



**Ghassan Aouad**

Chancellor of Abu Dhabi University, Past President ...  
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## Presentations to Liwa Schools

Yesterday, I had the pleasure of delivering two presentations on the art and science of leadership and how to address the needs of future learners to the principals and vice principals of the four Liwa Schools across Al Ain and Abu Dhabi. I serve on the Board of Trustees of Liwa Schools, chaired by our visionary Chairman, Dr. Ali Bin Harmal Aldhaheri, Ph.D.

I received the following kind message from [Margaret Haynes](#), Director of Schools at [Liwa Education](#):

"Liwa Education was honored to welcome Professor Ghassan Aouad, Chancellor of [Abu Dhabi University](#), to Liwa International School – Al Qattara for inspiring and thought-provoking leadership sessions with Liwa Education's senior school leaders. With warmth, wit, and deep insight, Professor Ghassan explored the art and science of leadership and how to address the needs of future learners, urging us to plan boldly for the future while staying grounded in our core values. He challenged us to think critically about the future of education in a rapidly evolving world. From the importance of emotional and foresight intelligence to the role of data in driving urgent and meaningful change, his message was clear: effective leaders must be courageous, principled, and deeply committed to innovation. His words sparked rich dialogue among our leadership team and reinforced the importance of a strategic vision grounded in values; a timely reminder that courageous leadership begins with asking, 'What if?'

The sessions also highlighted exciting opportunities for future collaboration between Liwa Education Schools and Abu Dhabi University—particularly in research and curriculum development—and encouraged us to consider what our schools might look like ten years from now. We were reminded that while AI and new technologies will play a key role, it is human leadership, grounded in empathy and conviction, that will shape the learning journeys of tomorrow's students. We left the session inspired, aligned, and ready to lead with purpose while scenario planning for the future. A sincere thank you to Professor Ghassan for his generosity, wisdom, and belief in the power of education to transform lives."

The following colleagues were in attendance:

- [John Harris](#) - Principal, Liwa International School Falaj Hazza
- [Cathy Hayes](#) - Principal, Liwa International School Al Qattara
- [Andrew Smyllie](#) - Principal, Liwa International School Al Mushrif
- [Ruth Mwenda](#) - AVP, Liwa International School for Girls
- [Amal Abou Ghaida](#) - AVP, Liwa International School Falaj Hazza
- [Abla Nabulsi](#) - VP, Liwa International School Al Qattara
- [Martin Rowland](#) - AVP, Liwa International School Al Mushrif
- [Margaret Haynes](#) - Director of Schools, Liwa Education

Many thanks to Margaret for organizing this event with exceptional speed, with the assistance of [Khulud Abdallah](#). The future is bright with Liwa Schools.

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