty, students and staff have a shared commitment to achieve equity and sustainability in a variety of key areas.

CMU’s commitment to Sustainable Development Goals
Alexandra Hiniker, the sustainability initiative director at the Pittsburgh campus, visited CMU-Q to share CMU’s commitment to the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals. Hiniker also worked closely with the EcoCampus team to learn more about the Qatar campus effort to earn the FEE Green Flag.

Language Bridges
The EcoCampus initiative has relaunched Language Bridges, an educational program to improve the English language skills of service workers. The program was originally developed by Silvia Pessoa, and under her mentorship, a student-led group organized and taught the program for several years. Language Bridges has now been relaunched as part of the equity goal within CMU-Q’s EcoCampus initiative.

Sustainability innovations
Two groups of students explored the innovations that two key cities have made to improve sustainability. A first group looked at creative approaches that Singapore has implemented, including vertical farming, recycling waste water, and solar energy. A second group explored ways Amsterdam’s public and private sectors collaborate to implement sustainable solutions, and how big data is used to inform decisions.

EcoCampus
CMU-Q’s EcoCampus is working toward earning the FEE Green Flag designation by following a structured plan to improve sustainability. Originally started in 2020 by a group of faculty, students and staff, EcoCampus has been gathering momentum since the campus resumed normal operations, post-pandemic. The EcoCampus initiative is a framework created by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), and coordinated by the national operator, Qatar Foundation’s Earthna.

Technology Consulting in the Global Community
Three students from the Qatar campus participated in TCinGC, a CMU program that connects students with community organizations that do not have ready access to technical expertise. Malak Alseaf and Premices Irakoze traveled to Rwanda where they implemented a learning management system for the Agahozo Shalom Youth Village. Rafay Khan worked for the Palau Conservation Society.

Earth Day campaign
To celebrate Earth Day on April 22, CMU-Q’s EcoCampus shared ideas for sustainable living with the Qatar community. Media included television interviews and online press coverage, as well as a radio and social campaign to share tips on composting, recycling plastic, buying local food, and preserving the desert ecosystem.
Throughout their undergraduate education, students are part of an encouraging and supportive community. They celebrate together, explore their interests, and develop leadership and teamwork skills. Together, students create opportunities to grow both as individuals, and a community of learners.
A Strong, Connected Community

Our campus is a unique place to study: students, alumni, faculty and staff form a close-knit, diverse community that is enthusiastic, supportive and encouraging.

CMU-Q during the World Cup
The World Cup in Qatar brought excitement and opportunities to CMU-Q, with football-themed events bringing the community together in a celebration of sport. With the semester finished before the first kickoff in November, many members of the community contributed their time and talents to the World Cup, working in areas like logistics, health and safety, and fan experience.

International Night
The CMU-Q community celebrated diversity in an evening of traditional dress, musical performances, and food tasting.

A night of Qatari Arts
The Qatari Student Association hosted an evening of traditional Qatari arts, including oud playing, poetry recitation, and an art gallery of student and alumni work.

Holistic well-being
Throughout the year, students are encouraged to reflect on the well-being of their peers and themselves. Events and learning opportunities included mindfulness and gratitude workshops, Green Dot bystander training, breast cancer awareness, and World Mental Health Day.

Global Learning Trips
Global Learning Trips are unique educational opportunities that encourage personal development, create meaningful connections, and explore living and learning in different cultures. There were seven trips in the academic year that explored the topics of sustainability, privilege and identity, Carnegie Mellon traditions, gender and empowerment, SMART cities, holistic well-being, and advances in technology.

Community football
Just before the World Cup, the faculty and staff, students, and alumni played a football mini-tournament to celebrate sport and community.
Peer to Peer Learning

Discovery and exploration are at the heart of the CMU-Q experience, and students have many opportunities to share their knowledge and talent with their peers.

Orientation, Class of 2026

New student orientation takes place the week before classes begin and is organized and led by current students. Scheduled activities introduce the new class to the community, traditions, and resources at CMU-Q. For the Class of 2026 orientation, 50 current students helped organize and lead the sessions.

Outstanding Course Assistant award

The 2022-23 Outstanding Course Assistant award recipient was Aldana Al Disi, a sophomore in biological sciences, for exceptional commitment to tutoring undergraduate students.

Course assistant certification

Course assistants are an essential part of the learning team at CMU-Q. Undergraduates who have excelled in specific courses can become a course assistant in later years and pursue College Reading and Learning Association Level 1 certification. Four students earned this certification in 2022-23: Sara Al-Emadi, Yan Ru, Noor Sadiah, and Erin Thomas.

StuCo program

The Student-taught Courses program is an opportunity for students to design and deliver a unique course to their peers. Students receive guidance on course design, syllabus writing and teaching. This year, students delivered courses in:

- Palestine: Past and culture
- Tracing the footsteps of iconic African leaders
- Start playing with competitive programming gently
- Discovering art: Color theories and fashion
- Owarai: World of Japanese comedy
- Inside the mind of a serial killer
- A practical introduction to Arabic calligraphy

Peer Health Advocates

PHA volunteers are committed to enhancing the health of the CMU-Q community through outreach events. Volunteers raise awareness about college health issues and promote healthy behavior choices among their peers.
Leadership and Career Development

At CMU-Q, we encourage students to develop leadership skills by reflecting on their own journeys, embracing opportunities to facilitate positive change, and expanding their world view.

Arabic Debating
A CMU-Q team advanced to the semi-final round at the second Asian Arabic Debating Championship in Muscat, Oman. The team finished the five qualifying rounds, as well as the quarter-final round, undefeated. This was the first time Asmahan Al-Kuwari, Ahmed El Fekih Zguir, Moamin Ibrahim and Diram Tabaa competed in an international debate competition. The team was coached by Abdullah Shaar (BS, CS 2022).

Women’s Football Champions
The women’s student football team prevailed at two inter-university tournaments: the Qatar Foundation Student Life tournament and the Education City Women’s Football Championship. This was the first championship won by a women’s football team at CMU-Q.

Internship Showcase
Held at the beginning of the academic year, Internship Showcase features select students who share their summer internship experiences with fellow students. Twenty guest employers also attended to network and share opportunities with students.

Education City Career Fair
The Education City-wide event was a collaboration of the partner universities. More than 100 employers attended the two-day career fair to network with students and alumni.

Senior Student Leadership Awards
- Fatima Alhamadi
- Latifa AlNaimi
- Sara Al-Sabbagh
- Malak Alseaf
- Vania Ashoorian
- Nandana Balachandran
- Shahrazad Elnantsheh
- Ihsane Sadiki (with distinction)
- Lojaein Mahmoud
- Mathuso Molapo
- Rafay Khan
Research

We have strong, living connections to the global research community, especially with researchers at Carnegie Mellon, within Qatar Foundation, and in government and industry in Qatar. These collaborations offer rich opportunities for inquiry, discovery, and real-world impact.
The Year in Faculty Research

CMU-Q researchers are active members of the research community in Qatar and around the world. Faculty members contribute to the engines that drive international research, including scholarly publications, professional organizations and academic conferences.

New seed research projects
CMU-Q seed research funding supports long-term faculty as they build impactful projects for Qatar and the world.

Houda Bouamor, TartanBotQ: Designing and building a chatbot for academic advising at CMU-Q

Khaled Harras, SmartEdge: Towards deployable edge-based indoor context aware systems

Ihab Younis, Investigating the role of deregulated minor intron splicing in cancer-related genes

Stats Perform collaboration
CMU-Q and Stats Perform, a sports data and analytics company, began a research collaboration to explore the changes in soccer team behaviors during the time of COVID and VAR. Agustín Indaco and Fuad Farooqi will be working with Patrick Lucey, chief scientist at Stats Perform.

Handbook of Multilingual TESOL in Practice
Dudley Reynolds has co-edited a practical guide to language teaching in a multilingual classroom. Along with co-editors Kashif Raza and Christine Coombe, Reynolds compiled essays for developing curricula, teaching materials, and activities to support multilingual classrooms. The handbook is a follow-up to the 2021 release of Policy Development in TESOL and Multilingualism: Past, Present and the Way Forward, also edited by Reynolds, Raza and Coombe.

Susan Hagan published The Space between Look and Read: Designing Complementary Meaning through MIT Press. In the book, Hagan presents a framework, called Inter-play, which explains how text, typeface and images work together to create meaning.
QNRF-Funded Research
For more than a decade, CMU-Q has been proud to contribute to the Qatar National Vision 2030 through Qatar National Research Fund’s many programs.

Active faculty projects, 2022-23

**Dimension-specific automated scoring of Arabic language writing proficiency**
- **PI:** Houda Bouamor
- **Subaward partners:**
  - Lead PI: Tamer Elsayed, Qatar University
  - PI: Walid Massoud, Qatar University

**Sub-project 6: Assessing baseline sustainability literacy and awareness of SDGs and develop and test interventions.**
Part of SDG education and global citizenship in Qatar: Enhancing Qatar’s nested power in the global arena.
- **Sub-project Lead PI:** Jennifer Bruder
- **Subaward partner:** NPRP-Cluster Project Director: Evren Tok, HBKU

**Greenhouse-5.0: AI robotics for automated data collection, analytics, and decision support in greenhouse farming**
- **Lead PI:** Gianni Di Caro
- **Subaward partners:**
  - PI: Ahmed Moustafa, Al Sulaiteen Agricultural Research, Study and Training Center
  - PI: Klaas Dijkstra, NHL Stenden
  - PI: Antonio Ferrante, Università degli Studi di Milano

**FemtoQlouds: Leveraging edge resources to enable personalized and federated deep learning for mHealth applications**
- **Faculty Mentor:** Khaled Harras
- **Postdoctoral Researcher:** Hend Gedawy

**Resources and applications for detecting and classifying polarized and hate speech in Arabic social media**
- **PI:** Anis Charfi
- **Subaward partners:**
  - Lead PI: Wajdi Zaghouani, HBKU
  - PI: George Mikros, HBKU
  - PI: Marc Jones, HBKU
  - PI: Georgios Dimitropoulos, HBKU
  - PI: Fadi Makki, Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy
  - PI: Paolo Rosso, Universitat Politecnica de Valencia
  - PI: Joe Cannataci, University of Groningen
  - PI: Aitana Radu, University of Malta

**Autonomous PV cleaning and inspection system for hot desert weather conditions**
- **PI:** Eduardo Fos Flushing
- **Subaward partners:**
  - Lead PI: Zhaohui Cen, HBKU
  - PI: Antonio Sanfilippo, HBKU
  - PI: Ben Figgis, HBKU
  - PI: Damien Cosme, TOTAL E&P Golfe Ltd
  - PI: Yuzhe Chen, Phoenix Contracting & Trading Co.
  - PI: Syed Nawaz Pasha, Phoenix Contracting & Trading Co
  - PI: Nizzam Uddin, Singapore Engineering & Contracting WLL
  - PI: Mansour Karkoub, Texas A&M University at Qatar

**Qatari Linguistic Map**
- **Lead PI:** Zeinab Ibrahim
- **PI:** Houda Bouamor
- **Subaward partners:**
  - PI: Mohamed Mahgoub, Doha International Family Institute
  - PI: Aisha Sultan, Doha International Family Institute
  - PI: Many Abdelrhim, Georgetown University in Qatar

**Biological conversion of fuel synthesis process water to single cell protein for aquaculture feed using purple phototrophic bacteria**
- **PI:** Annette Vincent
- **Subaward partners:**
  - Lead PI: Hamish Robert Mackey, HBKU
  - PI: Prasanna Kolkatar, HBKU
  - PI: Udeogu Onowugbu, Qatar Shell Research and Technology Centre
  - PI: Xue Zhang, Institute of Hydrobiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences
  - PI: Haokun Liu, Institute of Hydrobiology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

"Technology touches nearly every aspect of modern life, so collaboration is key to advancements that will both improve quality of life and serve our priorities as a society."
Dean Michael Trick
Announcement of three new AI-related grants to CMU-Q
Student Researchers explore solar panel efficiency

A group of student researchers is exploring the possibility of using robots to clean and inspect solar panels in Qatar's weather conditions. The UREP-funded project is led by Eduardo Feo Flushing, in collaboration with Qatar Environment and Energy Research Institute (QEERI). Students include Abrar Tasneem Abir, Devang Acharya, Deep Chandra, Diram Tabaa, Nurassyl Zekens, and Mohamed Mahedi Hasan (HBKU).

Neurodevelopmental disorders

Thamanna Hashir and Frewoyni Birhane investigated neuronal and non-neuronal defects associated with neurodevelopmental disorders (NDD) like autism and schizophrenia. The UREP-funded project was conducted under the mentorship of Annette Vincent and Mohammad Farhan from HBKU. For her senior honors thesis, Birhane built on the projects' findings by studying the effect of NDD-related genes on the gut microbiome composition.

Student Research

QNRF Undergraduate Research Experience Program grants

First place, UREP Competition

A team of four graduates won first place at the 14th Annual Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP) Competition. Reem Al-Haddad, Sara Alhemaidi, Amal Alkorbi, and Almayasa Al-Naimi began their research when they were students, delving into Qatar residents’ awareness and attitudes of threatened animals indigenous to Qatar. Faculty advisors were Jennifer Bruder, Taeyong Park, and Lauren Burakowski.

3 students in Qatar Student-Initiated Undergraduate Research Program (QSIURP)

12 students in Summer Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship (SURA)

19 Senior Honors theses

Senior Honors research

Students from each academic program pursued College Honors, completing a research project and presenting it to a faculty panel. In the Class of 2023, 19 graduates earned College Honors.

Sara Al-Emadi, How effective are web accessibility regulations
Faculty Advisor: Divakaran Liginlal

Fatima Alhamadi, Effect of various extracellular matrix (ECM) proteins on prostate cancer cell behavior
Faculty Advisor: Mohamed Bouaouina

Frewoyni Birhane, Evaluation of gut microbiome in Drosophila models for mutations associated with neurodevelopmental disorders
Faculty Advisors: Annette Vincent, Mohammad Farhan (HBKU)

Hessa Bodai, Telehealth during and post-pandemic: The case of Qatar
Faculty Advisor: Selma Limam Mansar

Jade D Mello, Investigating the link between mitochondrial dysfunction in the brain and habituation behavior in Drosophila models of two human autism spectrum disorder (ASD) genes
Faculty Advisors: Annette Vincent, Mohammad Farhan (HBKU)

Shahrazad Elnatsheh, The role of alternative splicing in the differentiation of pancreatic β-cells
Faculty Advisors: Ihab Younis, Essam Abdelalim (QBRI)

Zoya Farooqui, Minor intron genes as potential targets for affecting survival of triple-negative breast cancer cells
Faculty Advisors: Ihab Younis, Mazen Sidani

Shereo Intyisyar, Designing an efficient workflow to identify and quantify biocide effectiveness on bacteria inducing microbiologically influenced corrosion
Faculty Advisor: Annette Vincent

Peiyun Ju, Assessing the functional and phenotypic changes of fibroblasts and colorectal cancer cells under conditioned media incubation
Faculty Advisors: Nesrine Affara, Mohamed Bouaouina

Abubakr Mohamed, Executable proofs for 15-150
Faculty Advisor: Giselle Reis

Alina Nasir, Bitcoin’s inflation hedging capabilities revisited
Faculty Advisors: Serkan Akgüç, Veli Safak

Niamah Alyisha Nishan, Assessing the role of αvβ6 in triple negative breast cancer phenotypes
Faculty Advisor: Mohamed Bouaouina

Amir Roshan, Assessing Lycopene and Beta-Carotene’s effect on human breast carcinoma and fibroblasts and their potential use as novel cancer therapies
Faculty Advisor: Nesrine Affara

Noor Sadiq, Virtual reality eSports and eFitness adoption in Qatar
Faculty Advisors: Nui Vatanasakidakul, Chadi Aoun

Mohammad Shaheer, Design and formalization of blockchain oracles
Faculty Advisor: Giselle Reis

Martin Sikkondzé, Establishing a stable recombinant protein production cell line using CRISPR-Cas9 mediated genome editing of HEK293 cells
Faculty Advisors: Ihab Younis, Mazen Sidani

Ali Tajammul, The effect of nuclear and cytoplasmic hnrNPA2B1 isoforms on the proliferation and migration of human breast cancer cells
Faculty Advisors: Ihab Younis, Mazen Sidani

Amal Taymou, Factors influencing sensitivities of online privacy: The case of e-Learning in Qatar
Faculty Advisor: Selma Limam Mansar

Erin Thomas, Exploring perceptions of social movements in social media during Covid-19
Faculty Advisors: Houda Bouazmer, Gabriela Gongora-Svartzman (CMU)
Meeting of the Minds

The largest Meeting of the Minds symposium in campus history took place in May 2023, with more than 50 posters submitted by students and researchers. The event was supported by the Planning and Statistics Authority, and event prizes were sponsored by Masraf Al Rayan bank, including cash prizes for all six of the winners.

CMU-Q awards

Best research project
1st Martin Sihondze, Establishing a stable recombinant protein production cell line using CRISPR-Cas9 mediated genome editing of HEK293 cells
Faculty advisors: Ihab Younis, Mazen Sidani, Ravichandra Bachu

2nd Jade O Mello, Investigating the link between mitochondrial dysfunction in the brain and habituation in the Ube3a drosophila ASD model
Faculty advisors: Annette Vincent, Mohammad Farhan

3rd Noor Sadiah, Virtual reality eSports and eFitness adoption in Qatar
Faculty advisors: Nui Vatanasakdakul, Chadi Aoun

Best poster
Niham Ayisha Nishan, Assessing the role of the integrin αVβ6 in triple negative breast cancer phenotypes
Faculty advisor: Mohamed Bouaouina

Most promising research
Rafay Khan, Uzair Ahmed, Does knowledge about climate change and willingness to change behavior for climate change differ across genders?
Faculty advisors: Jennifer Bruder, Taeyong Park

Erin Thomas, Exploring perceptions of social movements in social media during COVID-19
Faculty advisors: Houda Bouamor, Gabriela Gongora-Svartzman

Planning and Statistics Authority awards

H.E. Mr. Mohammed Abdulaziz Al Nuaimi, vice president, Planning and Statistics Authority, presented awards to posters that best represent Qatar Vision 2030.

Sara Al Emadi, How hosting the FIFA World Cup affected the way people see Qatar
Faculty advisor: Taeyong Park

Fatima Alhamadi, Effect of various extracellular matrix (ECM) proteins on prostate cancer cell behavior
Faculty advisor: Mohamed Bouaouina

Mariam Fakhroo, Exploring obesity factors: A GIS analysis of Qatar
Faculty advisor: Chadi Aoun

Premices Irakoze, Malak Annan, Breaking barriers and building bridges: A literature review on the importance of representation for women in STEM fields
Faculty advisor: Ezzohra Mourid

Amal Taymou, Factors influencing sensitivities of online privacy: The case of e-learning in Qatar
Faculty advisor: Selma Limam Mansar

Michael Trick, Fatima Alhamadi, H.E. Mr. Mohammed Abdulaziz Al Nuaimi and Selma Limam Mansar
Through a variety of media channels, we share the milestones and achievements of the CMU-Q community. The success stories of our students, alumni and faculty are part of the larger story of Qatar’s transformation into a knowledge-based economy. By sharing our community’s achievements, we hope to inspire a new generation of students to imagine and deliver work that matters, both to Qatar and the world.
Public Relations

Through targeted campaigns, we reached out to the Qatar community, connected with prospective students, and raised awareness of our talented graduates with potential employers.

Traditional media
CMU-Q received a total of 1,074 mentions in online and print media last year. The media included local, regional and international outlets, primarily in English and Arabic.

Broadcast media
During the academic year, several faculty, staff and students were interviewed on television and radio. The television coverage was in Arabic, and consisted of interviews and news spots about the research, outreach activities, and graduates of CMU-Q. Radio interviews included English, Spanish and French stations on a variety of topics.

Multimedia campaigns
CMU-Q ran several multimedia campaigns over the academic year featuring video, audio, text and images on the web, in traditional media, and on social channels. In addition to admission and recruitment support, the campaigns shared the CMU-Q community's enthusiasm during the World Cup, showcased our sustainability efforts, and celebrated the graduates of the Class of 2023.
The Year in the News

**July 2022**
- Summer College Preview Program returns to Carnegie Mellon Qatar
- CMU-Q officially welcomes Class of 2026

**August 2022**
- Doha prepares to host a major TEDinArabic event next year
- Carnegie Mellon receives grants for AI research into key areas for Qatar
- CMU-Q introduces two minors
- Carnegie Mellon and Qatar University win national programming competition
- Alumni startup, Stellic, is a unique story of entrepreneurial success
- New Carnegie Mellon research project uses AI to optimize Qatar farming
- Anirban, a legend of his times and beyond
- HBKU’s QBRI wraps up two-month intensive Summer Research Program
- New academic year sees highest enrollment at Carnegie Mellon Qatar

**September 2022**
- Inaugural Women in Leadership conference sparks dialogue, collaboration
- Her Excellency Sheikha Hind shares insight on purpose-driven education
- Women in Leadership conference concludes with resolve to build strong Qatar network
- GOIC and Carnegie Mellon Qatar ink MoU
- CMU-Q announces Qatar Campus Scholars, Class of 2023

**October 2022**
- CMU-Q registers record 26% rise in number of applications in two years
- Alumni from 15 graduating classes return to Carnegie Mellon Qatar
- Carnegie Mellon Qatar welcomes six new faculty members

**November 2022**
- CMU-Q and Qatar University win national programming competition
- CMU-Q alumna wins QNRF research competition
- Qatar campus student named CMU 2024 Innovation Scholar

**December 2022**
- CMU-Q World Cup volunteers give back to Qatar
- Universities in Qatar expect higher enrolment in coming years
- Healthcare, redefined: Qatar-based Avey offers AI-driven self-diagnostic tool to enable access to better healthcare
- How the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ can create an economic legacy
- Carnegie graduates tell Al Arab: The majority of the population lacks awareness of local animals
- Qatar will always be a part of me, says architect of Education City buildings

**January 2023**
- Carnegie Mellon Qatar collaboration brings football analytics to Qatar
- CMU-Q students win regional Injaz award
- CMU-Q alum creates Ghutra Mundo to share Qatari culture
- Qatargas visits CMU-Q to share workplace insights and experience
- Carnegie Mellon professor uses AI to streamline medical assessment

**February 2023**
- TGIF and Carnegie Mellon Qatar ink MoU
- CMU-Q celebrates first student of the Class of 2027

**March 2023**
- Texas A&M at Qatar discussion highlights importance of female STEM graduates
- CMU-Q expands Statistical Consulting Center to include Education City researchers
- Remembering Dean Ilker Baybars
- Computer science grad presents honors research at IEEE
- Carnegie Mellon celebrates first students of the Class of 2027
February 2023
- Dudley Reynolds receives TESOL award for service
- Carnegie Mellon graduates network in Dubai
- ChatGPT with Houda Bouamor on QTV
- Carnegie Mellon hosts 500 students for Pi Day math contest

March 2023
- Carnegie Mellon graduates receive Education Excellence Day awards
- Mohammed Al Qassabi on QTV
- ChatGPT with Houda Bouamor on Oryx Radio
- Carnegie Mellon celebrates women in STEM fields
- Carnegie Mellon reaches semi-finals of Asian Arabic Debating Championship
- Layan El Hajj Interview on QTV
- Carnegie Mellon honors 149 students for academic excellence
- Haris Aghadi is a “Tartan on the Rise”
- DPS Modern Indian School wins Carnegie Mellon Qatar Pi Day 2023
- QF program brings math to life for high school students
- DPS-Modern Indian School wizards score hat-trick in Pi Day Math Contest

April 2023
- Carnegie Mellon announces EcoCampus initiative to empower students
- CMU-Q students explore sustainability in Singapore
- Carnegie Mellon Class of 2023 grads are committed to Qatar
- Carnegie Mellon Qatar alumni welcome graduating class for Ramadan event
- Carnegie Mellon student researchers explore ways to improve solar panel efficiency
- New students explore Carnegie Mellon Qatar at welcome event

May 2023
- Al-Khalid leads Carnegie Mellon women’s soccer to historic victories
- Research to improve accessibility of recombinant proteins wins top Carnegie Mellon Qatar award
- Qatar’s economy expected to grow at 2.4% in 2023: Expert
- CMU-Q Graduates interview on QTV
- Graduates reflect on the skills they learned in university
- The scientific environment at CMU-Q is stimulating for success in the labor market
- CMU-Q Graduates strive to give back to community
- Carnegie Mellon Qatar celebrates 104 new graduates

June 2023
- Eduardo Feo Flushing on solar panel project on Hola Radio
- Two CMU-Q business students selected for Innovation Scholar program
- Kuwaiti graduate from Carnegie Mellon Qatar leads women’s football in historic success
- Qatar students showcase programming skills at Carnegie Mellon
- CMU-Q expert sees great potential for Qatar’s resilient supply chain
- Carnegie Mellon Qatar appoints three new associate deans
Leadership, Faculty, and Partners
Advisory and Leadership

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Computational Biology, Computer Science

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Area Head, Biological Sciences

Associate Teaching Professor, Biological Sciences

Mohamed Zayed
Associate Teaching Professor, Physics
Community Partners

Carnegie Mellon has built relationships with companies and organizations across various sectors. Our partners work closely with us by speaking through our Career Development Office, providing internships and jobs, participating in Community Partner Workshops, sponsoring students, sponsoring events and strengthening ties through Memoranda of Understanding.

- Abu Issa Holding
- Accenture
- Al Emadi Enterprises
- Al Faisal Holding
- Al Fattan Group Real Estate
- Al Jazeera Media Network
- Al Faisal Without Borders Foundation
- Alfanar Group
- Ali Bin Ali Group
- Amiri Diwan
- Apparel Group
- Aspire Zone Foundation
- Avey
- Azadea Group
- Bani & Company
- Baker Tilly
- Baladna Food Industries
- Banker Langham (BLR Doha)
- Barzan Holdings
- bellN Media Group
- Boeing
- Boston Consulting Group
- Canon Office Imaging Solutions
- Center for GIS Qatar
- Cerebrum
- Chyoda Almana Engineering
- Cisco
- Citi Bank
- Civil Service and Government Development Bureau
- Coca-Cola
- Commercial Bank of Qatar
- Communications Regulatory Authority
- Cosette Solutions
- Council of Ministers
- Credit Suisse Bank
- Danish Holding
- Davidson Consulting
- Deloitte
- DHL Express Qatar
- Digital Incubation Center
- Doha Bank
- EBBA Computer Consultancy Company
- EBButler
- Education Above All
- Education USA
- Embassy of Belgium in Qatar
- Embassy of Canada to Qatar
- Embassy of France, Doha
- Embassy of Italy in Doha
- Embassy of the Republic of Serbia
- Embassy of the State of Kuwait
- Enable.tech
- Equine Veterinary Medical Center
- ExxonMobil Qatar
- EV
- Fragomen
- GE
- Georgetown University in Qatar
- German Embassy in Doha
- Google
- Gulf Bridge International
- Gulf Business Machines
- Gulf Organization for Industrial Consulting
- Hamad Bin Khalifa University
- Hamad Medical Corporation
- Hapondo
- Henkel
- Hewlett Packard Enterprise
- Hitit
- Hilton Doha the Pearl Hotel & Residences
- Hochtief Vicon
- HSBC
- Iberdrola Innovation Middle East
- Ibtikar Technology Solutions
- Information and Communication Technology W.L.L.
- INJAZ Qatar
- Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya)
- Intesa Sanpaolo
- Investment Promotion Agency Qatar
- Jassim and Hamad Bin Jassim Charitable Foundation
- Katar Cultural Village
- Kearney
- KPMG
- Mada - Assistive Technology Center Qatar
- Malomatia
- Mannai Microsoft Services
- Masraf Al Rayan
- Marzoq Al Shamian
- Mazzars
- Mazaya Qatar
- McKinsey
- Meddy
- Medhealth Solutions At-Home-Doc
- Microsoft
- Ministry of Labour
- Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- Ministry of Communications and Information Technology
- Ministry of Defense
- Ministry of Education and Higher Education
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Municipality
- Modaris
- Mowasat
- Msheireb Properties
- Nakilat
- National Center for Cancer Care and Research
- National Cyber Security Agency (NCSA)
- Nestlé
- North Oil Company
- Northwestern University in Qatar
- Oliver Wyman
- Olympian Stars
- Omani Embassy in Doha, Qatar
- One Foods
- Ooredoo
- Onyx GTL
- Pandora Tech
- Planning and Statistics Authority
- Power International Holding
- PWC
- Qatar Airways
- Qatar Armed Forces
- Qatar Biobank
- Qatar Biomedical Research Institute
- Qatar Business Incubation Center
- Qatar Cancer Society
- Qatar Central Bank
- Qatar Chemical Company Ltd (Q-Chem)
- Qatar Computing Research Institute
- Qatar Credit Bureau
- Qatar Development Bank
- Qatar Electricity & Water Co.
- QatarEnergy
- QatarEnergy LNG
- Qatar Environment and Energy Research Institute
- Qatar Fertilizer Company
- Qatar Finance and Business Academy
- Qatar Financial Center
- Qatar Financial Center Regulatory Authority
- Qatar First Bank
- Qatar Foundation
- Qatar Fuel (WOQOD)
- Qatar Investment Authority
- Qatar Mobility Innovation Center
- Qatar Museums
- Qatar National Bank
- Qatar National Research Fund
- Qatar Olympic Committee
- Qatar Petrochemical Company (QAPCO)
- Qatar Research, Development and Innovation Council
- Qatar Science and Technology Park
- Qatar Shell
- Qatar Solar Technologies
- Qatar Stock Exchange
- Qatar Tourism
- Qatar University
- QIC Group
- Qinvest
- QLife Pharma
- Queen Hospital
- RasGas Power Company
- Regency Group Holding
- Rheinmetall Barzan Advanced Technology
- Roland Berger
- Salam Technology
- Saleh Hamad Al Mana Co.
- SAP
- Salvest
- SDK Marketing
- Selb Insurance
- Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani Foundation for Social Welfare
- Sidra Medicine
- Siemens Qatar
- Silatech
- SLB (Schlumberger)
- Snoopu
- Social and Sport Contribution Fund (Daam)
- Soutien Group
- STA Enterprises
- Standard Chartered
- Starlink
- State Audit Bureau
- Studio S/6
- Suhail DigTech
- Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy
- Supreme Council for Economy and Investment
- Talabat
- TASMU Accelerator
- Teach For Qatar
- TESOL International Association
- Texas A&M University at Qatar
- Thioli Group
- TotalEnergies Qatar
- Trio Investment
- UBS
- U.S. Embassy in Qatar
- VCU/Unis Qatar
- Vodafone Qatar
- Weil Cornell Medicine-Qatar
- Wise Consultancy
- World Innovation Summit for Education (Wise)
- Xylem
- Zahrawi Group
- Zomato
About Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar

For more than a century, Carnegie Mellon University has challenged the curious and passionate to imagine and deliver work that matters. A private, top-ranked and global university, Carnegie Mellon sets its own course with programs that inspire creativity and collaboration.

In 2004, Carnegie Mellon and Qatar Foundation began a partnership to deliver select programs that will contribute to the long-term development of Qatar. Today, Carnegie Mellon Qatar offers undergraduate programs in biological sciences, business administration, computer science, and information systems.

Graduates from CMU-Q are pursuing their careers in top organizations within Qatar and around the world, and many have started their own entrepreneurial ventures. With 16 graduating classes, the total number of alumni is more than 1,200.

To learn more, visit www.qatar.cmu.edu and follow us on:

- @CarnegieMellonQ
- @carnegiemelonq
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- CarnegieMellonQatar
- Carnegie Mellon Qatar

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