



The ADU Brief
25,782 subscribers



The ADU Brief | March 2026: Rankings, Partnerships & Innovation



Abu Dhabi University
جامعة أبوظبي
270,133 followers

March 27, 2026

Higher education continues to evolve at a rapid pace, shaped by innovation, global collaboration, and new approaches to teaching and research. At Abu Dhabi University, we remain focused on advancing academic excellence while strengthening our contribution to the UAE's knowledge economy.

Welcome to the first edition of the 'The ADU Brief'. Each month, we will highlight key milestones across the university, from global recognitions and strategic partnerships to faculty achievements, research developments, and alumni success stories.

In this inaugural edition, we share important academic recognitions, new international collaborations, and inspiring achievements from across the ADU community.

Explore more on our website below.



One of the Best Universities in the UAE | Abu Dhabi University

A private, multi-campus university committed to providing an engaging learning environment, quality education, and qualifications that are...

[Main Website](#)

Global Rankings and Accreditations Highlights

THE's World's Most International Universities 2026



ADU has maintained its position both globally and regionally compared to last year, reflecting the consistency of its academic environment and international outlook.

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026



ADU continues to be recognized in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026, reflecting steady performance across key academic areas including social sciences, business, and engineering.

Explore ADU's rankings in more detail [here](#).

ADU Becomes Region's First to Receive APM Academic Accreditation for Master of Project Management



Abu Dhabi University (ADU) has become the first university in the UAE and the Middle East to receive Academic Accreditation from the Association for Project Management (APM) for its Master of Project Management (MPM) program. The milestone positions ADU at the forefront of project management education in the region and provides students with a globally recognized qualification aligned with international professional standards.

[Learn More](#)

Faculty Achievements & Recognition



The “AI-Enhanced Teaching and Learning Certificate,” led by Dr. Hamad Odhabi, Vice Chancellor for AI & Operational Excellence at ADU, has been included in the Digital Education Council’s Best Practices Collection. The initiative demonstrates how artificial intelligence can be integrated into teaching practices to enhance learning outcomes and support innovative approaches to education.

This recognition highlights ADU's exceptional ability to develop forward-thinking, high-impact initiatives that meaningfully contribute to excellence in teaching and learning in higher education.

Congratulations

to Our **Principal Fellows (PFHEA)** Achievers!



Dr. Hamad Odhabi
Vice Chancellor for AI and Operational Excellence



Dr. Mohammad Fteiha
Director of Al Ain Campus, and Director of the Centre for Faculty Development and Learning Innovation



Dr. Sreethi Nair
Dean, College of Arts, Education and Social Sciences



Dr. Mohammed Parakandi
Director of Academic Quality and Accreditation



Dr. Muhammad Kazi
Associate Professor of Business Analytics and Operations Management



Dr. Rahaf Ajaj
Associate Professor of Environmental Health and Safety, COE

ADU has reached a significant milestone with six faculty members attaining the Principal Fellowship of Advance HE, the highest level of professional recognition awarded by the international body.

This milestone reflects ADU's ongoing commitment to teaching excellence, with over 120 faculty members now recognized as Fellows, Senior Fellows, and Principal Fellows of Advance HE.

Sustainability & Environmental Impact



ADU has joined the growing Future17 global network, a program delivered by QS Quacquarelli Symonds in partnership with the University of Exeter, bringing together students to address sustainability challenges.

Through this initiative, ADU students will collaborate with peers from universities worldwide on real-world projects aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in collaboration with industry and nonprofit partners. The program provides a platform for interdisciplinary learning, global collaboration, and the development of practical solutions to complex challenges.

[Learn More](#)

On Campus Partnerships

Collaboration With Fertilclinic Fertilization Centre



ADU welcomed Fertilclinic Fertilization Centre, a leading provider of fertility and reproductive health services in the UAE.

The meeting explored opportunities for collaboration in education, research, and innovation, particularly within the field of reproductive sciences. These discussions support ADU's continued focus on academic excellence and contribute to the UAE's broader efforts to advance knowledge and scientific development.

Showcasing International Excellence

Abu Dhabi University is proud to join the global network of the Texas International Education Consortium (TIEC)



ADU has joined the Texas International Education Consortium (TIEC), expanding its international collaboration and knowledge exchange efforts.

This partnership connects ADU with a network of leading institutions across 20 countries, enabling collaboration in research, postgraduate supervision, student mobility, and innovation-focused initiatives. It also opens access to funding opportunities and international engagement platforms.

This milestone supports ADU's continued focus on research, innovation, and global engagement, strengthening its role in addressing regional and global priorities.

ADU Alumni

Members of the ADU alumni community continue to take on leadership roles across major organizations. Their achievements reflect the impact of ADU graduates across strategic sectors in the UAE and beyond.

Dr. Nader Bin Taher, a DBA alumnus, appointed Interim CEO of TAQA Water Solutions



Abdulla Bin Shamlan, an MBA alumnus, appointed Vice President, Upstream Planning & Performance at ADNOC Group



Research Spotlight

Faculty research remains a central pillar of innovation at ADU, contributing to new knowledge and solutions that address real-world challenges.

Dr. Fahid Riaz, Assistant Professor and Program Coordinator of Mechanical Engineering



Dr. Fahid Riaz, Assistant Professor and Program Coordinator of Mechanical Engineering, is advancing research in sustainable energy systems and intelligent engineering solutions. His work spans waste-heat recovery, thermally driven cooling, and the integration of AI into energy and mechanical systems.

A PhD graduate of the National University of Singapore, Dr. Riaz ranks eighth among ADU's most productive researchers in the past five years, with publications in the top 3% of international journals. He holds an H-index of 22 and an i10-index of 46. His work is supported by global collaborations across Hong Kong, the UK, Singapore, and Pakistan, contributing to innovative, real-world energy solutions.

[Learn More About Dr. Fahid](#)

Subscribe to **'The ADU Brief'** to receive the latest updates in our upcoming editions.

Explore more stories, research highlights, and global collaborations from ADU by visiting our website and following us on LinkedIn and our social media channels.

