

# ISSUE 02 | SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

December 2018

## A WORD FROM HISSA - MANAGER OF THE SOURCING & SCHOLARSHIP DEPARTMENT

We are back!

I want to thank you for the positive feedback we received on the inaugural edition of our newsletter and welcome you to the second edition.

In this newsletter, we will touch on events that have occurred over the last few months. We have seen US students volunteer in a cultural exchange for the Special Olympics in the United States, a postgraduate winning first place with the London Petrophysical Society for his research project, plus we have met up with successful Alumni of the ADNOC Scholarship Program. Also, we would like to mention Phase I of the Scholar Portal is up and running.

We hope our students are enjoying access to their real time educational information and convenient communication channel to their advisors. Phase II will further enhance its user-friendly aspects. Enjoy this latest newsletter and please continue to provide us with your valuable feedback.

Good luck in your programs!

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## 2.1 | HIGHLIGHTS OF 2018

In 2018 we celebrated several important moments which are to be remembered:

1. In line with ADNOCs collaboration with foreign governments and in the interest of widening the Scholarship's horizons, an agreement between ADNOC Group, ADNOC Scholarship and the Chinese National Petroleum Company (CNPC) was made with the intention to send five study leavers for postgraduate studies to China in 2019.
2. As part of the commitment to remain abreast with the latest discoveries in the science of oil & gas exploration, R&TD's new Research Challenge List was released for perusal by prospective postgraduate students.
3. We have had the highest number of graduates from the program to date in 2018: 909 graduates!
4. Our GPAs are on the rise and will continue to do so with our new performance contracts in place: 59 students have earned a 3.5 or higher CGPA in 2018.
5. Several ADNOC Scholarship success stories were featured in the media, shining a light on the accomplishments of our students. These are proud moments for the ADNOC Scholarship Program!
6. We have published the first ADNOC Scholarship Student Handbook for all students to have convenient access to the rules and guidelines of the ADNOC Scholarship Program.
7. A new Scholarship Portal for students was launched enabling students to have easy access to their scholarship file and communicate with their advisor.

## 2.2 | REFLECTIONS ON THE YEAR OF ZAYED



**“ THE PROSPERITY AND SUCCESS OF THE PEOPLE ARE MEASURED BY THE STANDARD OF THEIR EDUCATION.”**

As we near the close of the Year of Zayed, it is time to reflect on where our inner compass is leading us. The late Sheikh Zayed said: “Every individual has to perform his duty. Man is mortal, but his work is not. Therefore, work is greater than wealth.”

He went further to say: “The real asset of any advanced nation is its people, especially the educated ones, and the prosperity and success of the people are measured by the standard of their education.”

The ADNOC Scholarship Program dedicates its time and efforts towards the advancement of the Emirati youth, this year in honor of Sheikh Zayed. Let this precious Year of Zayed have a permanent effect on you - our students - as we continue this educational journey together.

Sheikh Zayed’s example is what we will continue to admire and aspire to emulate as we work towards our individual goals and the continued success of our great nation.

## 2.3 | ADNOC SCHOLAR LAUNCHES NEW EMIRATI SOCIETY IN LEEDS, UK



ADNOC Scholars are not only high performers, but also devoted to the community they live in. Our PhD scholar at the University of Leeds, UK, Mohamed AlHebsi, lives up to ADNOC’s values by starting the first Emirati Society of Leeds (ESL).

The initiative helps fellow students by creating opportunities for Emirati students to socialize. This includes organizing activities ranging from road trips, to lectures and gatherings as well as by initiating cultural exchanges, volunteer work and sharing the UAE culture with the local community in Leeds.

The society is also a support system for any needs that may arise for the Emirati student community. Mohamed and his fellow students proudly celebrated the UAE Flag Day in the city center of Leeds by offering pedestrians a chance to try Arabic coffee and sweets while sharing information about the UAE and answering the many questions residents had about Emirati culture.

Activities like this will help keep the UAE community in Leeds focused and enthusiastic while living away from home and help support the positive image that the world has of the United Arab Emirates. We thank Mohamed for being an ADNOC ambassador in Leeds.

## 2.4 | ADNOC SCHOLARS MEET FUTURE OLYMPIANS OF DETERMINATION



ADNOC Scholars from across the country visited the athletes summer training camp of the Special Olympics World Games 2019 in Delaware.

For a first, the 2019 games will be held in the Middle East, the location being Abu Dhabi. Hosted by the UAE Embassy in the USA, event participants were able to enjoy Emirati sweets, try on traditional clothing as well as learn useful Arabic phrases.

### ADNOC SCHOLARS VOLUNTEERED TO SUPPORT ATHLETES IN THEIR PREPARATIONS FOR THE LARGEST HUMANITARIAN AND SPORTING EVENT OF 2019

The importance of the inclusion of all people in society was at the heart of this event which aims to continue to grow the mutual respect and understanding between our nations. Scholars, such as Majed AlYammahi and Yousef AlZaabi, used the opportunity to help the athletes feel at ease by introducing them to the UAE culture before they start their journey across the globe to our beloved country this coming March.

## 2.5 | FROM GRADUATE TO COLLEAGUE – AHMED ALHAJRI



ADNOC Scholarship has many students in the top 100 Universities in the World. Ahmed Alhajri is one of them. To gain acceptance to one of the best universities in the world takes more than simply high performance in high school.

**“DOING OUR UTMOST WHILE AT UNIVERSITY IN ORDER TO COME BACK AND JOIN THE MISSION TOWARDS THE BETTERMENT OF OUR COUNTRY SHOULD BE THE GOAL OF ALL EMIRATIS.”**

Ahmed was also heavily involved in sports, the debate team and volunteering where he has had many enlightening and cherished memories. He has graduated as a chemical engineer from the university ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world for this major and top 20 in the world overall: University of California – Berkeley. Naturally, his major was extremely rigorous with a challenging senior project, which required designing a process plant that produces Dimethyl Ether used for fuel.

A notable alum of the same program was the speaker at the College of Chemistry graduation ceremony, Frances Arnold, 2018’s Chemistry Nobel Laureate. An exciting aspect of Ahmed’s graduation. Ahmed’s advice to undergrads, “Doing our utmost while at university in order to come back and join the mission towards the betterment of our country should be the goal of all Emiratis.” He adds, “Make your education your #1 priority with no exceptions”. Now that Ahmed has recently joined the Upstream Directorate, he feels fortunate to be part of the first exploration into unconventional hydrocarbon resources in Abu Dhabi using fracking.

Ahmed hopes that he will play a vital role in this development and feels we owe it to the memory of Sheikh Zayed, our late distinguished leader, to work towards letting the world see the worth of our great country through such innovative work. Ahmed's passion in the oil & gas business is what drew him to apply to the ADNOC Scholarship Program.

Our graduate was very happy with the care given to him through the Scholarship office in the US and thanks the scholarship program for making his prestigious education a possibility. Ahmed is already working on giving back to ADNOC through his loyalty and hard work with the dream of being a part of its leadership one day. We definitely see a bright future ahead for this Berkeley graduate.

## 2.6 | MEET ABDULLA ALHOSANI, WINNER OF THE LONDON PETROPHYSICAL SOCIETY AWARD



Abdulla AlHosani started his education in the mechanical engineering program at the University of Birmingham. During his studies, he performed at the top of his 2014 class. When he was interested in applying to our Postgraduate Scholarship Program, ADNOC management had no hesitation in accepting his request.

**"TIME MANAGEMENT IS THE KEY TO YOUR SUCCESS AND PROCRASTINATION IS ITS ENEMY."**

The staff in the postgraduate program have quite an inclusive attitude towards the students. There are regular informal, yet informative, meetings where the staff encourage us to look outside the academia and encourage us not to forget the real world around us and how our research affects it."

He successfully moved to the petroleum engineering program at Imperial College London, one of the top 10 ranking universities in the world.

When asked what advice he would offer to undergraduate students, Abdulla stated, "Time management is the key to your success and procrastination is its enemy. Make a weekly study schedule and stick to it."

Here Abdulla has thrived and proven himself a future scientist in his field. With his masters project winning the London Petrophysical Society Award for Best Petrophysics Project for his academic year, Abdulla reflects on this past year studying at Imperial College: "Imperial College has extremely challenging programs. The atmosphere at Imperial is quite different from my previous university.

"ADNOC Scholarship has provided me with continued support throughout my studies and I am grateful for this. My goal is to return to the ADNOC Group to work and give back - hopefully in the field of research as it has become my strength." Abdulla has the right attitude and focus to make this happen and we wish him the best of luck in the PhD program.