



IN A CLASS OF THEIR OWN

Forbes Middle East celebrates the region's best higher education institutes.

In April, Forbes Middle East brought together representatives from the region's largest and most successful universities, academies and business schools for an exclusive celebration and networking event exploring the higher education sector.

The Higher Education Awards 2019 applauded the courses, campuses, teachers and student support initiatives that are making this region a hub for global education and shaping the skills and minds of a new tech-savvy and highly-informed generation of young entrepreneurs.

Chief guest, Mohammad Abdullah, chairman of the board for Dubai Knowledge Park

and managing director for Dubai International Academic City, addressed the crowd.

"The educational landscape is shifting both regionally and internationally," said Abdullah. "As many of our economies move away from oil, education continues to be a key driver for economic growth, sustainability and innovation. No matter what economic goals have been set, the answer and solution will always inevitably come back to education."

He went on to address the challenges currently being faced by universities and other higher education institutes, saying "It has become increasingly important for us as a region to work together to upscale tertiary education. Instead



Mohammad Abdullah, Chairman of the Board for Dubai Knowledge Park and Managing Director for Dubai International Academic City



Mohammad Abdullah, Chairman of the Board for Dubai Knowledge Park and Managing Director for Dubai International Academic City is presenting Higher Education Awards to Mr. Atul Chauhan, President and Chancellor, **Amity University** for Best Campus Award



Best Business School - **Skyline University College**

of universities competing against one another, stakeholders within the educational sector should share the common goal of promoting the region into an internationally recognized education hub.”

The evening also hosted a lively panel discussion debating the future of education, where it was widely agreed that the sector has and is changing—and for good reason. Moderated by Mansoor Ahmed, director of development solutions at Colliers International, the panel debates how systems and delivery in particular need to evolve to produce adults with the right skills for the future workplace.

Professor Hossam Hamdy, chancellor of the Gulf Medical University, Kamal Puri, chairman of Skyline University, Randa Bessiso, director for the Middle East at the University

of Manchester, and Dr Atul Chauhan, chancellor of Amity University, agreed that technology has changed the way young people learn. Whereas in the past knowledge was distributed and memorized through practice and repetition, today students no longer need to be given information—they need to be taught how to judge and use it.

A special award was also handed to Al Jeri Group Holding, for the significant influence the group is having on the schooling system in Kuwait.

The event was held at the Taj Hotel, Dubai on Wednesday April 24, and was delivered in partnership with the Thumbay Group, Humansoft, Middlesex University Dubai, Colliers International, the Centena Group and Reporters Media Production.



Panel discussion on The Future Of Education (L-R) Moderator: Mansoor Ahmed, Director of Development Solutions at Colliers International. **Panelists:** Professor Hossam Hamdy, Chancellor of the Gulf Medical University, Kamal Puri, Founder President of Skyline University, Randa Bessiso, Director for the Middle East at the University of Manchester and Dr. Atul Chauhan, Chancellor of Amity University



Mohammad Abdullah, presenting Higher Education Awards Best Medical Education University to Professor Hossam Hamdy, Chancellor of the **Gulf Medical University**



Best MBA Program - **The University of Manchester Middle East Centre**





Outstanding Support for Students - **Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Dubai Campus**



Best Media Center - **Middlesex University Dubai**



Best University - **Heriot-Watt University**



Best Investment Company in the Educational Field in Kuwait - **Al Jeri Holding Group**



Mansoor Ahmed, Director of Development Solutions at Colliers International



Best Hospitality & Tourism Program - **Vatel Hotel and Tourism Business School**





Best Engineering Program - American University of the Middle East



Best Internship Placement - IMT Business School



Innovation in Teaching and Learning - Abu Dhabi School of Management





Technological Innovation of the Year - **University of Bradford**



Outstanding Learning Philosophy - **Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University**



Best Use of Big Data - **Luminus Technical University College**



Outstanding Support to Government Sponsored Students - **Navitas**

