Ghassan Aouad

Chancellor of Abu Dhabi University, Past President …

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Employer Excellence Forum: Appreciation of our Industry Partners

Yesterday, our colleagues at the Employability and Alumni Relations Office of the Deanship of Students Affairs organized the Employer Excellence Forum to recognize and appreciate our 70+ employers and industry partners who were in attendance. The program included a panel discussion about "Bridging Academia and Industry: Shaping Future-Ready Talent." The panel included:

- Prof. Ghassan Aouad (ADU)
- Mahdi Rimawi (LinkedIn)
- Dr. Tahani Al Qadiri (Burjeel Holdings)
- Abdullah Alwadi (Intern at PWC)

Moderated by Dr. Shakib Farhat (ADU), we covered the following two questions:

Question 1:
Universities play a crucial role in preparing students for the workforce. Given the rapid changes in job markets, how do universities anticipate the shift in skills needed to meet market demands?
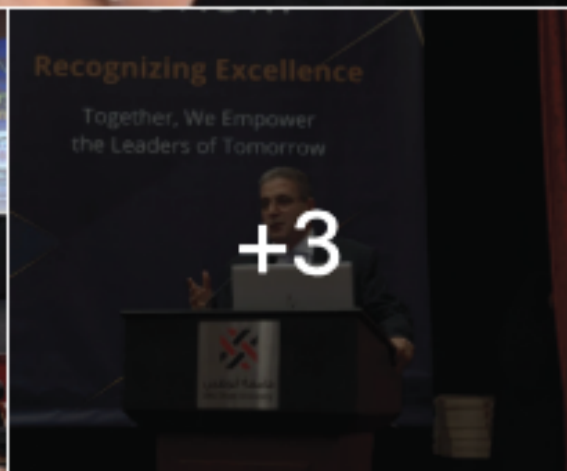
Question 2:
University-industry partnerships are becoming more critical than ever. From your perspective, why are these partnerships essential for educating future-ready talents, and what are the key benefits for students, universities, and industries?

The answer is clear: there shouldn't be any gaps between academia and industry as we complement each other, and success in the future demands strong academia-industry collaboration. Engaging with industry not only enhances the educational experience but also equips students with practical skills and insights that are vital for their career readiness. By fostering these connections, we ensure that our graduates are not only knowledgeable but also relevant and adaptive to the ever-evolving job market.

Many thanks to the Dean of Students Affairs, Dr. Shakib, and Dr. Nada Heggy, M.Ed., Ph.D, Senior Manager for Employability and Alumni Relations, for their leadership and great efforts. I am also grateful to all colleagues who helped with this event.

#EmployerExcellence #AcademiaIndustry #FutureReadyTalent #Collaboration #CareerDevelopment #Education

Hamad Odhabi Professor Barry O'Mahony Bassam Mura, MBA Noor Al Masri Khulud Abdallah Abu Dhabi University