

FORESIGHT

DHOFAR UNIVERSITY



GLOBAL PRESENCE

DU'S INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OFFICE

A DYNAMIC CELEBRATION

CAAS Hosts International Conference

LOCAL IMPACT

CSCEC's Role in Community Advancement



Globally 601-800
and Arab Region 43



Globally 851-900
and Arab Region 75

CONTENTS



09

WELCOME

04

SPECIAL FEATURE

International Cooperation Office

06

ARTS AND APPLIED SCIENCES

Inside Dhofar University's First
International Conference

10

COMMERCE & BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Sustainability Week 2026

12

ENGINEERING

College Of Engineering Renews Partnership

14

LAW

The Spirit Of Competition

18

MEDICINE

From Classroom To Community

20

RESEARCH

12th Annual Research Day

22

CSCEC

Community Service And Continuing
Education Center

24

NEWS

28

EVENTS

36



10



18



22

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Welcome

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the latest edition of Dhofar University's newsletter. It is a pleasure to share with you a collection of inspiring stories, remarkable achievements, and exciting developments that reflect the vibrant spirit of our academic community.

In this issue, we highlight a series of distinguished conferences and academic events that have brought together scholars, researchers, industry experts, and students to exchange ideas, foster innovation, and address important global challenges. These events demonstrate DU's commitment to academic excellence and meaningful engagement with the wider world. From special guest speakers to distinguished guests, the university continues to build an academic community to be proud of.

We also showcase our expanding global outreach initiatives, which continue to strengthen international partnerships and create valuable opportunities for cultural exchange, collaborative learning, and professional growth. Through these programs, our students and faculty members are building connections – from Austria to South Korea to Russia – that extend far beyond campus borders.

Student life remains at the heart of our university experience, and this edition celebrates the outstanding accomplishments of our students in academics, leadership, community service, sports, and research activities. Their dedication, creativity, and determination continue to make us proud and inspire future generations.

Additionally, we invite you to explore a special feature on the Community Service and Continuing Education Center (CSCEC). This spotlight highlights the important role CSCEC plays in promoting lifelong learning, community engagement, professional development, and social responsibility, helping to strengthen the bond between the university and the communities we serve.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition and discovering the many ways our university continues to make a positive impact locally and globally.

Warm regards,

Editorial Staff





INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OFFICE

Expanding Dhofar University's Global Academic Engagement

The International Cooperation Office (ICO) at Dhofar University (DU) was established as part of the DU Strategic Plan 2021-2031 to support the university's internationalization strategy and expand its global academic engagement. The office serves as the central unit responsible for developing and managing Dhofar University's international partnerships and collaborative initiatives with universities and organizations worldwide.

The ICO leads Dhofar University's internationalization efforts by building strategic partnerships, facilitating student and staff mobility, supporting international research collaboration, and coordinating global learning opportunities. The Office manages major international programs, including Erasmus+ initiatives—such as International Credit Mobility (ICM), Jean Monnet, and Erasmus Mundus—IAESTE internships, and short-term international programs for incoming and outgoing participants, including summer schools, winter schools, cultural exchange programs, and academic training initiatives. It also oversees the selection and nomination of DU students and staff for international mobility, exchange, internship, and other global engagement opportunities.

Administratively, the office ensures that all international collaborations comply with institutional and national regulations by coordinating approvals with the Vice Chancellor, legal advisor, and Ministry of Education. It also promotes international opportunities and programs through DU's communication channels and works in collaboration with the university's public relations team to enhance global visibility.

Through these efforts, the ICO contributes to strengthening Dhofar University's global presence, expanding opportunities for students and faculty, and supporting the university's vision of becoming a leading higher education institution with an international reputation in the region.

Strategic Activities and Partnerships

ICO continues to advance the university's internationalization strategy through a series of impactful academic, mobility, and partnership initiatives.

In the area of Erasmus+ cooperation, DU has achieved significant milestones. The university secured three Erasmus+ funding agreements with the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (CZU); UC Leuven-Limburg, Belgium; and the University of Genoa, Italy, to support student and staff mobility. DU has demonstrated strong performance in International Credit Mobility, supporting several students for full-semester exchanges abroad during the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 academic years, thereby enhancing their academic exposure and intercultural competencies.

Under the Erasmus+ program, the following activities were successfully implemented:

- Outgoing student mobility to partner universities.
- Outgoing staff mobility with the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (CZU) and the University of Genoa.
- Incoming academic staff visits from the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (CZU) and the University of Genoa.

As the only university in the region to secure a funded Jean Monnet Module under the Erasmus+ Program, DU is implementing a three-year project for 60 students that advances European Union studies through innovative teaching, research, and international academic collaboration.

The ICO also continues to support IAESTE programs, facilitating placements for DU students abroad while

hosting international trainees in collaboration with leading industry partners such as OQ, OCTAL, Salaah Airport, and Omantel, ensuring valuable practical training opportunities.

As part of its commitment to fostering global learning experiences, DU welcomed annual groups of students from Myongji University, South Korea, to participate in its Winter Program. The University also hosted two cohorts of students from Russia who participated in the Arabic for Non-Native Speakers Program offered by the Community Service and Continuing Education Center during the winter and summer semesters.

In addition, DU hosted 24 academic delegates from the Fridtjof Nansen Academy for Civic Education, Germany, further strengthening academic and cultural exchange through institutional dialogue and campus engagement.

Further consolidating its international presence, DU became an institutional member of the OCEAN Network as of January 2026, which is a platform connecting universities across Europe and Asia to promote mobility, joint academic programs, and research collaboration, particularly within the Erasmus+ framework.

At the institutional level, DU expanded its global partnerships through the signing of Memorandums of Understanding with leading international institutions across Germany, Italy, Belgium, Czech Republic, Turkey, Russia, South Korea, the United States, Taiwan, and India. These agreements support collaboration in student exchange, academic mobility, and joint research initiatives.

The ICO actively participated in major international and national events, including the

Special Feature

EAIE Conferences (2024 and 2025) and the ICEF Middle East Scholarship & Partnership Summit 2025, as well as key workshops and meetings organized by the Ministry of Education and other strategic stakeholders, both within Oman and internationally.

Through these comprehensive efforts, DU reaffirms its commitment to enhancing international cooperation, expanding global partnerships, and providing high-quality international learning opportunities for its students and academic community.



Student Perspectives

Musallam Bakhit Hasan Musallam Tabook, CCBA

A Transformative Academic Journey in Italy

“Some experiences change a person in simple but powerful ways. My time in Italy during the Spring semester of 2025 was one of those experiences. As part of the Erasmus+ programme at the University of Genoa, I studied management in a new environment and was able to achieve high grades, which made me proud and motivated me to do even better.

Life in Genoa was not only about studying, but the city, with its beautiful streets and rich culture, taught me how to enjoy simple moments and see life differently. I learned how to depend on myself, meet new people, and adapt to a different way of living.

There were challenges, such as the language barrier and being away from home. However, these moments helped me become stronger and more confident.

In the end, this experience was not just about education. It helped me grow as a person, understand myself better, and see the world from a wider perspective—something that will stay with me for the rest of my life.”



Adla Salim Al Haddadi, CAAS

“During my exchange at UCLL in Belgium, I truly valued the opportunity to expand my academic horizons through courses on global educational systems and future living scenarios. I particularly enjoyed acting as an ambassador for my home country by presenting Omani culture and history to 30 students. It was a rewarding experience to receive specialized feedback on my master’s thesis and attend high-level UNESCO sessions in Paris. From exploring the Japanese Garden to visiting the Red Star Line Museum, I deeply appreciated this transformative cultural and professional journey.”



Ghadeer Sulaiman Ahmed Al Ghaithi

“I was one of the lucky students who were present during the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague visit, where a group of

students – along with their teacher – visited Dhofar University as a cultural exchange initiative. So, in return, Dhofar University sent four students to the Czech Republic for the same purpose.

My name is Ghadeer, and I was one of the four students chosen to visit the Czech University of Life Sciences. The news made me anxious. After all, I was about to be an ambassador to my country and university whether I liked it or not, so I planned to be the best possible representative of both to the students and faculty I was about to meet.

The trip was more than a university visit or a cultural exchange initiative. It was truly filled with so many learning moments for all of us. We had the opportunity to give them a piece of our cultural and have a genuine discussion on our differences for the sole purpose of understanding each other.”

Short Exchange program

International Students' feedback

Special Feature

" I have many happy memories of being treated kindly and helped by the volunteer students at Dhofar University."

" The cultural experience program was the most memorable. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Oman."

" The program was extremely successful and awesome. and I learned a lot. I'm already in love with Oman because of this program. Thank you. I hope next time the program is to be longer. If you're having this program again, I would join again. Please have this program in this summer because I heard the weather in Salalah in summer is really nice."

" I am truly grateful for the amazing program you prepared. You have given me unforgettable memories, and I will proudly continue to act as an ambassador for Oman in Korea."

" That's program was amazing, enjoyable, and useful for practicing and learning Arabic. Thank you!"

" Thanks to Dhofar University for a such great opportunity to be part of Oman culture and experience incredible diversity of activities. That was an incredible month that gave priceless emotions to all of Russian students."





Inside Dhofar University's First International Conference

2 DAYS, 20 COUNTRIES, ONE VISION



“A vibrant exchange of ideas, cultures, and research that highlights the future of English Studies in an increasingly interconnected world.”

Dhofar University became a vibrant hub of intellectual exchange on 11-12 February 2026 as it hosted the First International Conference on English Studies—an event that brought together scholars, educators, and students from around the world in a dynamic celebration of language, literature, and translation. Held under the patronage of His Excellency Yusof Bin Alawi Al Ibrahim, the conference reflected both national

importance and international academic prestige.

From the very outset, the atmosphere was one of anticipation and inspiration. The opening ceremony, chaired by Dr Abdulwahid Al Zumor, set the stage for two days of rich dialogue and forward-thinking ideas. In their opening remarks, the Dean of College of Arts and Applied Sciences, Dr. Khalid Al Mashikhi and the head of English Department

Dr. Abdulwahid Al Zumor emphasized the importance of collaboration, creativity, and global engagement in shaping the future of English Studies.

What followed was an impressive showcase of international scholarship. With 110 presenters representing 20 countries and 73 presentations delivered across the programme, the conference reflected a truly global perspective. Beyond the presenters, hundreds

of participants—including school principals and senior students—joined the sessions, reinforcing the conference's strong connection to the wider educational community.

Across multiple venues, ideas flowed freely through keynote lectures, featured talks, workshops, and more than 25 parallel sessions. Organized around major strands such as Applied Linguistics, Literature, Translation Studies, and Global Education, the programme addressed key developments shaping contemporary English Studies.

The keynote speakers brought both depth and vision to the conference. Professor Rod Ellis opened the series with a thought-provoking exploration of artificial intelligence in task-based language teaching. Professor Juliane House offered valuable insights into translation and cognition, while Professor Ian Almond examined how artificial intelligence is reshaping literature education. The keynote series concluded with Professor Jack C. Richards, who addressed the challenges of English-medium instruction in higher education.

Parallel sessions highlighted cutting-edge research and practical innovations—from artificial intelligence-enhanced writing and the use of ChatGPT in English as a Second Language classrooms to translation ethics, eco-criticism, intercultural communication, and collaborative learning. Workshops complemented these discussions by providing educators with practical strategies and hands-on approaches to integrating modern methodologies into their teaching practices.

A standout feature of the conference was the contribution



Arts & Applied Sciences

of Garnet Education, the conference's strategic partner. Their sessions focused on preparing students for a globalized academic and professional world, emphasizing employability, adaptability, and global competence. These contributions added a strong practical dimension to the conference's academic discussions.

The conference fostered a truly campus-wide sense of engagement by bringing together faculty members from a diverse range of colleges and disciplines. It featured two particularly memorable sessions that resonated strongly with attendees. The first, "Global University, Global Student," explored the evolving role of universities in preparing students for an increasingly interconnected world. The second session, "Using English to Teach Science," offered valuable insights into effective strategies for delivering scientific content through the medium of English, highlighting both challenges and best practices. Together, these sessions not only enriched academic dialogue but also encouraged meaningful collaboration across the institution.

Equally inspiring was the role played by students themselves. Around 25 students from the Departments of English and Education actively supported the organization and execution of the event. Their involvement not only contributed to the conference's success but also reflected a commitment to nurturing future scholars and leaders.

As the conference drew to a close, participants gathered for a concluding ceremony that celebrated both academic excellence and collaborative spirit. Session chairs and members of the Student Organizing Committee were formally recognized for their dedication and contributions, bringing the event to a memorable and uplifting conclusion.

More than just an academic gathering, the First International Conference on English Studies marked a significant milestone for Dhofar University. By bringing together diverse perspectives and addressing the evolving role of English Studies in the age of artificial intelligence, the conference established a strong platform for future dialogue, research, and international collaboration.



SUSTAINABILITY WEEK 2026

Empowering the Next Generation for a Sustainable Future

The College of Commerce and Business Administration (CCBA), in collaboration with the Dhofar University Centre for Sustainability, successfully organised Sustainability Week 2026 on April 13–14 in the University Conference Hall. The two-day event brought together a diverse audience, including students from schools and colleges, faculty members, industry representatives, and members of the wider community.

The event highlighted the strong commitment Dhofar University (DU) has to promoting environmental awareness and supporting Oman Vision 2040 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

(SDGs). The program was held under the esteemed patronage of Sheikh Naif bin Hamed bin Amer Fadhil, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Dhofar Governorate. The event was graced by Prof. Amer bin Ali Al-Rawas, Vice Chancellor, and Dr. Syed Ahsan Jamil, Deputy Vice Chancellor of DU. A key feature of the event was a panel discussion featuring distinguished speakers, including Dr Hani Ahmed

Al Qadhi, Director-General of Health Services, Dhofar; Muna Al Maashani, Head of Strategy at OQBI; and Hatem bin Salem Al-Mahri, Director of the Vegetation Development Department at the Environment Authority. Their insights and perspectives added significant value to the discussions.

One of the key highlights of Sustainability Week 2026 was the Sustainability Project Competition, which attracted enthusiastic participation from students representing 27 schools across the Dhofar region, as well as colleges and universities in Dhofar and the University of Nizwa. A total of 97 projects were submitted, of which 42 were



Commerce & Business Administration



shortlisted for exhibition and the final round of the competition. The participants presented innovative and practical solutions to pressing environmental challenges, demonstrating creativity, critical thinking, and a strong commitment to sustainability. The winners of the project competition in the undergraduate category were from the University of Technology and Applied Sciences – Salah and the Vocational College in Salah. At the school level, the winners included Waha Al Amal, Khawla bint Hakeem School, Al Noor School, and Indian School Salah.

The event was proudly supported by title sponsors OQBI, OQEP, and United Securities, whose contributions were instrumental to its success. A series of industry exhibitions also formed a key component of the program, with leading organisations such as OQBI, Forat Land, Environment Authority, Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, Al Baleed Resort Salah by

Anantara, OMRAN Group, Evergreen Recycling, Riyadh SMEs Development Authority (Handicrafts), Badr Al Samaa Group of Hospitals, Al Murooj Dairy, and Casablanca showcasing their sustainability initiatives and environmentally responsible practices. These exhibitions provided participants with valuable insights into real-world sustainability applications and encouraged meaningful engagement between students and industry professionals, attracting approximately 2,000 attendees.

The success of Sustainability Week 2026 reflects the dedication of the organising team under the leadership of Dr. Mariam Anil, Assistant Professor at CCBA, DU, as well as the enthusiastic participation of students and institutions, and the strong support of sponsors and partners. Building on this success, DU remains committed to advancing sustainability initiatives and fostering platforms that inspire innovation, collaboration, and responsible leadership.





COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING RENEWS PARTNERSHIP

The Green Building Solutions Summer University in Vienna

Fostering International Partnerships

The College of Engineering at Dhofar University (DU) renewed its strategic partnership in 2025 with the internationally acclaimed Green Building Solutions (GBS) Summer University in Vienna, Austria, marking the second consecutive year of collaboration with this prestigious program. This milestone reaffirms DU's position as the first Omani university to collaborate with GBS for two successive years, underscoring its growing engagement in global sustainability education.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by Professor Amer bin Ali Al-Rawas, Vice Chancellor of DU, in the presence of Dr. Issam Bahdoor, Dean of the College of Engineering, and Dr. Lamiaa Mostafa Abd-Rabo, Head of Training at the College. The renewal reflects the University's continued commitment to fostering international partnerships that bridge academic excellence with real-world impact.

GBS Summer University is an advanced academic platform organized by leading Austrian institutions, including TU Wien, BOKU, and the Austrian Institute of Technology. Bringing together participants from more than 60 international academic institutions, the program connects academic learning with practical applications in climate-resilient design, advanced energy systems, and low-carbon construction.

Held in state-of-the-art facilities built to net-zero standards, the program offers expert-led lectures, hands-on projects, and field visits to leading sustainable building sites across Vienna. Participants gain direct exposure to innovative approaches in sustainable architecture and urban development, and upon completion, they receive a certified international diploma.



Creating Global Best Practices

Dr. Issam Bahdoor called the renewed GBS activation “a commitment to international, practice-focused learning that brings global best practices into our classrooms and studios.” Such partnerships, he noted, sharpen students’ applied skills, strengthen learning outcomes and research, and align with Oman Vision 2040.

Through this continued partnership, DU affirms its role as an active contributor to the global dialogue on urban futures and environmental planning, while expanding opportunities for its students to engage in transformative international learning experiences.

Summer Scholarships Awarded

As part of this renewed collaboration, the College awarded two full scholarships to outstanding students selected through a competitive process led by Dr. Lamiaa Mostafa. This initiative highlighted the College’s commitment to empowering high-achieving students and equipping them with the knowledge and skills required to contribute to sustainable development.

Two Department of Architecture students, Osama Salem Farah Saeed Hubais and Hamza Mahfoodh Saad Bayt Rabie, successfully completed a month-long academic track that combined advanced theoretical learning with hands-on fieldwork in sustainable building design.

Under the supervision of Dr. Lamiaa Mostafa, the students explored strategies to reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions. Their studies covered key areas such as passive design, life-cycle assessment, recyclable and low-impact materials, and circularity in construction. The curriculum integrated classroom instruction with field visits across Vienna, including green roofs, naturally ventilated districts, and integrated urban infrastructure—demonstrating how engineering decisions directly influence a project’s carbon footprint.

Working in multidisciplinary, international teams, the students developed a group proposal for low-emission buildings, progressing from conceptual design to early schematic stages. They evaluated their ideas against performance metrics and feasibility constraints, gaining practical insights into sustainable design processes. Reflecting on their experience, the students emphasized how the program bridged academic learning with cultural exchange while opening pathways to future research and professional opportunities in green architecture.



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Founding ChairmanThis document is awarded subject to the candidate's
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المنظمة الخليجية للبحث والتطوير

GULF ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT



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Founding ChairmanThis document is awarded subject to the candidate's
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First Certified Trainer and First Student in Oman

In a significant academic achievement reflecting Dhofar University's commitment to transforming regional partnerships into impactful educational practices, the College of Engineering has achieved a pioneering milestone in sustainability and advanced engineering education.

Dr. Lamia Mostafa Abd-Rabbo, from the Department of Architectural Engineering, has received professional certification from the Gulf Organisation for Research and Development (GORD) in Qatar as the first certified GSAS-CGP trainer in green building among universities in the Sultanate of Oman.

This achievement is a direct outcome of activating the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the College of Engineering and GORD. Dr. Lamia Mostafa academically led this effort by transforming the partnership from a cooperation framework into an applied learning program on campus. She supervised the delivery of the GSAS-D&B course for students of the Department of Architectural Engineering, enabling them to apply sustainability standards in line with regional best practices.

Building on this success, student Rawan Anwar Ahmed Al Waer also received professional certification as a GSAS-CGP trainer from GORD, becoming the first student among universities in the Sultanate of Oman to earn this certification after successfully completing the program requirements with distinction.

Dr. Issam Bahdoor, Dean of the College of Engineering at Dhofar University, praised the achievement, stating that the partnership with GORD represents an effective model for transforming agreements into tangible outcomes that enhance the capabilities of students and academic staff.

Through this achievement, Dhofar University continues to strengthen its position as a leading academic institution in sustainable engineering, aligned with Oman Vision 2040, by preparing national competencies capable of adopting global sustainability standards and creating lasting developmental impact.





Strengthening Collaboration through Strategic Partnership

Academic Learning and Professional Practice

In a strategic move reflecting Oman's growing focus on institutional collaboration and engineering advancement, Dhofar University's College of Engineering signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Oman Society of Engineers, headquartered in Muscat, to enhance cooperation in engineering education, scientific research, and the professional development of students and engineers.

The agreement was signed in 2025, by Professor Amer bin Ali Al-Rawas, Vice Chancellor of Dhofar University, and Engineer Fouad bin Abdullah Al-Kindi, Chairman of the Oman Society of Engineers, in the presence of academic and professional representatives from both sides. The signing ceremony was organized under the supervision of Dr. Issam Bahdoor, Dean of the College of Engineering, and Dr. Lamiaa Mostafa Abd-Rabo, from the Department of Architectural Engineering.

Professor Al-Rawas emphasized that the agreement supports the university's strategy to strengthen ties with community institutions and bridge academic learning with professional practice. Engineer Al-Kindi described the partnership as an important step in empowering Omani engineers through research and training initiatives aligned with Oman Vision 2040.

Dr. Issam Bahdoor highlighted that the MoU will provide students with valuable opportunities to engage with industry and acquire modern applied skills.

The agreement covers cooperation in conferences, training programs, applied research, and participation in national and international engineering events. It also introduces the "OSE Graduation Project Award" to recognize outstanding final-year projects by engineering students across Oman.

A joint executive committee, chaired by Dr. Lamiaa Mostafa, will oversee implementation and ensure alignment with both parties' strategic goals, reinforcing the College's role in national engagement and professional engineering development.



THE SPIRIT OF COMPETITION

Law Students Achieve
Outstanding Success by Winning
Prestigious Awards



Students from the College of Law have achieved a distinguished academic accomplishment by securing prestigious awards in both the legal debate and moot court competitions organized by Sultan Qaboos University, within a competitive academic environment aimed at enhancing legal analysis and advocacy skills.

Ms. Waad bint Mohammed Al-Maamari and Ms. Ma'ather bint Khalifa Al-Maqbali demonstrated exceptional performance in the legal debate competitions held at Sultan Qaboos University. Ms. Al-Maamari was awarded Best Debater in the Final Round, in addition to receiving the Best Counsel for the Defendant award during the preliminary rounds of the moot court competition, reflecting her excellence in legal persuasion and the construction of strong defense arguments.

Meanwhile, Ms. Al-Maqbali received the Best Debater in the Preliminary Rounds award, along with the Best Counsel for the Plaintiff award in the same stage of the moot court competition, highlighting her ability to deliver compelling and effective legal pleadings in the context of prosecution.

These results underscore the advanced academic standard of the participating students and the vital role played by academic competitions in refining legal skills and enhancing professional competence among students at the early stages of their academic journey.

In celebration of this achievement, the College of Law, represented by its Dean, Professor Ahmed Al-Zein, along with the academic and administrative staff, extends its highest congratulations to the two students for their outstanding academic excellence. The College expresses its pride in this accomplishment, which reflects the quality of the academic environment and its role in developing students' intellectual and professional capabilities, and wishes continued success and excellence for all.



FROM CLASSROOM TO COMMUNITY

Dhofar University Medical Students Lead Public Health Awareness Campaigns

The Student Medical Society (SMS) of the College of Medicine at Dhofar University (DU) recently organized two impactful health awareness campaigns: the Blood Disorders Awareness Campaign and Diabetes Day, bringing together students, clinicians, and partner institutions in a shared commitment to community health.

The Blood Disorders Awareness Campaign was characterized by broad and impactful collaboration among participating stakeholders. The Medical Student Community of Oman joined as a key speaker, with its representatives delivering a keynote address on the growing role of medical students in national health promotion. The session highlighted the value of peer-led education and inter-institutional cooperation in advancing Oman's public health priorities.

Adding clinical depth to the event, a specialized delegation from Sultan Qaboos Hospital delivered a dedicated lecture on common blood disorders, including iron deficiency anemia, sickle cell disease, and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency, conditions of particular relevance to the region. Attendees gained insight into how these conditions are diagnosed, managed, and detected early through community screening programs and genetic counselling, underscoring the importance of awareness in reducing long-term disease burden.

The Diabetes Day campaign took a practical, prevention focused approach. Students facilitated interactive sessions designed to help community members understand the risk factors associated with diabetes, the role of healthy dietary habits, and the importance of routine health screening. The campaign reinforced a timely message: non-communicable diseases, such as diabetes, are largely



preventable when communities are equipped with the right knowledge and tools.

Taken together, these two events reflect the SMS's broader mission to develop graduates who are not only clinically capable but socially engaged. By stepping beyond lecture theatres and into the community, DU's medical students demonstrated that health education is as much a professional responsibility as clinical practice itself.

Through its partnerships with Sultan Qaboos Hospital, the SMS continues to serve as a model for experiential, community-oriented medical education, one that places student initiative at the heart of public health.



12TH ANNUAL RESEARCH DAY

Celebrating the Spirit of Innovation

Dhofar University celebrated the launch of the “12th Scientific Research Day,” organized by the Department of Scientific Research in the Conference Hall. The event saw a significant turnout of academics, researchers, and stakeholders in the innovation sector, under the patronage of His Excellency Dr. Saif bin Abdullah Al-Haddabi, Executive Chairman of the Research and Innovation Authority.

The event began with a visual presentation showcasing the university’s deep-rooted research expertise, followed by a welcoming speech from Dr. Syed Ahsan Jamil, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University. He praised H.E. Dr. Saif bin Abdullah Al-Haddabi’s patronage of this annual scientific forum and spoke about the significance and role of scientific research. Furthermore, Ms. Amal Al-Murfadi, the Research Focal Point, reviewed the most significant research achievements of the university members over the past year. She praised the efforts exerted and called for further progress and diligence.

The 12th Scientific Research Day witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in the presence of the event’s patron. The agreement was signed on behalf of Dhofar University by Professor Amer bin Ali Al-Rawas, Vice-Chancellor of the University, and on behalf of Nama Dhofar Services by Eng. Hamed bin Omar Al-Ibrahim, General Manager of Planning and Assets. The agreement aims to link scientific research with the local industrial and service sectors.





The program included a presentation of the most prominent achievements of the Dhofar University Research Center, delivered by Dr. Luay Rashan. Additionally, Professor Mazharul Islam highlighted the contributions of the UNESCO Chair on Science and Innovation for Environmental Sustainability.

Professor Amer bin Ali Al-Rawas, Vice-Chancellor of Dhofar University, emphasized that organizing the 12th edition of Scientific Research and Innovation Day reflects the university's firm commitment to enhancing the scientific research ecosystem and establishing a culture of innovation as a pillar of academic excellence. He explained that the university continues its efforts to develop a stimulating research environment that supports knowledge production and its application to serve society, noting that partnerships with national and international institutions are a fundamental pillar for linking research outcomes with sustainable development needs.

He added that the active participation of researchers and students in this event reflects the maturity of the research experience at the university and confirms its ability to contribute to finding innovative scientific solutions to contemporary challenges. He stressed that Dhofar University continues to support and empower research talents, enhancing its position as a leading academic institution at both local and regional levels.

The patron of the ceremony honored distinguished talents by distributing academic and

merit awards to outstanding faculty and staff in recognition of their role in boosting the university's scientific standing. Following the signing and honoring ceremonies, His Excellency inaugurated the Research Poster Exhibition, where he and the attendees toured the accompanying gallery. The exhibition featured diverse scientific outputs from researchers and students, and they reviewed projects participating in the poster competition, which reflected the spirit of innovation among the university community.





ثلاثة أبعاد... هدف واحد: تمكين الأفراد، خدمة المجتمع، وبناء مستقبل مستدام
THREE DIMENSIONS... ONE MISSION: EMPOWERING PEOPLE, SERVING THE COMMUNITY, BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTER

Bridging Academic Resources with Community Needs

The Community Service and Continuing Education Center (CSCEC) at Dhofar University (DU) stands as a dynamic gateway between academic excellence and real-world impact, empowering individuals and institutions to thrive in an ever-evolving global landscape with a forward-thinking vision, the Center delivers transformative learning experiences that go beyond traditional education, cultivating innovation and leadership that aligned with Oman Vision 2040 and its strategic emphasis on advancing human capital and fostering sustainable community development.

CSCEC is driven by a commitment to excellence, offering a rich portfolio of high-impact programs including professional certifications, specialized training, interactive workshops, and thought-provoking seminars and conferences. Each program is carefully designed and delivered by expert faculty and industry practitioners who integrate cutting-edge knowledge with practical insight, ensuring participants gain skills that are immediately applicable and future ready.

At its core, the Center through its sections serves as a catalyst for community advancement. It actively forges strategic partnerships with public and private sectors to co-create solutions that address pressing societal challenges and unlock new opportunities for sustainable development. By bridging academic resources with community needs, CSCEC transforms ideas into meaningful action.

Embracing innovation and accessibility, the Center provides flexible learning pathways through both in-person and virtual platforms—reaching diverse audiences anytime, anywhere. Its inclusive philosophy ensures equal access to all, fostering a vibrant, diverse learning environment where every individual is valued and empowered.

More than just a training hub, CSCEC is a platform for inspiration, collaboration, and impact—where knowledge meets purpose, and ambition turns into achievement.

CSCEC Mission

Through forward-looking initiatives, CSCEC delivers transformative lifelong learning opportunities tailored to adults and professionals, equipping them with advanced skills, adaptive competencies, and future-ready knowledge. The Center aspires to be a catalyst for sustainable growth by bridging academic excellence with real-world needs—enabling individuals and institutions to navigate emerging challenges with confidence, resilience, and distinction.

Continuing Education and Training Section

The Continuing Education and Training section is one of



the vital pillars in supporting lifelong learning and enhancing professional competencies. It works to offer specialized training programs and professional certifications that meet the needs of both local and international labor markets. The section contributes to empowering individuals and institutions to develop their skills in line with the latest global standards through a diverse portfolio of courses, qualification programs, and internationally recognized certifications.

The section through the center has achieved significant milestones that have strengthened its position at both local and international levels. Among the most notable are:

- Obtaining accreditation for the TOLES international legal English examination.
- Becoming an authorized provider of IELTS testing in collaboration with the British Council.
- Rewarded the Silver Award in the British Council Challenge.
- Launched the PMP (Project Management Professional) preparatory program in project management, which is one of the leading global certifications for qualifying project managers.

Community Service & Continuing Education Center





Community Service Section

The Community Service section represents a fundamental pillar in advancing DU's mission toward society. It serves as a dynamic platform for empowering individuals, building capacities, and fostering impactful partnerships that bridge academic knowledge with real-world needs. Guided by an ambitious vision, the section strives to create sustainable impact through the design and implementation of innovative initiatives and high-quality programs that contribute to human development and enhance the quality of life within the community. It is dedicated to cultivating a culture of giving and social responsibility by actively engaging students, faculty, and administrative staff in meaningful initiatives that promote volunteerism, leadership, and community engagement. It also works to establish strategic partnerships with public and private sector entities, ensuring integrated efforts that drive comprehensive and sustainable development.

During the recent period, the department has implemented a wide range of high-impact awareness initiatives in various fields, which are:

- Launching the impactful “This is your Eidiya” initiative, bringing joy to hospitalized children at Sultan Qaboos Hospital through the distribution of gifts.
- Establishing a strategic collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation through the execution of four joint programs.
- Actively partnering with Salalah Healthy City to deliver community-focused initiatives that promote well-being and public engagement.
- Delivering a range of motivational and awareness initiatives that target school students, fostering inspiration and future readiness among youth.
- A summer empowerment program.
- An annual Summer Academy for School Students.
- An annual Academic Support Program for Grade 12 Students.
- Motivational and Orientation Programs for School Students.
- Community Awareness and Professional Development Initiatives.

These achievements reflect CSCEC's unwavering commitment to excellence, innovation, and sustainable community impact at both local and international levels.





As we continue to grow, CSCEC remains dedicated to delivering high-impact programs, fostering strategic partnerships, and creating meaningful opportunities for community engagement. Our goal is to serve as a catalyst for sustainable development by connecting knowledge with real-world application, and by contributing to the social and economic progress of our community and beyond.”

Omar Ali Al Shahri

Director, Community Service and
Continuing Education Center

Dhofar University

Dhofar University's English Language & Literature Program Ranked Among QS Top 251-300

Driven by an ambitious vision and steadfast commitment to excellence, the Department of English Language and Literature at Dhofar University (DU) proudly celebrates a significant milestone: its placement within the 251-300 band in the QS World University Rankings by Subject for the year 2025/2026.

This achievement is more than a numerical distinction—it reflects the program's growing impact as a national leader and an increasingly recognized contributor to global scholarship. It underscores the strength and quality of academic offerings and further enhances the reputation of the College of Arts and Applied Sciences and DU as a whole.

The QS World University Rankings by Subject evaluate programs worldwide based on four key indicators: academic reputation, informed by global surveys of scholars; employer reputation, reflecting graduates' readiness and employability; research impact, measured through citations per paper; and the H-index, which assesses both the productivity and influence of faculty research.

This success stands as a testament to the continued support of the University Presidency and College Deanship, the dedication and expertise of our faculty, and the ambition and achievement of our students. Looking ahead, DU remains committed to advancing academic excellence, strengthening its international presence, and striving for even greater accomplishments.



CPS students Shine at “Say It Right” Competition

The Centre for Preparatory Studies (CPS) proudly celebrates the outstanding achievement of its student team at the “Say It Right” Competition held at the University of Technology and Applied Sciences - Salalah on 14 April 2026, at Dhofar Hall. This academic event provided students with a valuable platform to demonstrate their English language skills, confidence, teamwork, and quick thinking in a competitive environment.

The CPS team was represented by six talented students: Abdullah Khalifa Salim Al Kindi, Khalfan Mohammed Khalfan Salim Al Kaabi, Aseel Hilal Khalfan Amur Al Badowi, Khadija Ali Abdullah Mohammed Al Marzouqi, Sarah Ahmed Musallam Duhail Jadad, and Shatha Ahmed Mohammed Al Washahi. Their active participation, commitment, and enthusiasm reflected the true spirit of CPS and highlighted the importance of student engagement beyond the classroom.

The success of the team was made possible through the valuable contribution of the CPS Medicine faculty team: Dr. Mohammed Abdulgalil Abugohar, Dr. Stephen Jayamani Timothy, Ms. Ebaa Refaie, and Ms. Merin John. Their sincere efforts in preparing training materials, guiding the students, conducting practice sessions, and motivating the participants played a significant role in helping the team achieve this proud accomplishment.

This achievement is a proud moment for CPS and a reminder that with proper guidance, student commitment, and faculty cooperation, remarkable success is possible even within a short period of preparation. Congratulations to all the participants and the faculty members who contributed to this memorable success.



CPS Participation in Dhofar ELT Forum

The Centre for Preparatory Studies (CPS) at Dhofar University participated in the English Language Teachers Forum organized by the Department of English Language Supervision at the Directorate General of Education in Dhofar on 31 March 2026, under the theme “Empower, Enrich, and Elevate.”

As part of its contribution, Dr. Mohammed Abugohar and Ms. Balqees Al Ibrahim, English Language Instructors from CPS, delivered engaging sessions that reflected current trends and effective practices in English language teaching.

The aim was to support and engage with English language educators across the governorate, contributing to ongoing professional development and the exchange of best practices.

The forum brought together 96 English language teachers from both public and private schools and featured a series of insightful workshops and presentations delivered by distinguished academics and practitioners.

The sessions addressed key areas such as positive behavior management, teaching reading and writing through phonics, developing speaking skills through interactive activities, and integrating artificial intelligence in teaching. Additionally, the forum highlighted innovative approaches such as gamification to enhance learning through games and project-based activities.

CPS is proud to have been part of this impactful initiative, which reflects a commitment to advancing English language education and fostering collaboration between higher education and the wider educational community in Dhofar.



Commemorating World IoT Day

Centre for Preparatory Studies (CPS) students, Sadir Abdoulmunem Talha and Miaad Salim Bakhit Al Mahri from the CPS IT Unit, participated in an Online Student Research Symposium on “IoT Innovations for a Sustainable Environment” held on April 9, 2026, in commemoration of World IoT Day.

The symposium provided a dynamic platform that brought together academicians, experts, and young researchers to explore recent advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT). It aimed to foster innovation, encourage knowledge exchange, and promote collaboration toward achieving sustainable development.

Sadir and Miaad presented their research on the theme IoT-Based Deep Learning Framework with great enthusiasm and confidence. They contributed meaningfully to discussions and represented the institution positively throughout the event. The students also expressed their happiness and described the symposium as an enriching experience, enhancing both their knowledge and presentation skills.



CPS Students' Research Project Receives High Praise During Sustainability Week

The Centre for Preparatory Studies (CPS) is proud to highlight the remarkable achievement of two Foundation for Medicine students, Rawan Nasser Ali Said Al Abri and Reema Abdullah Saif Al Kharusi, whose innovative research project, “Development of a Sustainable Herbal Bandage Using Coconut Fibre, Banana Leaves, and Luban (Frankincense)”, was shortlisted and displayed at Dhofar University during the College of Commerce and Business Administration’s Sustainability Week.

The project, titled “Elixir Bandage,” focused on developing an eco-friendly wound dressing using natural and locally available resources. The students explored the use of coconut fibre for absorption and cushioning, banana leaves as a biodegradable protective layer, and Luban/frankincense for its natural antibacterial and anti-inflammatory properties. The proposal aimed to address the environmental concerns caused by non-biodegradable plastic bandages while also transforming agricultural and natural resources into valuable medical products.

The project received high recommendations from the judges and medicine research practitioners, who appreciated the students’ creative thinking, research effort, and sustainability-focused approach. Their work reflected not only scientific curiosity but also a strong awareness of environmental responsibility and practical healthcare needs.

The success of this project was made possible through the dedication and guidance of the CPS Medicine team, especially Ms. Merin John, along with the continued encouragement and support of Dr. Moosa Ahmed Bait Ali Suliman, Dr. Stephen Jayamani Timothy, Ms. Amal Al Shanfari, Dr. Prajoona Valsalan, Dr. Atiya Fatima, Dr. Mohammed Shariq Khan, and Ms. Faye Mohsin Said Al Masahli. Their collective support helped the students move confidently from proposal development to laboratory preparation and public display.





Dhofar University Launches “This Is Your Eidiya” Initiative to Bring Joy to Sick Children

As part of its commitment to its societal and humanitarian role, Dhofar University, represented by the Center for Community Service and Continuing Education and the Department of Public Relations and External Media at Dhofar University, launched a humanitarian community initiative entitled “This is Your Eid” in cooperation with Sultan Qaboos Hospital in Salalah on March 17, 2026, with the aim of bringing joy and pleasure to the hearts of sick children hospitalized in the hospital’s pediatric ward in conjunction with the occasion of Eid Al-Fitr.

The initiative includes organizing a humanitarian visit to the children’s pavilion, during which symbolic gifts are presented to sick children in a gesture that reflects the values of compassion and solidarity that characterize the Omani society, and contributes to alleviating the psychological impact that may accompany children during the period of treatment and hospitalization, and giving them moments of joy and attention in the atmosphere of Eid . In addition to supporting the efforts exerted by health institutions in caring for patients and providing them with the best services, the initiative also seeks to consolidate the spirit of giving among students and community members, and to strengthen the community partnership between educational institutions and the health sector, in a way that contributes to spreading human values and deepening the spirit of solidarity and synergy among various segments of society.

Applied Training Workshop in the Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools

On January 12, 2026, the Center for Community Service and Continuing Education organized an applied training workshop entitled “Using Artificial Intelligence Tools,” as part of its efforts to enhance digital skills and spread awareness of modern technologies.

The workshop was presented by Dr. Samir Al-Hammami, Head of the Management Information Department and Associate Professor at the College of Commerce and Administrative Sciences, during which he addressed the concept of artificial intelligence and its most prominent tools, with a focus on practical applications that can be employed in various fields of work.

The workshop witnessed a remarkable interaction from the participants, who were briefed on applied models and modern methods that contribute to improving performance and raising work efficiency, in addition to fruitful discussions on the future of artificial intelligence and its role in supporting organizational development.

This workshop comes as part of a series of training programs implemented by the center with the aim of developing the capabilities of the local community and keeping pace with digital transformation.



Expanding International Training Initiatives

Dhofar University, represented by the Center for Community Service and Continuing Education, conducted an international training program titled “Digital Transformation in Government Financial Management” in the Arab Republic of Egypt, during the period from December 28, 2025, to January 1, 2026.

The program targeted a group of participants with a total of 25 training hours, focusing on enhancing concepts and applications of digital transformation in the public sector, particularly in financial management, to improve institutional performance and increase the efficiency of government services.

This program comes as part of the university’s strategy to expand its international training initiatives, strengthen its role in capacity building, and support digital transformation and governance in government institutions.



Promoting Arabic Globally

Dhofar University’s CSCEC welcomed a group of students from the Russian Federation as part of an Arabic language program for non-native speakers, held during the period from January 17 to February 3, 2026, reflecting the university’s commitment to cultural exchange and academic openness.

The program aims to equip students with Arabic language skills while introducing them to Omani and Arab culture through a comprehensive learning environment that combines theoretical instruction with practical application.

It also includes cultural activities and field visits designed to deepen students’ understanding of the local community, alongside providing a supportive academic environment that encourages engagement and integration.

The university emphasized its commitment to delivering high-quality programs that promote the Arabic language globally, highlighting the importance of such initiatives in strengthening cross-cultural communication.



Urban October 2025: Strengthening Community Partnership

The College of Engineering at Dhofar University hosted “Urban October 2025” on 15 October 2025, organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, represented by the General Directorate of Housing and Urban Planning in Dhofar Governorate.

Held under the theme “Her Imprint Builds: Where Stories Are Constructed and Women Engineers Leave Their Mark on the Ground,” the event reflected the university’s commitment to community partnerships, youth empowerment, and sustainable development in line with Oman Vision 2040.

The event was held under the patronage of Dr. Issam Bahdoor, Dean of the College of Engineering, and supervised by Dr. Lamia Mostafa from the Department of Architecture. It brought together professionals, engineers, and students from across the governorate in an interactive academic and professional setting.

The program included presentations on sustainable cities in Oman by Ms. Wafa Maqbeel and innovation in urban planning by Dr. Lamia Mostafa. It also featured the “Al Saraya District” project by Eng. Al-Shomoukh Al-Mashli, an alumna of the Department of Architecture, alongside an architectural planning competition.

The event concluded with a panel discussion titled “Her Imprint... A Story of Inspiration,” highlighting the experiences of Omani women engineers and reaffirming Dhofar University’s role in promoting sustainable urban awareness.



A Step Toward Innovation and Industry Integration: IEEE Oman

The College of Engineering at Dhofar University participated in the IEEE Oman Student and Young Professionals Conference, hosted by the College of Business and Modern Sciences in Muscat on October 7-8, 2025. The forum convened students, academics, and young professionals from across the Sultanate to exchange knowledge and present cutting-edge projects in engineering and technology, strengthening collaboration between universities and industry.

Dhofar University was represented by Mohammed Gamal from the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering and Assistant Dean Dr. El Manaa Barhoumi. Gamal presented his funded research project, “Smart Attendance System Using RFID and IoT,” which applies radio-frequency identification and Internet of Things technologies to automate attendance with real-time accuracy. The system integrates with educational databases and analytical dashboards, drawing strong interest from participants and industry representatives for its practicality, scalability, and operational efficiency.

This participation highlights the College’s commitment to empowering students through application-oriented research and reinforces Dhofar University’s presence in national and international academic forums, affirming its role in Oman’s growing digital innovation ecosystem. This underscores its contribution to sustainable, technology-driven public services across.

HONORING A LEGAL RESEARCHER

As part of efforts to strengthen institutional partnerships between the academic and professional sectors, and to reinforce the integration of theoretical knowledge with practical application, Professor Dr. Ahmed Al-Zain, Dean of the College of Law at Dhofar University, honored Ms. Balqis bint Mohammed Bait Ali Suleiman, a legal researcher at the Directorate General of Labour in Dhofar Governorate. This recognition was in appreciation of her outstanding efforts in supervising the training of a group of the college's students during their practical training period.

This recognition reflects acknowledgment of the active role played by the legal researcher in preparing students and refining their practical skills by enabling them to directly observe the legal procedures followed within the Directorate, particularly those related to labor issues and employment relations. This training contributed to enhancing students' practical understanding of labor law topics and provided them with valuable experience in handling labor disputes and the mechanisms for resolving them within established legal frameworks.

In this context, the Dean emphasized that practical training is a fundamental pillar in preparing qualified legal professionals, praising the constructive cooperation with government entities, particularly the Directorate General of Labour, which opens its doors to students and provides them with a realistic training environment that enhances their readiness for the job market. He also noted that such partnerships contribute to achieving high-quality educational outcomes aligned with the requirements of national development and the legal labor market.

For her part, the honoree expressed her gratitude and appreciation for this kind gesture, affirming her commitment to supporting law students and enabling them to connect theoretical knowledge with practical application, thereby contributing to the preparation of a competent and well-informed generation of legal professionals. This recognition reflects institutional appreciation for distinguished professional efforts and promotes a culture of sustainable cooperation between educational institutions and relevant professional entities.



Research Spotlight

Cancer Epidemiology in Oman

The College of Medicine at Dhofar University is proud to announce that a student-led research group has participated in the 12th Dhofar University research day and has been honored with the Best Poster Award for their study titled: Cancer Epidemiology in the Sultanate of Oman, A Comprehensive Review of Breast, Thyroid, Pancreatic, Prostate, and Colorectal Cancers.

Conducted under academic supervision, the work was distinguished for its scientific rigor, clinical relevance, and quality of presentation. The study addresses cancer types of significant epidemiological importance in Oman, contributing to the national evidence base for oncology and public health planning. Its recognition in a competitive academic setting reflects the students' commitment to scholarship that extends beyond the curriculum and engages with real healthcare challenges.

This achievement reinforces the College's commitment to integrating research into undergraduate medical education and fostering graduates who contribute meaningfully to evidence-based healthcare. The College extends its congratulations to the students and supervising faculty on this well-deserved recognition.



A New Era in Medical Teaching Successful Implementation of Team-Based Learning

The College of Medicine achieved a landmark educational milestone with the successful conduct of its first Team-Based Learning (TBL) session, signaling a deliberate and progressive transition from traditional didactic instruction toward a fully student-centered pedagogical model.

In preparation for implementation, college academic staff participated in a faculty development lecture delivered by an invited educator from the American University of Beirut (AUB), a regionally distinguished institution with longstanding expertise in health professions education. The session provided faculty with both the theoretical foundations and practical facilitation framework required for effective TBL delivery.

The integration of AUB expertise into our faculty preparation process reflects our commitment to aligning with internationally recognized best practices in medical education.

The TBL session itself incorporated structured Readiness Assurance Testing (RAT) comprising both individual and team components, alongside collaborative clinical problem-solving activities. These elements collectively fostered essential competencies in teamwork, higher order critical thinking, and the contextual application of foundational medical knowledge within simulated clinical environments.

Strengthening Academic Partnerships and Institutional Excellence

The College of Medicine proudly hosted a distinguished delegation comprising members of the Board of Trustees alongside representatives from the Association of Arab Universities, in a visit that underscored the institution's growing regional engagement and academic stature. The visit provided an opportunity to showcase recent advancements in digital learning, with particular emphasis on innovative practices within the anatomy department, including the integration of technology-enhanced teaching tools. Constructive discussions focused on fostering collaborative partnerships, promoting academic quality, and aligning with regional and international standards. This engagement reaffirmed the College's commitment to excellence, innovation, and sustained academic cooperation across the Arab higher education landscape.

EVENTS

2026 Student Cultural Week



Ramadan Football Championship



21st Graduation Ceremony

