



**Professor Ghassan Aouad**

Chancellor of Abu Dhabi University, Past President ...  
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## The 12th Undergraduate Research and Innovation Competition (URIC): A Great Success

The University was buzzing yesterday with around 1,000 students, dignitaries, faculty, staff, judges, guests, sponsors, speakers, and entrepreneurs as we celebrated under the patronage of H.E. Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence, in collaboration with RTX, the region's premier undergraduate research and innovation event, URIC 2025.

In my opening speech, I emphasized the importance of supporting students, especially undergraduates. I told the students that when I was their age, I wouldn't have dared to go on stage and present to a large audience. The joy on their faces was amazing. This generation is completely different, and we need to support them. The keynote address by Mr. **Fahad Al Mheiri**, Managing Director of **RTX** UAE, was inspirational as he provided students with useful tips on how to succeed in their studies and the marketplace. He also spoke about cutting-edge projects by RTX that can shape our future. I am grateful for his leadership and great support of this event and the participating students. The panel discussion on "Recent Trends in Entrepreneurship: The Rise of the Gaming Industry as a Frontier Sector," moderated by Prof. **Montasir Qasymeh** and featuring representatives from **Abu Dhabi Gaming**, Geekout Japan, and **Inovartic Investment** UAE, was just amazing.

URIC 2025 in Numbers:

- 650+ research submissions
- 105 participating universities
- 14 countries represented
- 32 sessions across 27 academic disciplines
- Over 150 student-led presentations and project evaluations
- Startup & Gaming Showcase
- VIP Tours, Interactive Sessions, and an Awards Ceremony

From opening speeches and keynotes to engaging student showcases, expert panels, and MOU signing ceremonies, URIC 2025 was a dynamic and impactful experience.

Many thanks to the leadership of Prof. **Montasir Qasymeh** and his team especially **Maha Khan**, to VC Dr **Hamad Odhabi** Provost **Professor Barry O'Mahony**, and to all the students, judges, sponsors especially RTX, speakers, and the MC of the conference, **Marah Alhalabi** Alhalabi. Many thanks are also due to Mr **Salem Aldhaheeri** and Dr **Dr. Sarah Al Sakka Al Hashimi - CFRE** for securing sponsorships for this event.

Congratulations 🎉 to all the participating students, everyone was a winner.

ADU is part of the journey that empowers the next generation of innovators. We look forward to welcoming students who want to join ADU and be part of this exciting journey.

Our volunteering students who were helping with this event were our best ambassadors.

**#URIC2025 #Innovation #Research #Education  
#Entrepreneurship #ADU #RTX #YouthEmpowerment  
#FutureLeaders #GamingIndustry #AcademicSuccess**

**Abu Dhabi University Bassam Mura, MBA Noor Al Masri Khulud Abdallah**



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