



Professor Ghassan Aouad

Chancellor of Abu Dhabi University, Past President ...
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A Heartfelt Tribute to the QS Team

The attached pictures hold a special place in my heart. As Chair of the QS Global Advisory Committee for the Middle East, I engage in this role out of genuine passion and belief in the remarkable work done by **QS Quacquarelli Symonds**. I have been honored to join the QS team for group pictures on every occasion.

For the QS Africa team, the following colleagues were part of this incredible group: **Jason Newman, Ashwin Fernandes, Veronica Omeni, Leigh Kamolins**, Ludovic Highman, **Nilly C Castaño, Rami Awad, Sakshi Sarawgi, Mandanna B P, Irene Ng**, and Charlie Lo.

I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to be part of such an amazing team, who work tirelessly to excel in everything they do. I would also like to highlight two more QS colleagues: **Monica Hornung Cattan**, who has provided unwavering support since I became Chair of the GAC Middle East five years ago, and **Anton John Crace**, who has been instrumental in organizing the five Middle East summits we've held in the UAE (three times) and Kuwait (twice). I am also grateful to Prof. **Nigel Healey**, Chair of the QS Global Advisory Committee, who trusted me to do a good job for the Middle East. Other colleagues who provided great help include: **Prof. Habib Fardoun, Jacques de Champchesnel, Dr. Shadi Hijazi, Tracey Khoo, Shaun Pereira, Leeson Karl Mak**, and **Serena Ricci**.

My journey with QS began 13 years ago when I first met Dr. Ashwin while serving as President of the **University of Wollongong in Dubai**. The exceptional support I have received from Dr. **Ashwin Fernandes** has been invaluable. He is a true leader: articulate, an excellent communicator, and most importantly, he respects our culture in the Middle East and understands our norms.

The QS Global Advisory Committee for the Middle East includes the following:

- Dr. **Haifa Al Kaylani OBE**: President and Founder of the Arab International Women's Forum (AIWF)
- **Dr. Bibi M. Alajmi**: Kuwait University
- Dr. **Karim Seghir**: Chancellor of Ajman University
- **Prof. ANAS RATIB ALSOUD**: Executive Director of the Association of Arab Universities (AARU)
- **Dr Mohammed S. Alqahtani**: Vice Dean for Research and Innovation, King Khalid University

In conclusion, I want to emphasize the importance of hard work and dedication that each member of this team exhibits daily. Their commitment inspires me, and I am deeply grateful to be part of this endeavor. Together, we strive for excellence, and I look forward to continuing this journey with such passionate individuals.

#QS #Leadership #Teamwork #MiddleEast #Education #Gratitude #Diversity #CulturalRespect #QSAdvisoryCommittee

Hamad Odhabi Professor Barry O'Mahony Prof.sherine Farouk Steve DCunha Merlyn Thomas K. Bassam Mura, MBA, MBA Noor Al Masri Khulud Abdallah Abu Dhabi University

