

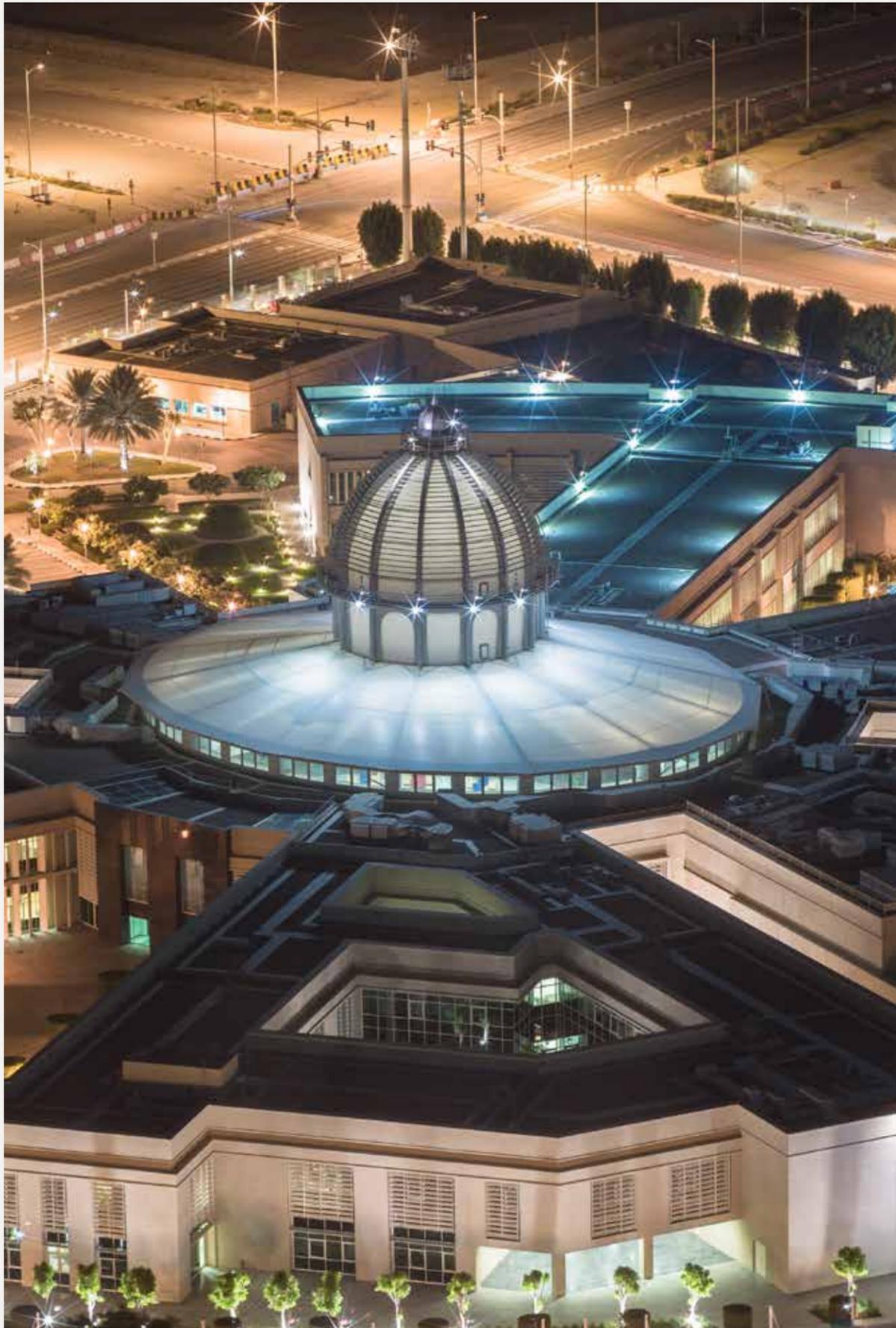
Annual REPORT

2022-23

Go Green



5 | الاستدامة
2 | SUSTAINABILITY
UAE



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Message From **THE CHAIRWOMAN**



HE Reem Ebrahim Al-Hashimy

Chair of the Board of Trustees
Minister of State for International Cooperation
UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi has for 16 years served as a bastion of academic excellence and a bridge between nations and generations. It is the fruit of meaningful international cooperation and a font of shared wisdom and new knowledge, a place in which we equip our precious youth with the greatest gifts it is in our power to bestow: dignity, and opportunity.

A reflection of decades of flourishing relations between the United Arab Emirates and France, SUAD is already a leading light in an outstanding education system. It is a critical contributor to a thriving knowledge economy, and to the happiness and fulfilment of citizens and residents alike.

Drawing on more than seven centuries of achievement, in partnership and through the power of close collaboration, in a learning environment that is diverse, inclusive and infused with a formidable streak of practical optimism, we are leveraging world-class higher education to unlock progress in all its forms.

This blossoming of creativity and innovation is manifested in the continuous expansion and development of our leading-edge programmes and facilities. We are changing as the world around us changes, and as our ambitions grow, so too will this renowned institution.

Whether in established or fast-emerging disciplines and industries, or in the balance of our relationship with the natural world, or in countless other avenues, the scientific research we undertake at SUAD will change the future of life on Earth – for the better, and for the benefit of all.

I am proud of what we have achieved, honoured by the support of our partners here and in France, and delighted at the prospect of many more years of growth and development: as a centre of excellence and as a natural home for curious minds; not because we hold all the answers, but because we inspire in them the questions that really matter.

Reem Al-Hashimy

Message From **THE PRESIDENT**



Prof Nathalie Drach-Temam

Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees
President of Sorbonne University

In the 2022-2023 academic year, we take great pride in the achievements and contributions of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi within the broader context of Sorbonne Université and Université Paris Cité. Our collaboration has fostered a dynamic learning environment in the heart of the United Arab Emirates. Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi has been a beacon of progress, responding to the evolving needs of the region. With a growing student body, it has successfully transplanted the rigorous academic programs synonymous with French universities while adapting to the unique demands of the local job market. The resilience demonstrated during the challenges posed by the pandemic, culminating in the full reopening of the campus, underscores the unwavering commitment to providing a rich cultural and educational experience.

The establishment of the Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi Research Institute stands as a testament to our collective dedication to advancing knowledge and contributing to strategic sectors of Research and Development. The Environment Centre dedicated to Sustainability exemplifies our commitment to addressing global challenges through interdisciplinary research. The Go Green 2023 initiative involving students and the broader community, highlights our commitment to sustainability and community engagement. This initiative is a shining example of how our academic institutions can meaningfully contribute to society.

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is now a mature institution that we can be proud of for all of its achievements. Looking forward, as Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi prepares to shape its strategic plan for 2024-2028 and beyond, we, as Sorbonne Université, in collaboration with Université Paris Cité, express our confidence in the continued growth and success of our collaborative venture. With each milestone achieved, we reinforce our commitment to academic excellence, research, and global engagement.

We would like to seize this opportunity to express our desire for the pursuit of knowledge excellence to effectively address the challenges of the future.

Nathalie Drach-Temam

Message From **THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**



Prof Silvia Serrano

Vice-Chancellor
Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi

In 2022-2023, with a growing number of students, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi contributed to build a skilled workforce for the benefit of the country. While bringing to the UAE the excellence of Paris Universities academic programs, it widened its offer of continuous education and tailor-made short programs to cater for the needs of the job market, including for students choosing cutting-edge technologies. The end of Covid 19 restrictions and the full reopening of the campus enabled the University to become again a hub of knowledge and culture for the community.

The University continued to strengthen research with the establishment of the Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi Research Institute, contributing to advancements in strategic sectors of Research and Development including an Environment centre dedicated to Sustainability. A striking example of what Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi can bring to the community is the Go Green 2023 initiative, launched in December 2022, heavily involving students and the wider community through research and activities.

The 22-23 academic year also marked the end of a cycle, with the renewal the CAA's institutional licence and the end of the 19-23 strategic plan. With improved policies and procedures, with new structures for key areas such as R&D or continuous education, with new potential partnerships for academic programs, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi has become a more mature and attractive University, well on track for preparing the next strategic plan for 24-28 and beyond. I am confident that under the guidance of the BoT and under the leadership of the management, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi will fully develop its unique potential to become the best University in the region.

Silvia Serrano



VISION & MISSION

OUR VISION

To create and maintain a university in which, for the benefit of the UAE and the world, the core competencies and rich heritage of Sorbonne University in Paris stimulate intellectual excellence, innovation, critical thinking, harmonisation of cultures, and development of knowledge.

OUR MISSION

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is committed to the renowned excellence and worldwide recognition in Francophone education. Assimilated in the UAE national context, it is an exceptional model of learning and knowledge development that aims to create global leaders and thinkers and promote dialogue of cultures and civilisations.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

In October 2022, **HE Reem Ebrahim Al-Hashimy** became the Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees of the University, and **Professor Nathalie Drach-Temam**, President of Sorbonne University, became the Vice-Chairwoman.

The Board of Trustees is composed of five French members and five Emirati members, representing the public and the private sectors.



HE Reem Ebrahim Al-Hashimy
Chair of the Board of Trustees
Minister of State for International Cooperation
UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation



Prof Nathalie Drach-Temam
Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees
President of Sorbonne University



HE Hend Mana Al Otaiba
Member of the Board of Trustees
UAE Ambassador to France
UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation



HE Ghannam Butti Al Mazrouie
Member of the Board of Trustees
Secretary-General
Emirati Talent Competitiveness Council – NAFIS



HE Anne-Marie Descotes
Member of the Board of Trustees
Secretary General of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs of the French Republic



Prof Béatrice Perez
Member of the Board of Trustees
Dean of the Humanities Faculty at Sorbonne University



HE Saeed Mubarak Al-Hajeri
Member of the Board of Trustees
Assistant Foreign Minister for Economic and Trade affairs
UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation



HE Samar Yousef Al Mansoori
Member of the Board of Trustees
Executive Director, Support Services Sector
Department of Education and Knowledge ADEK



Mr Elias Kassis
Member of the Board of Trustees
President TotalEnergies EP
UAE & TotalEnergies Country Chair in the UAE



Mrs Pascale Sourisse
Member of the Board of Trustees
President & CEO Thales International

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I. A UNIVERSITY IN MOTION

After three years of pandemic imposing at times campus closure or limited capacity, the University's grounds came to life again in the academic year 2022/23.

Students present on campus were given the opportunity to benefit from privileged learning conditions, including an easy access to some of the most skilled faculty, researchers and specialists, and a flourishing student life.

In 2022/2023, in addition to stimulating students' intellectual excellence, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi continued its mission to contribute to Francophonie outreach while answering local context developments.



I. A UNIVERSITY IN MOTION

WHO WE ARE

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is a transnational higher education institution, located in Abu Dhabi. The University was established in 2006 through an agreement between Sorbonne University Paris (formerly Paris Sorbonne University) and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research under the Government of Abu Dhabi.

Today, the University is under the administrative leadership of the Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK) and the academic leadership of Sorbonne University Paris.

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi offers students access to a world-class international higher education across 27 programmes (11 undergraduate and 16 postgraduate) that are developed and offered at Sorbonne University in the fields of arts, humanities and sciences; and Université Paris Cité in the fields of law, management and economics.

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi follows the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) and therefore benefits from the Bologna Accord, uniting 48 European countries which recognize credits earned in one of these countries, without equivalency.

All programme degrees are globally recognized, accredited by the UAE's Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) and by the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research, and Innovation. They are evaluated in France, every four years, by the High Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (HCERES).

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi also offers a unique teaching model based on the French system of "Grandes Ecoles" (Prestigious schools). Students are enrolled in a propaedeutic year before joining the three-year bachelor programme to ensure they have the best chances of success during their studies.

Mother Institutions:



Accrediting Bodies:



Rankings: Top 100 best universities worldwide



Ranked 60 worldwide - 2023
Top 10 in Mathematics Top 20 in Humanities

Ranked 43 worldwide - 2022

Ranked 90 worldwide - 2023

I. A UNIVERSITY IN MOTION

AT THE CROSSROAD OF FRANCOPHONE AND ANGLOPHONE EDUCATION

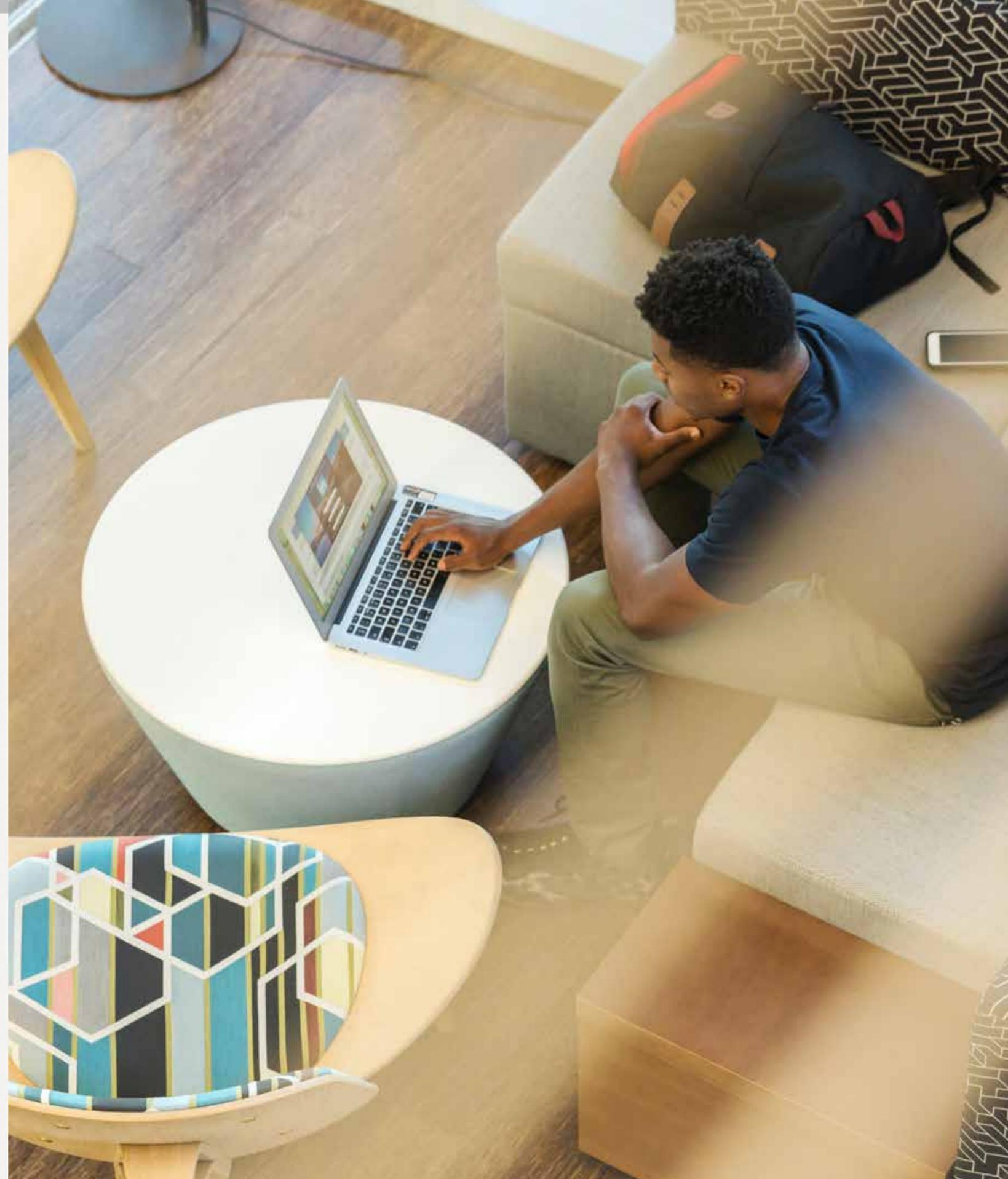
Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is a Francophone university serving the UAE's French speaking community of over 300,000 and the wider 321 million francophone community worldwide. It is also serving a broad community of French language enthusiasts who do not speak the language and learn it in a propaedeutic year.

By training the young generation of UAE nationals and residents to speak a new language and then enrol in a bachelor programme in French, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi participates in the national strategy to promote French as a national language, following the UAE's adherence as an associate member of the International Organisation of Francophonie (OIF).

In addition to its core francophone education offering, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi developed programmes taught in English in fields that are in high market demand locally and regionally. By extending its outreach to non-French speakers in the UAE and globally, the University made the choice to popularize access to an excellent well-rounded education benefiting from a multidisciplinary approach, developing critical thinking, sharing excellent methodologies and knowledge from experts and researchers recognized in their fields of study.

Therefore, the majority of the postgraduate offer at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is taught in English, allowing to align with the local market demand.

This unique combination of francophone and anglophone education under one institution reinforces the transnational identity of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi's and is a testimonial of the university's strategy to both abide by its mission of attaining worldwide recognition in francophone education and to provide an exceptional model of learning and knowledge development, aligned to the national context.



COMMITTED TO THE FUTURE OF THE PLANET

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is committed to developing innovative solutions through education and research to enable and accompany its community through the transformations it is undergoing, including globalisation, mobility, the digital revolution, demographic and health changes and environmental transition.

Launching Go Green Initiative

In November 2022, in tandem with the announcement of the UAE hosting the COP28 at the end of 2023, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi announced the launch of its Go Green Year 2023 and its commitment to take actions for a more sustainable future.

Go Green has been developed through five pillars, aligning with the Year of Sustainability:

1. Environmental Research
2. Carbon footprint reduction on campus
3. Environmental outreach Activities & Events
4. Sustainable friendly initiatives
5. Green Network

In March 2023, the University launched a dedicated website to convey all related information to Go Green in one place. For the updated list of actions and initiatives, please visit:

<https://gogreen.sorbonne.ae/>



Reducing the Carbon Footprint on Campus

Guided by the 3-R vision of reducing, re-using and recycling, the initiative sets out a comprehensive plan to enhance existing measures and undertake new actions towards carbon footprint reduction on campus.

Reduction in utilities consumption

	Water consumption	6%
	Chilled water consumption	12%

	LP gas consumption	80%
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Revitalisation and adaptive reuse of assets

	80 decommissioned IT devices
	Total Cost of Power (0.11 USD/kWh): \$40,665

	137,151 kg of reduced emissions
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Recycling and reduction of pre and post use food waste

	Composting capacity increased from 576 kg to 1000 kg
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	10 plastic and aluminum recycle bins on campus from RECAPP by Veolia
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I. A UNIVERSITY IN MOTION

COMMITTED TO THE FUTURE OF THE PLANET

Developing Green Agreements

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi has also been developing a network of green partners to support its initiative with universities, governmental entities, and the private sector.

In December 2022, the University became a member of the Universities Climate Change Network (UCN), comprising 12 higher education entities, co-chaired by NYUAD and the UAE Climate Change Special Envoy.

In March 2023, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi to collaborate in the fields of Research and Development. This partnership was further strengthened in June 2023 when the University officially became one of the eight founding institutions of the ADERN Network (Abu Dhabi Environmental Research Network), a part of Environment Agency Abu Dhabi, leading the way to developing cross collaborative research in the field of environment.

In March, RECAPP by Veolia became the preferred partner of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, sponsoring the "Green Dictation" public event and became the University's provider of recycling bins on campus.



Sustainable Friendly Actions

The University takes pride in sustainable friendly actions encompassing Departments, the Alumni Community and Employees.

Sustainable Contractors

To support the Go Green initiative, the Procurement Department revised its policy to include sustainable contractors by allocating 5% of the Technical Evaluation Scores in tenders.



COMMITTED TO THE FUTURE OF THE PLANET

Research for Environment

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi has engaged in Climate Change Research through projects focusing on water desalination, soil, history of climate change revealed by archaeological discoveries and the use of remote sensing and geolocalisation.

More recently, research has developed in relation to the scientific approach with an increasing number of projects in the Sciences and Engineering department around the themes of Solar Panels, Deltas in Extreme weather regions and the use of nanoparticles in the creation of new materials. Research has also expanded to the field of Archiving and its critical role in the climate change solutions.

As Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is encompassing both Sciences and Humanities in its research centre for environment, it is taking a lead position in the higher education and research institutions landscape proposing a unique multidisciplinary approach. Below are some examples of ongoing research projects.

- Development of Novel Technology for Water Desalination: Low Energy consumption and high compatibility with clean energy
- Human Occupation and Landscape Evolution during the Holocene climatic variation in the UAE desert (HOLE). Case study of a gravel plain in the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve (DDCR)
- Climate Change Impact on the UAE Artificial Islands. Monitoring the coastal risk in UAE
- Ancient Tyre: how to water an island AquaTyr
- Intelligence location and sustainability –highlight the role of remote sensing and GIS in achieving sustainability. Case studies from the UAE collective research
- Smart Optical Films: Controlling the optical properties of nanostructured oxide-based polymer films
- A Pre-study on Greening Information Management for Sustainable Development

Employees Green Achievement: Ms Roba Nayfeh's award

Roba Nayfeh is a valued member of SUAD staff. An accomplished Architectural Engineer, she has made a significant impact through her unwavering dedication to sustainable urban development and environmentally conscious design. Throughout her journey, Roba has actively engaged in numerous workshops, competitions, and events focusing on sustainability, urbanism, and agriculture. Her passion lies in transforming urban areas into more sustainable, eco-friendly spaces through thoughtful planning and innovative design. We eagerly anticipate the positive changes she will continue to bring to the world of sustainable design.

URBAN DESIGN

LOCATION



Site is located in United Arab Emirates 'Sharjah. It is centered between Ajmal Makan and Al Hamriya. The site is facing Arabian Gulf which is achieving the needs of the designed resorts. The site is designed to serve Al Hamriya and Ajmal makan. The project will include resorts, restaurants, residential and commercial buildings, activities such as stadium, educational center and mixed used buildings.

CONCEPT >>>

THE CONCEPT come from organic design integrated with the land form and following the natural curves of the sea shore



I. A UNIVERSITY IN MOTION

THE ALUMNI "RED CARPET, GREEN HEARTS" GALA DINNER

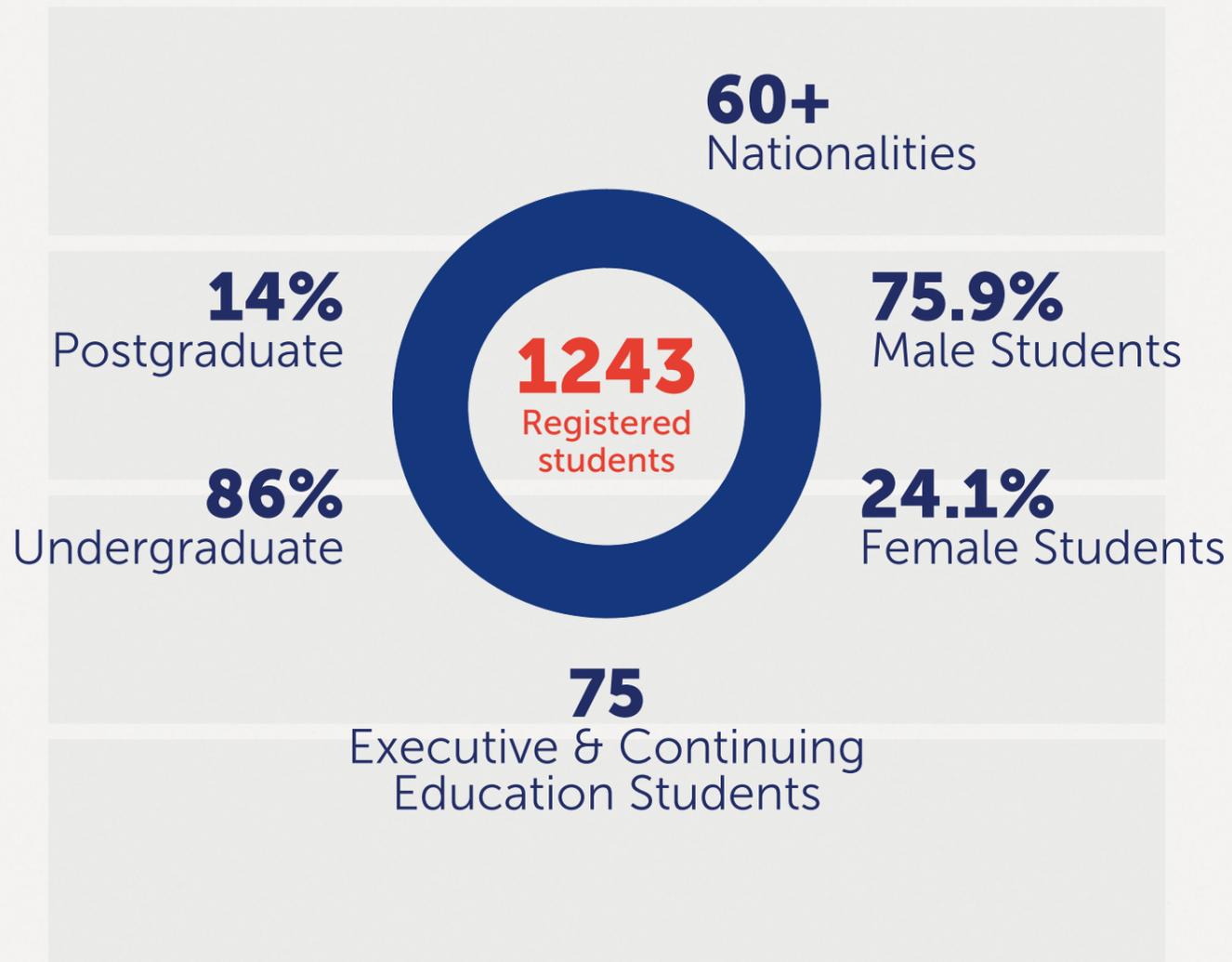
In May 2023, the first Alumni Gala Dinner was held on campus which focused on and highlighted the University's commitment to sustainability.

For the occasion, the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs, Dr Majed Al Khmeiri, who holds a PHD on "Strategic Planning and Sustainable Development: The Future of the United Arab Emirates", from Sorbonne Universite Paris welcomed the guests and spoke on the importance of sustainability and the role of the UAE.

The Gala Dinner was an environmentally friendly occasion where all equipment used was sustainable. The Career Centre opted for a zero-waste buffet, led lighting and zero printing. They also engaged the Alumni community in raising awareness about climate change by offering sustainable prizes including a stay at an eco-resort.



UNIVERSITY KEY FIGURES

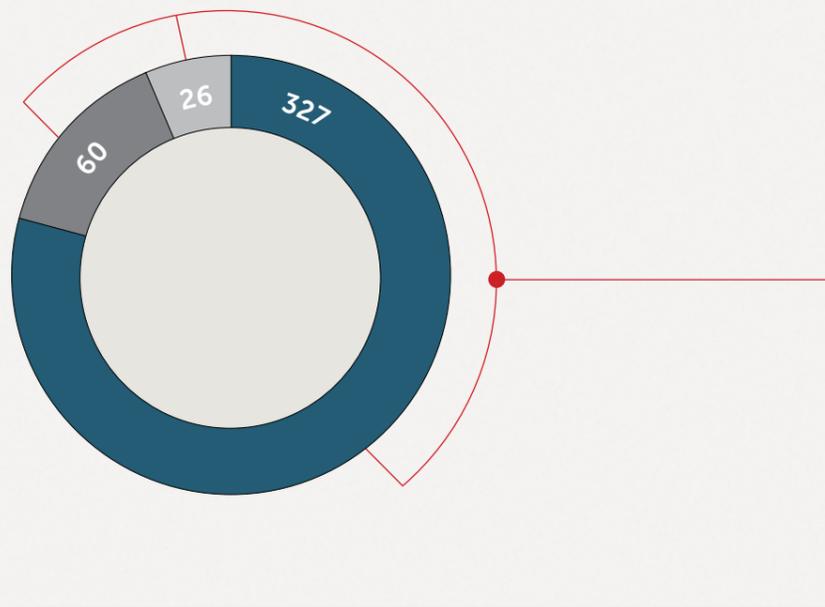


UNIVERSITY KEY FIGURES



UNIVERSITY KEY FIGURES

Foundation Programmes

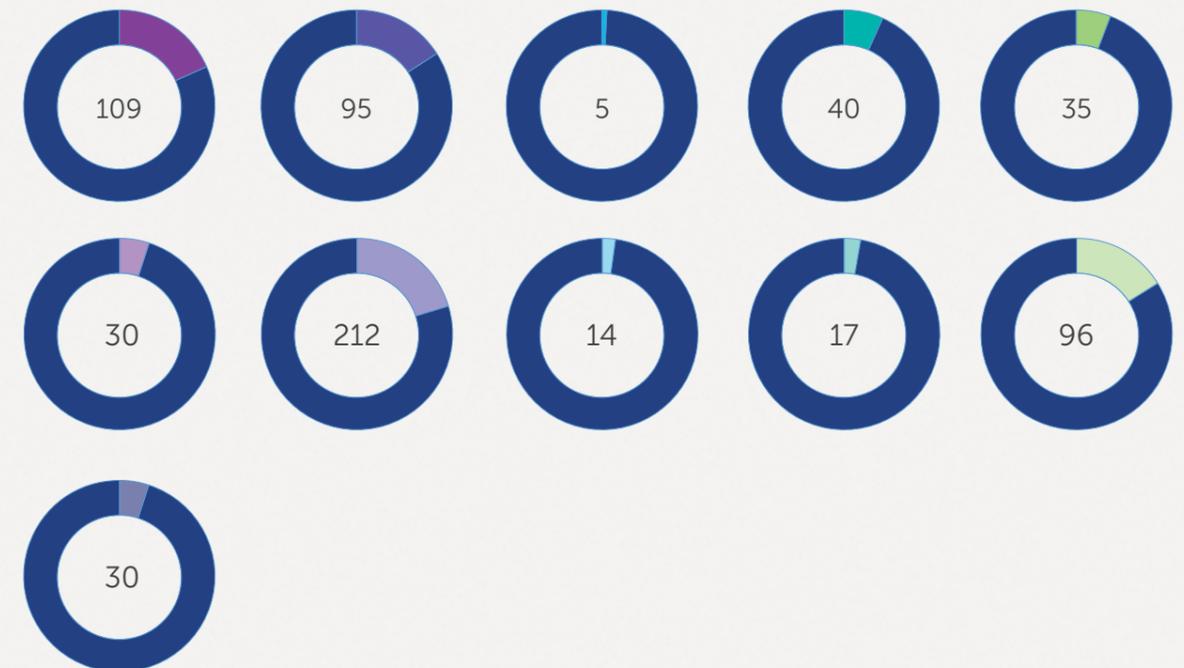


Foundation Programmes

- 79.2%** Foundation Year In Intensive French
- 14.5%** Foundation Year In Records Management And Archival Sciences
- 6.30%** Foundation Year In Sciences

UNIVERSITY KEY FIGURES

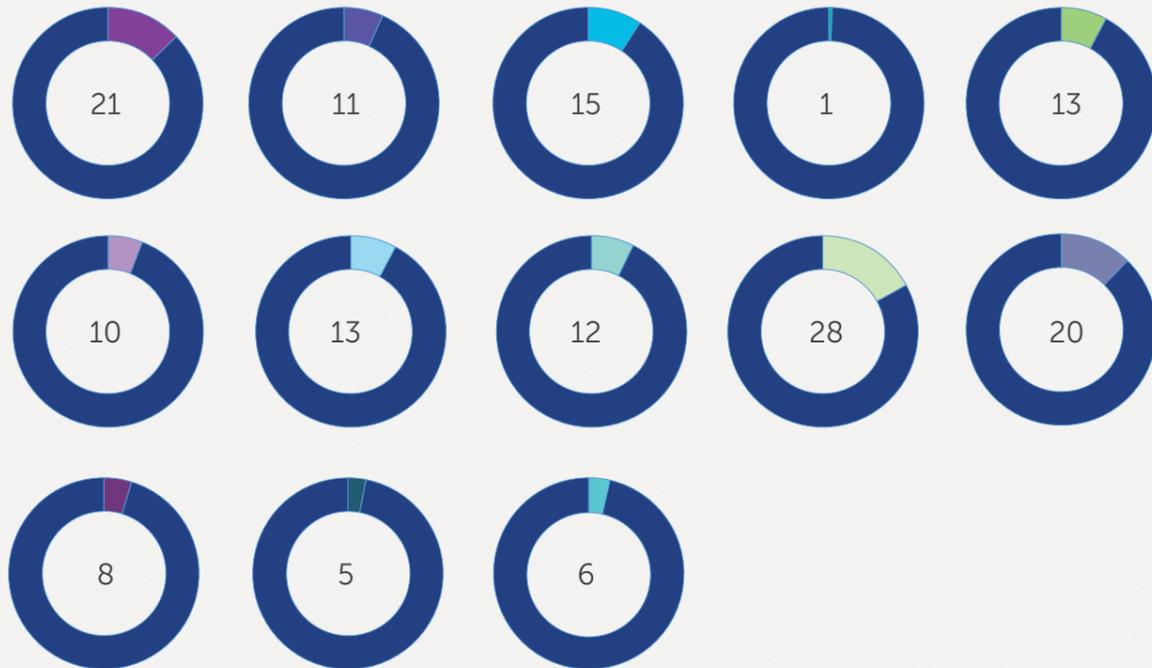
Undergraduate Programmes



- 18.4%** Bachelor In Applied Foreign Languages
- 16.0%** Bachelor In Economics And Management
- 0.80%** Bachelor In French Literature
- 6.80%** Bachelor In Geography And Planning
- 5.90%** Bachelor In History
- 5.10%** Bachelor In History Of Art And Archaeology
- 20.4%** Bachelor In Law
- 2.40%** Bachelor In Mathematics, Specialisation In Data Science For Artificial Intelligence
- 2.90%** Bachelor In Physics
- 16.2%** Bachelor In Records Management And Archival Science
- 5.10%** Double Bachelor In Philosophy And Sociology

UNIVERSITY KEY FIGURES

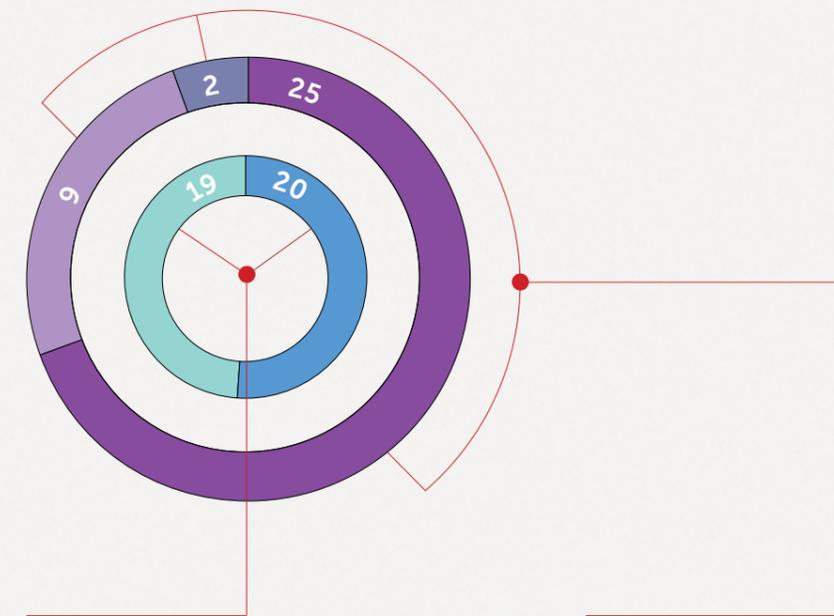
Postgraduate Programmes



- 12.9%** Master In Applied Foreign Languages: Specialty Management And International Business
- 6.70%** Master In Applied Sociological Research
- 9.20%** Master In Banking And Finance: Law And Regulations Of Banking And Financial Systems
- 0.60%** Master In Environment: Dynamics Of Territories And Societies
- 8.00%** Master In Environmental Sustainability Law And Policiess
- 6.10%** Master In Health Economics
- 8.00%** Master In History Of Art And Museum Studies
- 7.40%** Master In International Business Law
- 17.2%** Master In International Law, International Relations And Diplomacy
- 12.3%** Master In Marketing, Management, Communication, Media
- 4.90%** Master In Records Management And Archival Studies
- 3.10%** Master In Teaching French As A Foreign Language
- 3.70%** Master In Urban Planning And Development

UNIVERSITY KEY FIGURES

CEED Programmes



Tailor-Made Programmes

- 20** Applied Mathematics fr Finance
- 19** DED 3 days programs

CEED Programmes

- 25** Archives and Records Management
- 9** Sports
- 2** Selfee B2 Preparation Courses

UNIVERSITY KEY FIGURES

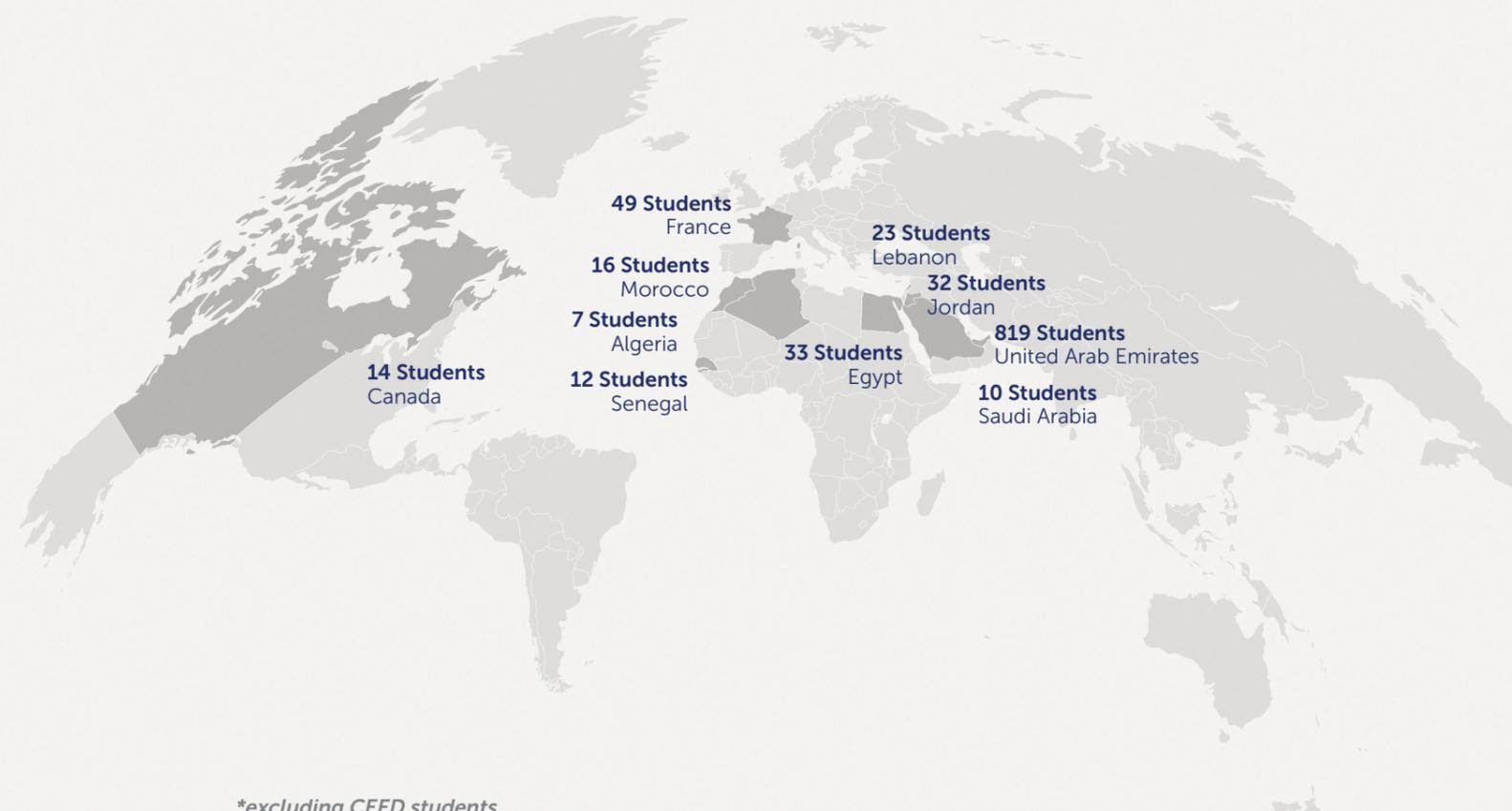
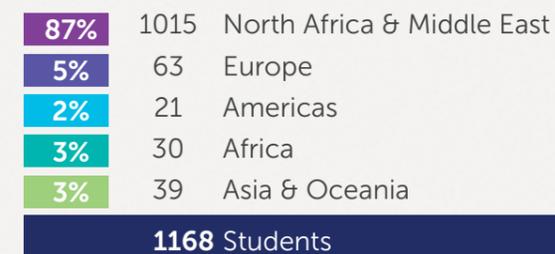
AY 2022-2023 Nationalities

Algeria	7	Nepal	1
Australia	1	Niger	3
Azerbaijan	2	Pakistan	3
Bahrain	7	Palestine	9
Bangladesh	1	Phillipines	2
Belgium	3	Poland	0
Benin	2	Qatar	1
Bosnia	0	Russia	5
Brazil	0	Rwanda	1
Canada	14	Saudi Arabia	10
China	5	Senegal	12
Comoros	8	Serbia	0
Congo	2	Singapour	2
Czech Republic	1	South Africa	0
Denmark	0	South Korea	2
Djibouti	0	Spain	2
Egypt	33	Sudan	5
Finland	0	Syria	8
France	49	Togo	1
Gabon	1	Tunisia	4
Germany	1	Turkey	1
India	4	Turkmenistan	1
Iran	5	UK	2
Iraq	7	Ukraine	1
Ireland	0	United Arab Emirates	819
Israel	0	USA	5
Italy	1	Venezuela	0
Jordan	32	Yemen	12
Kuwait	2	Bulgaria	1
Lebanon	23	Colombia	2
Libya	2	Cyprus	1
Madagascar	2	Mauritius	1
Mali	7	Oman	1
Mauritania	9	Switzerland	1
Morocco	16	Japan	1
		Uzbekistan	1

*excluding CEED students

UNIVERSITY KEY FIGURES

AY 2022-2023 Nationalities



*excluding CEED students

I. A UNIVERSITY IN MOTION

SUPPORTING EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR ALL

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi applies the principle of “equal opportunities” to encourage all prospective students to join the University and benefit from the unique opportunity to earn a bachelor or postgraduate degree recognized internationally.

Supporting equal access to education

Embedded in French education public policies and in line with the UAE’s vision to place education at the forefront of its public policies, scholarships and preferential rates are available to all students based on academic excellence or financial resource criteria.

83.26% of our students benefit from a scholarship, preferential rates or access to a financial aid programme thanks to the support of a number of Emirati authorities and key Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi sponsors.

- **77.33%** of students are recipients of the H. H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan Scholarship for Emirati students.
- **12.45%** of students benefit from an academic excellence scholarship.
- **10.41%** of students benefit from other scholarships, preferential rates or financial aid programmes.
- **16** students benefit from The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Scholarship for African Students.

Providing equal chances of success

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi strives to ensure all prospective students entering Year 1 of a Bachelor programme delivered in French have the required skills and competencies to transition into this programme.

Thanks to its Foundation Year in Intensive French for bachelors taught in French, the Foundation Year in Sciences for the programmes in Sciences & Engineering and a Foundation Year in Records Management for students entering into the Bachelor in Records Management and Archival Science. This propaedeutic year model allows students to develop the confidence and knowledge to start a fully fledged programme.

Students of determination

As a disability friendly institution, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi provides all the support needed to its students of determination. The campus offers a range of bespoke facilities for students of determination which are regularly checked to ensure compliance with UAE laws.

In addition, the Student Success and Wellbeing Section at the Student Affairs Department provides extensive support to students of determination and engages with the Zayed Higher Organization for People of Determination (ZHO) to ensure that student support meets best practice.

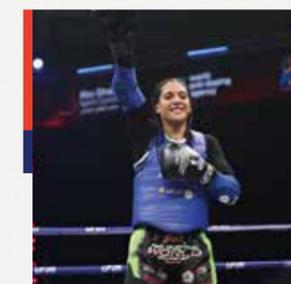
The Sports Department is also equipped to allow adapted sports practice. This year, 55 students of determination were enrolled in all bachelor programmes.

Top Athletes

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi counts amongst its student community a number of top athletes. To support them in their sports career and the fulfillment of their academic requirements, the University has in place a specific framework to support them in achieving their educational and personal goals.



Amna AlQubaisi
Formula 3 Driver



Miryam Chalghoumi
Muay Thai Champion



Mayed Alhammadi
Football Player,
Al Jazira Club



Abdulaziz Alhammadi
Football Player,
Baniyas Club



Shamma Abdul Aziz Hussain Ali AlTawash
Professional Endurance
Horse Rider, Jumeirah Stables

I. A UNIVERSITY IN MOTION

GRADUATES' WORDS

In November 2022, the University celebrated another successful graduation of 233 graduates. The 13th cohort included 145 bachelor's graduates, 73 master's and 15 Executive Diploma's. 54% of the graduates were Emirati nationals while 46% were resident and international students from various nationalities.



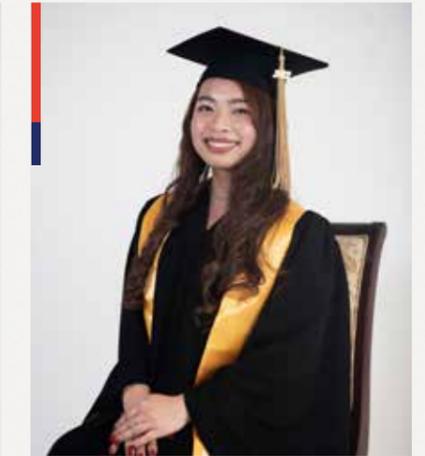
**Angelina
Lukazenko**

"I chose Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi because it is one of the most outstanding universities in the world."



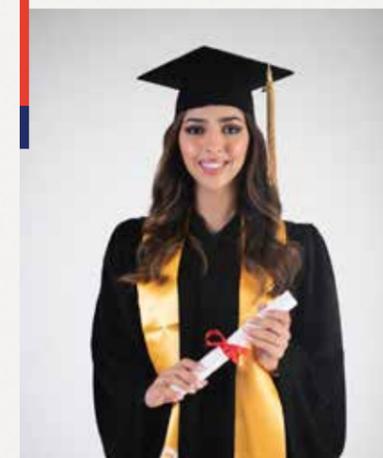
**Félícia
Sarah Leca**

"Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi made me grow! Thanks to my professors, courses, and student life, I am now more confident than ever and ready to achieve my dreams."



**Kimberly Hann
Bingcang**

"It's been wonderful attending Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, I met so many people with different background and nationalities, it's been fun!"



**Mussaifah Manaa
Alotaiba**

"I enjoyed studying in a multicultural environment and being able to study in the UAE and receive my degree from Sorbonne in Paris was such an opportunity."



**Reem
Eid Al Kaabi**

"Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi provided me with many internship and employment opportunities in prestigious entities."



**Yassine Mohamed
Mohamed**

"I am proud to have studied at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, a unique and prestigious university."

II. EMPOWERING **KNOWLEDGEABLE CITIZENS**

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is committed to developing and nurturing the potential of its students by applying an interdisciplinary approach to its learning and teaching that focuses on the development of subject-specific and generic, transferable skills and competencies to be the leaders of tomorrow.



II. EMPOWERING KNOWLEDGEABLE CITIZENS

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi offers a unique multifaced learning experience from the first year of enrolment in the foundation year programmes. Students are exposed to different areas of learning, allowing them to develop the skills and expand the knowledge taught to other fields and therefore foster their curiosity by creating connections between topics.

This ability to think out of the box and develop critical thinking is not only key to succeed in their studies but also in their career. The Foundation Year in Intensive French is a great example of multidisciplinary learning.

Embedding Arts to foster creativity

Creativity and Arts are two elements that prove to enhance students' performance and critical thinking and lead to better analysis skills, easiness in forming an opinion and an added value to become an enlightened citizen. The Foundation Year Programme in Intensive French fosters this creativity by familiarizing students with Arts namely in their "Ciné-FLE" club in which they screened documentary cinema genre and, in their choir singing group.

In collaboration with the French Studies Department and in partnership with the French Institute in the UAE, students had the opportunity to meet two film makers. During the Month of French Documentary and then during the Francophone Film Festival organized in Dubai, students met respectively on campus Stéphanie Gillard, film maker of "Les joueuses", and Benoît Mariage, film maker of "Akram", after screening their movies.

On both occasions, students had the opportunity to question the filmmakers about the process to choose a topic. Benoît Mariage even offered no fewer than 180 students an introductory class to filmmaking.



Meeting the filmmaker of French documentary "Les Joueuses"

The Foundation Year in Intensive French also teaches students to use the French language in its choir group to allow room for a creative space that helps in building oral and written language skills and interpersonal skills such as confidence and teamwork.

Growing informed students

During the propaedeutic year, artistic or professional skills are shared with students in several workshops from Mobile learning, French expressions, Francophone vocabulary, to Reading press and Writing short stories with digital tools, etc. Professors also generate interest in contemporary issues to help students becoming informed citizens. As such, a "Social Media" Club was created to an informed usage of social media.

In line with the university's Go Green Initiative and with the country's Year of Sustainability", a green escape game was also organized to raise awareness about climate change and develop students' vocabulary in present-day challenges.

Bridging Language, Humanities & Sciences

The Foundation Year in Intensive French programme organized a fashion workshop bringing together the use of the French language, Physics and Archaeology knowledge.

Over 100 students experienced first-hand multidisciplinary learning as they learnt vocabulary linked to fashion and textile while discovering how to recognize different types of fabrics by touching them, before analyzing them with scientific techniques to discover the pigments and materials used.

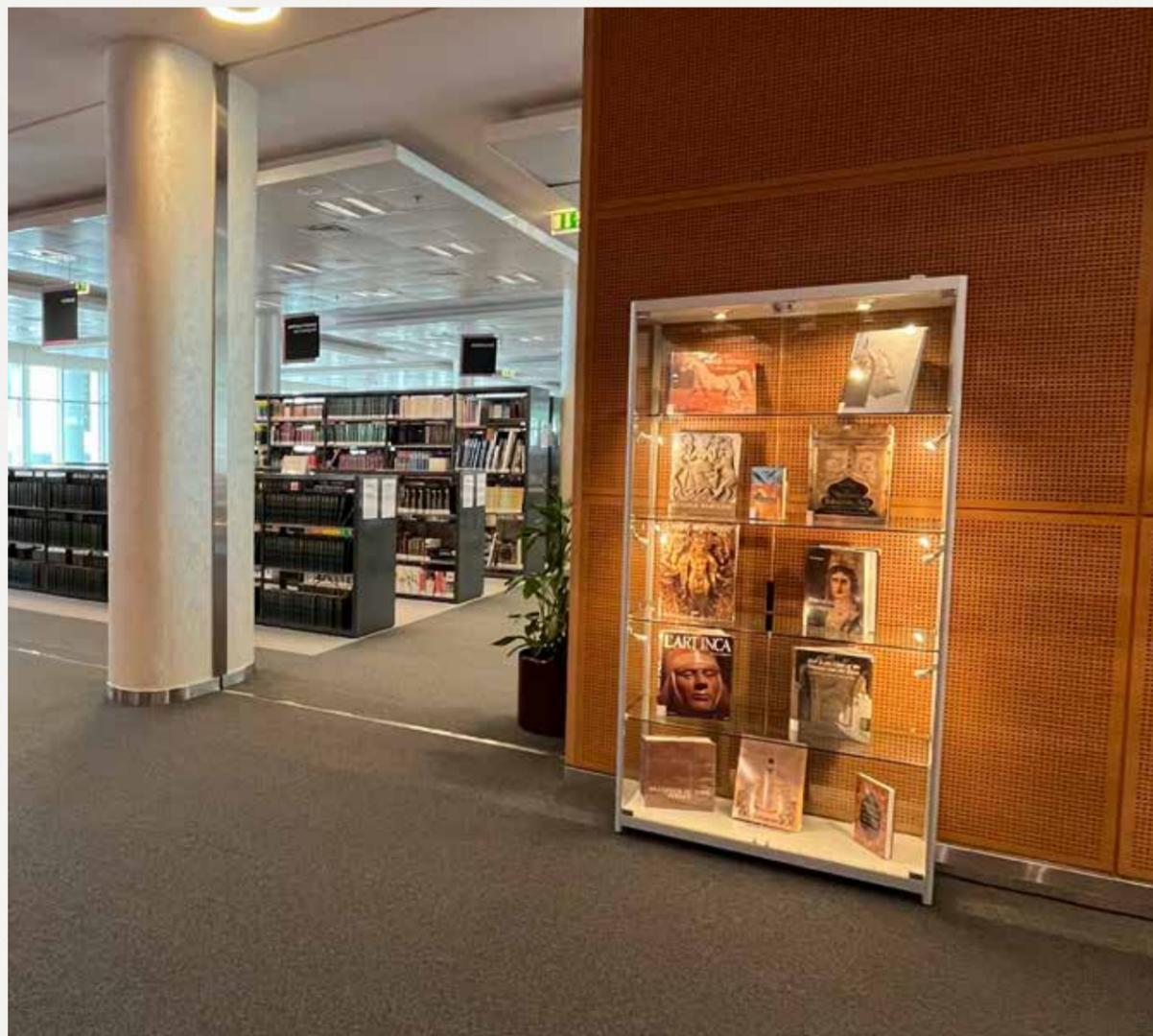


II. EMPOWERING KNOWLEDGEABLE CITIZENS

THE LIBRARY: HOME TO EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE RESOURCES

With a printed collection of over 110,000 books, 730,000 electronic books, 58,000 electronic journals, and subscriptions to over 45 online databases, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is home to the biggest Francophone library in the Gulf Region.

In November 2022, world renowned historians Denis Crouzet and Elisabeth Crouzet-Pavan donated over 1,700 books to the library.



In the academic year 2022/23, the Library launched its new website to offer an enhanced experience to its end user. This user-friendly website helps students navigate the extensive resources offered, in a more efficient way. To further accompany students and improve their academic experience, the library hosted Information Literacy sessions at the beginning of the academic year to help them become information literate and learn how to use information.

With the aim of improving collaborative learning experience, the library also renovated its group study rooms to increase them from 4 to 9 and allow students to work in groups in an elegant, modern, and quiet space filled with natural light.

The Library is a strong asset for students in developing their knowledge and having the opportunity to deepen their knowledge about a range of disciplines, from specialized and technical knowledge to analysis of the contemporary world in French, English and other languages.

Opened 68 hours per week, the library can accommodate 270 students at a time and is also open to the community. As such, visitors and outside researchers can visit the library to study and use any print or online resource during their visit.

Books by language:



II. EMPOWERING KNOWLEDGEABLE CITIZENS

A PRIVILEGED ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is committed to develop students' knowledge by giving them access to excellent teaching materials, unique opportunities and by also ensuring privileged interactions with faculty members.

A privileged interaction with faculty to expand knowledge

The low faculty to student ratio is a specificity of the University's teaching model and a key to developing students' knowledge beyond the course outcomes. Faculty share their research projects with students providing them with a different perspective on the topic taught during the class. The excellence of the teaching faculty results in sharing their insights and passion with their students and build more knowledgeable students throughout the years. According to students, they grow as curious, open-minded individuals and most of all experts in their fields of study.

Rashed Al Neyadi, a bachelor in Physics student intern at Dassault in France, describes his experience at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi as "a place where faculty not only teach you very advanced and technical knowledge but are keen to share their passion with you. This makes an invaluable difference as it allows you to grow and learn faster".

Fatema Al Marzooqi, enrolled in the same programme and intern at the The Sharjah Academy for Astronomy, Space Sciences and Technology stresses: "I appreciate the knowledge gained during my journey which makes me feel unique and valuable. By studying at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, I learnt a considerable amount of cutting-edge knowledge, allowing me to secure an internship in an elite institution".

SCAI Education: accessing AI open courses



The Sorbonne Centre for Artificial Intelligence, in partnership with Sorbonne University Alliance and Open Classrooms launched open courses in Artificial Intelligence for Sorbonne students and employees. Through this new platform, complimentary access to knowledge in Artificial Intelligence allows to develop knowledge at your own pace, while earning ECTS credits. Designed to cater for the needs of both amateurs and professionals in data science, it is an invaluable tool of a privileged access to knowledge.

Developing undergraduate student research experience

As a multidisciplinary research university, it is of primary importance to develop research from the undergraduate level. Therefore, students are initiated to research as part of the curriculum through projects or internships. During 2022/23, a cross department student research exhibition took place on campus.

A cooperation between the departments of Geography & Planning, Archeology & History of Art and the Sciences & Engineering, the exhibition presented the students research results on the Cultural Heritage and Desert Environment in the Arabian Peninsula. In addition to the initiation to research, students can benefit from a very privileged system of participating in the research of research faculty in their programme of study where they work with one of the professors of their department. Students who are following internships, start by discussing the subject with the professor and receive guidance on a weekly basis throughout the internship. As such, Dr Lama Tarsissi, Assistant Professor of Mathematics in the Sciences & Engineering Department, onboarded five of her students on her research projects, for a pre-defined period. During this period, students gain substantial knowledge, know-how and, experience research first-hand. As Mathematic students, they put into practice the theory and deepen their knowledge and skills, exploring their potential and thriving for excellence.



Experiencing innovative learning with VR technology

In June 2023, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi signed a Memorandum of Understanding with INSEAD Abu Dhabi Campus VR Immersive Learning Technology providing students with access to the first VR Hub for Management Education in the world, refashioning the learning experience learning and therefore nurturing students with to cutting edge immersive methods of learning.



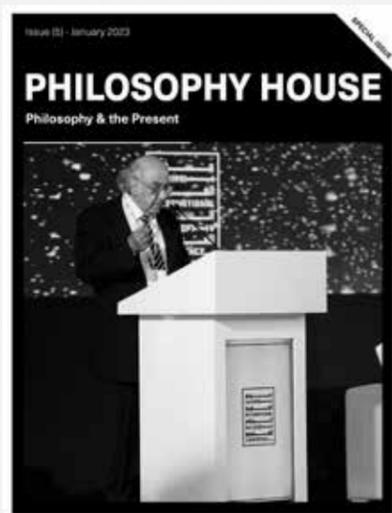
II. EMPOWERING KNOWLEDGEABLE CITIZENS

PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITIES FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

In Philosophy & Sociology with Philosophy House Fujairah

Under the direction of Dr Claude Spaak, Head of Philosophy and Sociology Department, the University is working closely with Philosophy House in Fujairah to advance the field of Philosophy in the UAE in the scientific community as well as in the wider community. Students have the opportunity to publish their research in the form of articles in the **"Youth Articles"** dedicated section of the Philosophy House Magazines.

In the special issue released in January 2023 **"Philosophy & the Present"**, students covered the topics of education and moral values, self-interest limitations, ethics and social media, and the human state. These articles not only help students to apply their knowledge and advance easily in their educational journey but they also demonstrate that Philosophy can be aligned with today's realities and offer a complementary perspective to current challenges.



In different majors with Kalima Abu Dhabi, Department of Culture & Tourism

Under the direction of Dr Hana Subhi, professor of French Language and Literature in French Department, a group of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi students were given the opportunity to translate six published French books for Youth into Arabic to add to the book collection of Kalima Abu Dhabi, an initiative of the Abu Dhabi Department of Culture and Tourism. On the occasion of the 32nd edition of the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair, the six books were released and are now available in libraries across the country and will be shortly available at Sorbonne Abu Dhabi Library.

These students are:

1. Shouq Al Naqbi, History; "Les Amours"
2. Wadha Al Rumaithy; LEA (Foreign applied languages); "Les inachevés"
3. Hamad Al Shemali, FLE (French as a foreign language); "Depuis que les monstres..."
4. Shouq Al Junaibi, Literature; "Légendes et mystères des montagnes"
5. Mariam Al Hosani, Economics; "Marietta chez les clowns"
6. Mariam Al Zaabi, LEA (Foreign applied languages). " Les rêves".



II. EMPOWERING KNOWLEDGEABLE CITIZENS

A STUDENT-CENTRIC CAMPUS LIFE

Studying at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is diving into year-round students activities and events and availing the opportunity to shape the student life on campus. Whether events are organized by academic departments, the student affairs or student-led, all pursue the common objective of empowering altruistic, aware and open to the world students.

The students' voice: the student council

Every year, the student representative body is elected to provide students with the necessary support, leadership skills and organize a wide range of events throughout the year. It mirrors the multidisciplinary nature of the university.



Nada Al Sodairi
Environmental Officer



Zeina Qasim
Science & Technology Officer



Ahmad Al Mubarak
Sports Officer



Shaïma Kerkour
Cultural Arts & Development Officer



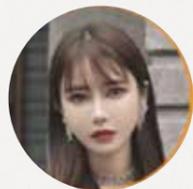
Salem Al Nuaimi
Events officer



Mariam Al Jeneibi
Media Officer



Wolimata Sene
Media Officer



Anning Zhao
Media Officer



Mansoor Al Qubaisi
Recreational Trips Officer



Reem Al Khadouri
Coordinator



Alya Al Suwaidi
Coordinator



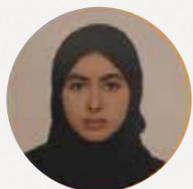
Noora Lootah
Member



Maryam Al Rasheedi
Member



Mohamed AlHmoudi
Member



Maitha Al Manhali
Member

A thriving student life

The dynamic impact of students clubs

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi's students are the driving force of life on campus. Curious minds, they take pride in creating clubs to develop personal and professional skills, build relationships, explore new interests, and make a positive impact in their community. In the academic year 2022/23, 8 additional clubs were created on environmental health, wellbeing, astronomy, social events, Arabic literature, arts, cinema and music.

Creative students

In October 2022, students Shaima Al Ali and Haleema Farahani created "L'air du Temps" magazine, with a talented team of writers, communicators, and photographers. This dynamic publication covers a wide range of topics based on the diverse interests and passions of their talented writers. With a new theme for each of the six-monthly issues, L'air du temps, which translates to 'current trends,' explores captivating subjects such as movies, music, games, and cultural phenomena. This magazine "aspire to inspire and empower students by providing a platform that amplifies their voices and celebrates their unique perspectives."

During the same year, student Rashid Almazrouei created "Glazed" Magazine. With the contributions of Sara Bin Sumaida, Kylian Engelmajer, and Mahra Almarar, they reflect on the sustainable and ethical fashion. GLAZED is a publication that shines a spotlight on the incredible talent within the local community. With careful planning, creative ingenuity, and a year of dedication, GLAZED has become the ultimate source for all things fashion, food, and lifestyle in the UAE. GLAZED "mission is to showcase the latest fashion trends, introduce you to emerging local artists, and tantalize your taste buds with exquisite cuisines and must-try restaurants."



II. EMPOWERING KNOWLEDGEABLE CITIZENS

A STUDENT-CENTRIC CAMPUS LIFE

Conveying knowledge and passion of the French language

In May 2023, the French Studies Department organized an exceptional encounter with Francophone writer Gilbert Sinoué known for his world selling novels "Inch'allah", "la Pourpre et l'Oliver" and "The Falcon", fictionalized biography of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan amongst others. He is also known for being the author of the musical lyrics of Dalida's "Helwa Ya Baladi". Students had the chance to discuss with him his love for the French language and literature and discover the beauty and passion of Gilbert Sinoué's achievements.



Encouraging students exchange to foster open mindedness

The French as a Foreign Language Department organized students' exchanges between Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi French learners and NYUAD French learners to encourage discussions on being a francophone student in the UAE. These exchanges happened on both universities' campuses and aimed at confronting students to different views and environments while they are learning a common language.

Accompanying students through their studies

During the Academic Year 2022/23, the Student Success and Wellbeing section, under the Student Affairs Department, accompanied students through academic and personal support programmes. To allow students to reach the best of their abilities, the peer mentor/peer tutor programme ran throughout the year providing a platform for students to seek guidance from senior students not only to help with understanding the content of the courses but to share tips and methodologies to learn and gain self-confidence.

In addition to academic support, the University also offered students access to psychological and psychiatric evaluations and assessments, support intervention and behavioural therapy from professional counsellors.

Recognizing students' talent and involvement

In May 2023, the Student Recognition Award Ceremony recognized the talent of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi students and the engagement of those who made a significant contribution to campus life. Eighty-six students were recognized amongst the following categories:

- Outstanding Student Leadership Award
- Most Active Club Award
- Outstanding Student Volunteer Award- Ambassador Programme
- Outstanding Talent Award/Piano
- Outstanding Talent Award/Painting
- Outstanding Talent Award/Theatre
- Most Committed Residence Assistant Award
- Most Active Peer Tutor
- Outstanding performance- Peer tutor Programme
- Most Active Peer Mentor
- Outstanding performance- Peer mentor Programme
- Multisport Excellence Award
- Sport Excellence Award Futsal Women
- Sport Excellence Award Climbing
- Sport Excellence Award Volleyball
- Career Preparation Excellence Awards
- Career Preparation and Alumni Relations Excellence Award

II. EMPOWERING KNOWLEDGEABLE CITIZENS



Life at the students' residence: a lasting community experience

Student Housing provides and promotes a living environment that is conducive to learning and encourages residents to use all the available housing resources needed to be able to pursue their education at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, while abiding by rules and regulations related to the academic life and values in an atmosphere of respect and integrity. Student housing offers a range of advantages and services that contribute to a positive and enriching experience for students, promoting cultural diversity, socialization and a safe living space.

The residence provides single rooms including private bathrooms that respects the privacy of the student and helps them focusing on their studies. It offers also common areas, open round the clock, that provide opportunities for socializing, building connections, and creating a sense of community among the residents.

All facilities provided make student life easier and more enjoyable. It includes lounges areas, common kitchens, group study rooms as well as entertainment rooms, laundry and ironing rooms. These amenities allow students to balance between their personal needs and well-being and their academic requirements. The Students Housing offers a variety of activities to foster links between students.

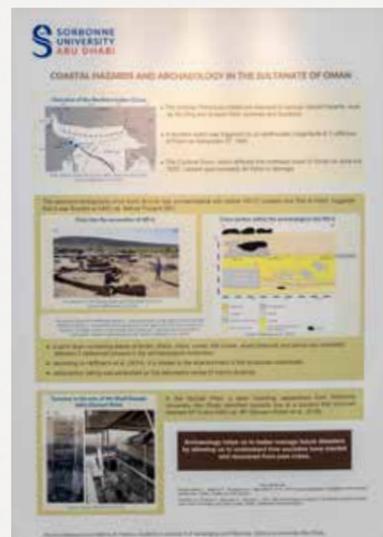
More than 20 activities were coordinated this academic year, some of them hosting residents from other universities. These activities provided residents with the opportunity to meet new people, make friends, and build lifetime relationships. The residence's rules and regulations aim to organize life at the residence, to build a sense of community obligations. Safety being a top priority at the Student Housing, a team of receptionists, security guards, and resident assistants are always on hand to help Residents feel safe and secure. Their presence round the clock provides reassurance and prompt assistance in case of emergencies, addressing concerns, and maintaining order within the residence.

Living at the residence provides an enriching experience for every student, enhancing their daily life and creating lasting memories.

II. EMPOWERING KNOWLEDGEABLE CITIZENS

As part of the students' activities organized during the academic year 2022/23, many were aimed at having an impact on climate change by raising awareness or taking action.

- SUAD Youth COP Launch Webinar
- Monthly green movie nights
- Beach clean-up activity
- Mangrove planting activity: the giving back initiative
- Sustainability Day
- Cultural Heritage and Desert Environment in the Arabian Peninsula Exhibition by Students of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi
- Green Talk: "Sustainable Future: Ideas Worth Spreading"
- Sustainable Students Art Exhibition
- Sustainability Escape Game
- Student Green Festival
- Participation to Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week



III. AN EDUCATION **MODEL ALIGNED WITH LABOR MARKET DYNAMICS**

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi upskills students with knowledge and competencies that will have a lasting impact. By providing them trainings, internships and a multidisciplinary learning experience, the University prepares skilled and versatile career-ready students, who have the potential to become trailblazers and invaluable assets to the market and society.



III. AN EDUCATION **MODEL ALIGNED WITH LABOR MARKET DYNAMICS**

PREPARING STUDENTS TO BECOME CONFIDENT PROFESSIONALS

Students at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi learn to build confidence throughout their years of study thanks to the nature of the teaching and to the support extended by The Career Centre.

Building lifetime skills

In the department of Geography & Planning, the mandatory field internship takes place abroad. This year students traveled to Greece for four days of fieldwork, presenting and hosting meetings with the research director (Pr. Vasilios Kapsimalis) and researchers of the Hellenic Center of Marine Research (Anavyssos, Greece). They had a chance to explore new environments and confront findings with theory. This opportunity enhanced self-confidence, independent thinking and helped bring into perspective the teaching theory.

The Career Centre is also a key actor in building students' profile by providing them with unique and exceptional encounters. In October 2022, students had the chance to meet Mr Pierre de Maigret, newly appointed General Manager of Christian Dior Couture Middle East. During his talk, Mr de Maigret explained his career path, with the aim to give students the confidence to become leaders in their fields.



EMBEDDING REAL LIFE APPLICATIONS IN THE CURRICULUM

Studying business materials and documents

Whenever applicable, professors train career-ready students by embedding supporting materials from the business world in their teaching. Students of the Bachelor in Applied Foreign Languages work on administrative templates and documents from multinational corporations and are therefore benefit from a competitive advantage from the start of their career.

The Legal Clinic, serving the society while training

The Legal Clinic allows students enrolled in Bachelor year 3 to ingrain the knowledge acquired during their Law studies into the practice with real-life situations. Thanks to a partnership with ADGM (Abu Dhabi Global Market) Court, students work with volunteer lawyers from ADGM Court's by responding to litigants who are facing legal difficulties.

Litigants who meet the defined criteria, particularly in terms of income, benefit from a free legal aid scheme known as Pro Bono Scheme. This real-life experience gives year 3 students the opportunity to learn of the legal problems faced by citizens, beyond the theory. Clinical training in the field of law is an essential component of the curriculum as it enables students to become aware of the importance of law in society and lead them to reflect on their own role in the civil society as future lawyers.

Learning Mathematics with real life data sets

The Bachelor in Mathematics, specialization in Data Science for AI curriculum embeds real life applications as part of the teaching modules to give students the opportunity to already set a foot in the labor market. Throughout the three years, students work on real life data sets provided by companies and are encouraged to do internships in companies and at the Sorbonne Centre for Artificial Intelligence and participate to events in which they can implement their learnings. In 2022, all Year 2 students participated to the Hackathon organized by the Dubai Electricity & Water Company.

III. AN EDUCATION MODEL ALIGNED WITH LABOR MARKET DYNAMICS

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING: OUR STUDENT PROFILES ARE SOUGHT-AFTER

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi students are trained to excel in their field and become high calibers on the labor market who can have a positive and lasting impact by leveling it up.

Privileged opportunities & internships

Prominent public and private institutions look after Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi students' profiles as they seek highly knowledgeable, hands-on, and forward-thinking individuals. As such, locally and internationally renowned employers hired interns during this academic year, including:



During this academic year, the students of the Bachelor in Geography & Planning were chosen to participate to Workshops in partnership with the real estate developer "Imkan Properties". Under the direction of Pr. Xavier Desjardins (SU Paris), they worked on a proposal on the development of a waterfront promenade along the future residence "Pixel" (Maker District, Abu Dhabi).



Students' testimonials, a testament to career-readiness

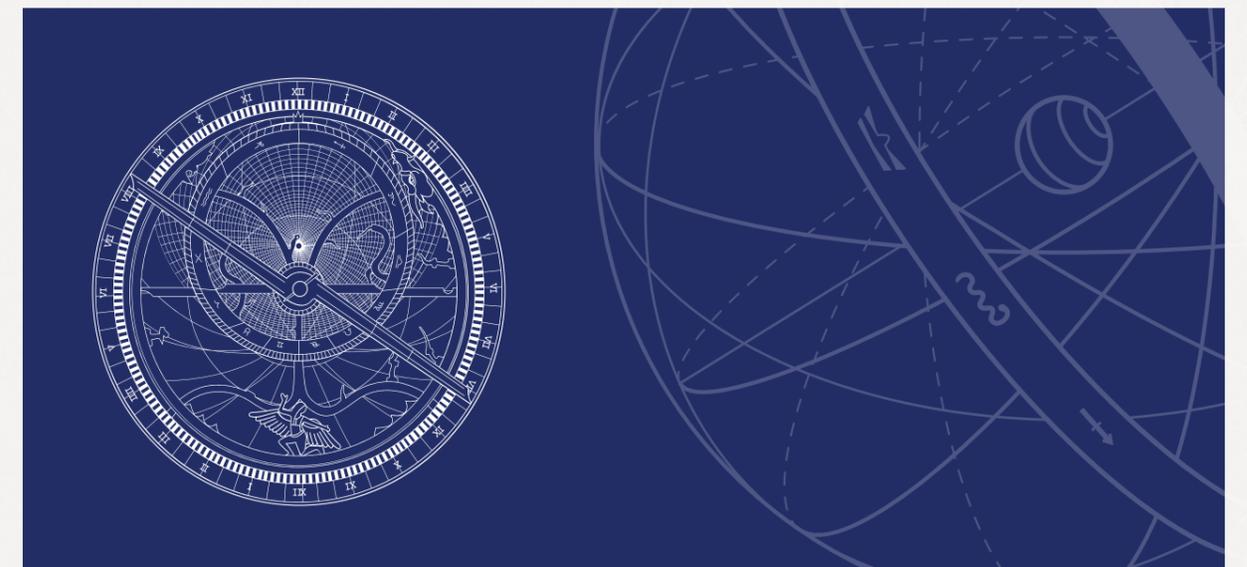
"I am delighted to be an intern at the Sharjah Academy for Astronomy, Space Sciences and Technology (SAASST) as the program introduced me to meteor science and I am looking forward to diving deep into the program and gaining new skills. The astrophysics course helped a lot in understanding the solar system and the different bodies in space. As well as the research and analysis skills that have been developed during my studies at the university under the guidance of our professors."

Fatema Al Marzooqi

"My internship experience at the Louvre Abu Dhabi has been truly enriching. Thanks to the strong foundation provided by my university, I seamlessly adapted to the research lab environment and effortlessly grasped the intricate workings of scientific instruments. I observed various specialists, including curators and scientists, come together for a project, witnessing firsthand the cross-disciplinary communication my professors value."

SUAD's comprehensive physics program equipped me with the necessary skills, enabling me to effectively work on my research project. I am grateful for the invaluable preparation that SUAD provided, empowering me to excel in this role."

Haleema Farahani



III. AN EDUCATION MODEL ALIGNED WITH LABOR MARKET DYNAMICS

EXCEPTIONAL JOURNEYS

Meet UN Security Chamber intern Khamis Al Mazrouei, entrepreneur Matyas Dvorak, MOFAIC intern Haya Al Ghardaqa and Novelist Ahmed Al Ameeri

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi provides youth with vital tools & knowledge to adapt to the market labor dynamics. The University accompany students to reveal their leadership and entrepreneurial skills, making a lasting contribution to the knowledge-based economy. Internationally renowned employers hired interns during this academic year, including:



Khamis Al Mazrouei
UN Security Chamber intern

Student in the Bachelor of Law, Khamis Abdullah Al Mazrouei is sponsored by the Ministry of Presidential Court's Scholarship for Top-performing Emirati Students. He gained the opportunity to intern at the permanent mission of the UAE to the United Nations (New-York), specifically at the UN Security Chamber. His learnings from the University, from becoming a fluent French speaker in a year to mastering concepts of law, made him stand out amongst other interns.

"At the Mission, I was one of the only multilingual speakers among ten interns, which naturally made me stand out. Being a student of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi means being equipped with a unique set of skills and abilities that prepare you for any challenge ahead in life. During my internship, my ability to speak French has supported my internship, especially with African countries."



Haya Al Ghardaqa
MOFAIC intern

Enrolled in the Bachelor of Law, Haya Al Ghardaqa first secured an internship opportunity at the International Court of Arbitration where she was invited to join the team in charge of the preparation of the 9th International Arbitration Conference for the MENA region. In 2022/23, she was selected by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the UAE to join the International Law Department for a three-month internship.

The high-quality knowledge in Law along with her exceptional skills acquired throughout her studies led the employer to extend her internship for another six months. "I felt fully ready to start such a high profile internship and while I started, I could understand not only the nature of the work but the environment and its politics thanks to strong training I have received during the first and second year of my bachelor."



Ahmed Al Ameeri
Novelist

20-year-old Emirati Novelist, author of four books Ahmed Mohamed AlAmeeri is already fluent in four languages: Arabic, English, French, and German and studies in the Bachelor of Applied Foreign Languages. Ahmed is also a visual artist and an engaged citizen participating to government initiatives and volunteering. A passionate and curious individual, his goal is to inspire the Youth and demonstrate that transformational changes have the power to positively impact oneself, the individuals around, the communities and the world.

Ahmad believes that "Studying at the Sorbonne University has been a transformative experience for both my career and personal life. The University provided me with a comprehensive and rigorous education that equipped me with the necessary linguistic and cultural skills to thrive in an interconnected world"



Matyas Dvorak
Founder of Celestia Energy

Matyas Dvorak is a Physics' Bachelor student who became an entrepreneur during his studies at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi. Under the umbrella of Masdar City and the UAE Space Agency's Space Economic Zone programme, he founded Celestia Energy, a company aiming to commercialize laser space-based solar power. Matyas' project is an innovative, never applied before solution that, once deployed, could be a game changer for areas with limited or non-existent access to the grid. It is during his time at the University and thanks to the passion and availability of his professors that he dived into this project. "The excellent and extensive knowledge learned in my first year along with the unlimited support of the teaching team played a critical role in my decision to start Celestia. Making time to share their experiences and perspectives, beyond the classroom was very appreciated."

III. AN EDUCATION MODEL ALIGNED WITH LABOR MARKET DYNAMICS

ADVANCING EMPLOYABILITY & CAREER-GROWTH

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi plays a key role in advancing the labor market by providing its students with opportunities to gain valuable work experience that will later on be reflected during their careers and by training professionals to advance their careers.

The Continuing and Executive Education trainings

The programmes offered at the Continuing & Executive Education Department are directly contributing to the market needs and aim at making the labor market more efficient by training professionals in their fields, share advanced knowledge and know-how. The Professional Certificate in Archives and Records Management and the CIES/FIFA Executive Sports Diploma have been thought in collaboration with local entities to respond to their needs and nurture the market dynamics. The National Library & Archives and the UAE Football Federation are both looking at upskilling further their existing high-level employees to achieve excellence in their fields and are relying on the renowned expertise of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.



Growing skilled professionals

Connecting students to professionals

The Career Centre is enhancing students' employability through workshops and large-scale events to enhance their connections with employers and give them a privileged access to some of the most performing employers on the market. The annual Astrolabe Career Forum registered over 70 employers and 500 students. Amongst the represented companies were Chalhoub, Deloitte, Abu Dhabi Investment Council, ADNOC, Mubadala, Nirvana, the Department of Culture and Tourism, and Dassault Aviation.

Enhancing employability

Connecting In addition to the Astrolabe event, the Career Centre runs an advising section throughout the year dedicated to employment counseling and guiding students in building their employability profile. Students can meet with a career advisor to ameliorate their CV, take a career assessment, and prepare for interviews. The online platform Job Teaser is also an excellent tool for students to look for internships as one-stop-shop for their career services. In the academic year 2022/23, 77 students found an internship in entities from the public and the private sector from the real estate industry, law industry and local government, such as the Founder's Office, Abu Dhabi Media, Aldar, Al Tamimi & Company and 4EI. These students were selected based on their outstanding performance and skills.



III. AN EDUCATION MODEL ALIGNED WITH LABOR MARKET DYNAMICS

CULTIVATING SYNERGY: THE ROLE OF ALUMNI AND CORPORATE RELATIONS AT SORBONNE UNIVERSITY

In November 2022, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi took a strategic step by recruiting a dedicated Alumni and Corporate Relations professional. Previously, the function was shared among The Career Centre's team members. This new role is crucial in fostering valuable connections with alumni and corporate partners, supporting the University's growth and development. With a focus on empowering graduates throughout their careers, its mission is to drive strategic initiatives and enhance fundraising and corporate partnerships, contributing to the University's reputation and impact. Additionally, this role involves managing the elections of the Alumni Council, ensuring that the Sorbonne Alumni community is represented at Sorbonne University.



Marion Kokel
Alumni & Corporate Relations
The Career Centre

The key functions of the Alumni and Corporate Relations role include:

- Relationship Management: Cultivate strong relationships with alumni and corporate partners, promoting collaboration and mutual growth.
- Strategic Initiatives: Develop innovative initiatives that advance the University's goals, aligning with alumni and corporate interests.
- Fundraising and Partnerships: Pursue fundraising opportunities and nurture corporate partnerships for the University's growth and sustainability.
- Networking and Engagement: Organise events connecting the University, alumni, and corporate partners, facilitating collaboration and resource sharing.
- Communication and Outreach: Engage alumni and corporate partners through informative and inspiring communication channels.
- Performance Measurement: Evaluate and report on the success of alumni and corporate relations initiatives to inform decision-making.
- Community Engagement: Collaborate on community projects and corporate social responsibility initiatives that align with the University's values.

As an integral part of The Career Centre team, the Alumni and Corporate Relations role works closely with colleagues responsible for internships, career events, and other essential services, ensuring a comprehensive approach to supporting the University's students, alumni, and stakeholders.

ALUMNI CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMY

Experts in a range of sectors

The Alumni Community of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is composed of strongly knowledgeable and skilled individuals who benefited from the excellence of the institution during several years. They are the best ambassadors of the University as they contribute to the knowledge-based economy by bringing their expertise in the senior roles they took on in different sectors of the market. The Alumni Council of Trustees, the representing body of the Alumni Community, was elected in 2023 for the period 2023/25 and the profiles of the Council members are a testament to the alignment of the knowledge received and the needs of the market.



Humaid Al Thabahi
Head of Consular Affairs and
Citizens Services-UAE Embassy in
Delhi-India



Rawdha Almeraikhi
Associate Director of Outreach
Mohamed Bin Zayed University of
Artificial Intelligence UAE



Leigh-Ann Jones
Grade level lead-Al Budoor School-
Aldar Education-UAE



Mozn Akhourshiedah
Project Manager DEWA UAE



Hasan Al Hosani
General Manager-Abu Dhabi
Commercial Bank (ADCB)-UAE



Suaad Alsheehani
Cargo Controller - Etihad Airways
UAE



Alyazia Algadi
Business Development Officer-Abu
Dhabi National Exhibition Centre
(ADNEC)-UAE



Rula Bashasha
Assistant Vice -President- Citibank
UAE



Husam, Al-Shaomal
General Accountant
Tornado Group- UAE



Hanouf Almonaifi
Senior Fine Arts Designer-Kuwait
University-Kuwait



Houssam El Banna
Regional Director Middle East
Oger-UAE



Omar Halabi Kayal
Associate-Galadari Advocates and
Legal Consultants-UAE

III. AN EDUCATION MODEL ALIGNED WITH LABOR MARKET DYNAMICS

SUPPORTING LOCAL ENTITIES WITH EXPERTISE

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi supports the knowledge-based economy and the development of high calibre professionals by providing educational courses to a number of entities looking at upskilling their employees.

Upskilling ADDED employees

Since November 2022, the University trains selected employees from the Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development in the fields of Macroeconomics, Data reporting and Policies.

Cooperating with Dassault for academia developments

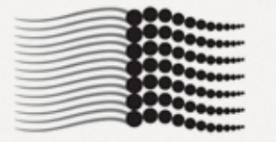
In February 2023, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi and Dassault signed a Memorandum of Understanding to jointly promote & implement cooperation in areas of common interest including students internships, a collaboration in research and academic programmes as well as capacity building & development.

Preparing the future generation of Archives Professionals

In February 2023, the University renewed its long-term agreement with the National Library and Archives to continue offering the comprehensive curriculum in Archives and Records Management from the Foundation to the Master level and continue providing professional and vocational training.



دائرة التنمية الاقتصادية
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



الارشيف والمكتبة الوطنية
National Library and Archives



Collaborating with ADIA (Abu Dhabi Investment Authority)

Providing Lifelong learning opportunities to employees

In 2022, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi accompanied 20 managerial staff from ADIA (Abu Dhabi Investment Authority) by providing them with a 3-month elite level 1 training titled "Mathematics for Finance". This tailor-made programme of 3 levels designed by Sorbonne Abu Dhabi and Sorbonne Centre for Artificial Intelligence Faculty aimed at enhancing employees' skills and expanding their impact by teaching them Machine Learning and Data Science skills and tools related to finance. By completing the 3 levels, employees will have acquired 600 hours of training.

Accompanying ADIA in their high-school students' selection process for sponsorship opportunities

Sorbonne Abu Dhabi was chosen as a partner of choice by ADIA to develop exams in Mathematic for high-school students applying to ADIA's sponsorship programme, to ensure only the best students are retained.

In parallel, the University opened the ADIA summer school "Guided Tour of AI" to train high-school students sponsored by ADIA. These selected students had the chance to become university students for 10 days, receiving high-level knowledge throughout their classes, tutorials, activities, and taking advantage of the housing facilities, and sports building.

VI. RESEARCH & INNOVATION **AT THE CORE**

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi has established itself as a driving force in research and innovation in Abu Dhabi. Abu Dhabi based faculty and Visiting Professors develop complete, applied or fundamental research around innovative subjects that spans topics from Humanities to Sciences and offer an interpretative framework to themes of crucial importance for the UAE. In support of the UAE's vision, SUAD's research strategy is meant to share knowledge and open science to the greatest number of people.



VI. RESEARCH & INNOVATION AT THE CORE

ESTABLISHING THE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

As part of the development of the research strategy at SUAD and as an instrumental step to guarantee the efficiency of Research, the Research Institute was initially created in 2022 with 3 centres and a number of laboratories, to support the research axes and build greater capacity and capability around four key theme areas. In March 2023, and in line with the commitment of SUAD towards sustainability, a fourth centre "Environment" was created.

The Research Institute allows SUAD faculty to benefit from a dual affiliation with research labs in Abu Dhabi and research labs in Sorbonne University Paris, Université Paris Cité and other institutes to foster cross collaborations. Since then, strong collaborations have been developed with Sorbonne University institutes such as the Institute of Environmental Transition, the Observatoire des Patrimoines de l'Alliance Sorbonne Université (OPUS), Sorbonne University Centre for Artificial Intelligence, Centre for Business Law and Management of the University of Paris (CEDAG) at Université Paris Cité, and the Institut Droit et Santé at Université Paris Cité.

4 Research Centres

- Artificial intelligence
- Gulf Studies
- Heritage studies
- Environment

The research developed at SUAD focuses on the fields of expertise of the research faculty and is aligned to the UAE vision 2030 and to support UAE national priorities in terms of implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals by providing expertise in this field.



VI. RESEARCH & INNOVATION AT THE CORE

During the academic year 2022/23, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi's Research efforts focused on three areas of interest, all connected to the developments happening in the country and in the wider Gulf region: **Sustainability, Archives and Diplomacy.**

WOMEN-LED RESEARCH FOR SUSTAINABILITY

The academic year 2022/23 was an occasion to shed light on the women-led research in environment studies. Women researchers at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi have been contributing to advancing research and developing knowledge for the environment in the evident field of sciences but also in the connex fields of geography and archives.



Dr Proscovia Svärd
Associate Professor of Records Management & Archival Science

Greening Information Management for Sustainable Development

This project aims at finding solutions to 'E-waste', generated by technology obsolescence. Rather than looking at finding solutions based on sciences, it looks at developing Green Information Management Systems that would limit the storage of redundant information and at implementing sustainable data stewardship and green policies in the public and private sectors.



Prof Marianne Cohen
Professor of Geography

Nature-Based solutions for a more sustainable city faced with climate change. Case study of Abu Dhabi City, UAE

The research study focuses on green and blue infrastructure in Abu Dhabi as one of the nature based solutions for a sustainable city and aims to assess the extent to which certain forms of urbanization are compatible with floral and avian biodiversity, mitigation of the heat island effect, wellness and walkability in the city of Abu Dhabi.

Based on an interdisciplinary approach combining the analysis of in situ observations of the biodiversity and practices of inhabitants and data from various sources, along with the zonation and modelling of ecological corridors sectors.



Dr Joumana El Rifai
Assistant Professor of Physics

Nanostructured Layers for Energy Harvesting Applications

The research tackles the amount of solar thermal waste produced at the surface of PV panels, that is not put into any practical use and may contribute to a reduction in power output and performance stability. It aims to study the fabrication and characterization of novel materials that are expected to increase light absorption and at the same time make use of energy in the form of thermal waste to incorporate such materials in PV cell applications.



Dr Haïfa Ben Romdhane
Assistant Professor of Geography

Enabling effective and prompt environmental sustainability decision-making through remote sensing and location intelligence

This project targets more accurate knowledge on the UAE habitats' spatial distribution and more insights into their temporal variations. Multimodelling of Geographic Information System (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS) data is developed and tested.

Derived outputs obtained by combining RS, GIS and Artificial Intelligence (AI) can provide valuable insights, allowing features and patterns to be discerned with more accuracy.

VI. RESEARCH & INNOVATION AT THE CORE

LEADING COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH IN RECORDS MANAGEMENT & ARCHIVES

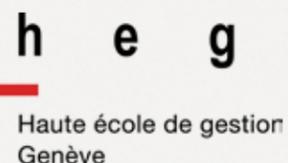
In the recent years, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi has been developing holistic education, training and research in Records Management and Archives, in partnership with the National Library and Archives in the UAE. In 2022/23, the department of History, under which operates the Archives programmes and Research has led on a number of high-profile initiatives reflecting the leadership position that has been built.

Publishing the first Records related handbook in the UAE

The team of Researchers at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, namely Dr Forget Chaterera Zambuko, Dr Victor Kabata and Dr Mehluli Mazuku, wrote "Records Management & Archiving in the UAE, A Beginner's handbook" in which they offer a first comprehensive overview of the fundamental aspects of Records Managements and Archiving and most importantly they establish a picture of Records Management in the UAE's public sector. This is an essential step in the ongoing professionalization of the field in the UAE and the Gulf Region as they contribute to expand the limited literature available at this stage.

Strengthening local & international partnerships

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi extended its partnership with the National Library & Archives in the academic year 2022/23 and signed an additional Memorandum of Understanding with the Haute Ecole de Gestion (HEG), department of sciences and information based in Geneva. This new collaboration widens the horizon for students as they can now benefit from exchange programmes with the HEG, complementing the excellency of the training received at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.



Hosting and participating to the 2nd Symposium of the InterPARES Trust AI

In line with UAE National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence 2031, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi hosted the 2nd Symposium of the InterPARES Trust AI under the theme 'developing a fertile ecosystem for AI through records, data, and information'. InterPARES Trust AI is a multi-national interdisciplinary project, led by the University of British Columbia and to which participates 60 international universities.

Its goal is to design, develop, and leverage Artificial Intelligence to support the ongoing availability and accessibility of trustworthy public records by forming a sustainable, ongoing partnership producing original research, training students and other highly qualified personnel (HQP), and generating a virtuous circle between academia, archival institutions, government records professionals, and industry, a feedback loop reinforcing the knowledge and capabilities of each party.

The symposium aimed at promoting the attainment of the UAE National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence 2031, to establish synergies among different players in promoting the application of emerging technologies in managing information, and to create a platform for global debates on the challenges and opportunities of AI in information management. Seminar Series



VI. RESEARCH & INNOVATION AT THE CORE

ADVANCING CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES

Religious Diplomacy: International Challenges & Opportunities

Research at Sorbonne Abu Dhabi tackles present-day themes, reflecting on current developments in the country. As such and in tandem with the announcement of the Abrahamic Family House, Dr Maïa-Oumeïma Hamrouni, Associate Professor of Law, organized a conference titled "Religious Diplomacy: International Challenges & Opportunities" which addressed three interrelated aspects of Religious Diplomacy, namely how it can defuse conflicts by identifying the actors involved in the promotion of interreligious dialogue and interculturality.

It delved into showing how religious diplomacy positions itself as an alternative to classical diplomacy in defining methods of action and objectives. Finally, it enlightened the way it can be a powerful tool of influence for foreign State policies. Held under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, UAE Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence, the conference hosted key public figures from ministries, representatives from the Christian, Muslim, Jewish and Hindu communities and researchers and was attended by over 30 ambassadors and diplomats.

In collaboration with



Prof / Prof. Silvia Serrano
البروفيسورة سيلفيا سيرانو



HE / S.E. Nickolay Mladenov
سعادة نيكولايف ملادينوف



Dr / Dr. Maïa-Oumeïma Hamrouni
الدكتورة مية أميمة الحمروني



HE / S.E. Jack Lang
سعادة جاك لانغ



HE / S.E. Omar Ghobash
سعادة عمر غباش



HE / S.E. Ali Bin Al Sayed
Abdulrahman Al Hashim
سعادة علي بن السيد عبد الرحمن آل هاشم



HE / S.E. Bishop Paolo Martinelli
سعادة المطران بولو مارتيانيلي



HE / S.E. Rabbi Yehuda Sarna
سعادة لحازم يهودا سارنا



HH / S.A. Brahmavihari Swami
معالي بيرهامافيهاري سوامي



HE / S.E. Bernardino León
سعادة برناردينو ليون



HE / S.E. Joyce Banda
سعادة جويس باندا



HE / S.E. Jean-Christophe Peaucelle
سعادة السفير جان كريستوف بوسيل



HE / S.E. Talmiz Ahmad
سعادة السفير تلميذ أحمد



Prof / Prof. Eric Canal Forgues Alter
البروفيسور إيرك كانال فورجوس ألتير



HE / S.E. Adama Dieng
سعادة أداما ديانغ



Dr / Dr. Gabriel Galice
الدكتور غابرييل غاليس



Prof / Prof. Joseph Maïla
البروفيسور جوزيف ماïلا



HE / S.E. Mohammed Al Dhaheer
سعادة محمد إبراهيم الظاهري

VI. RESEARCH & INNOVATION AT THE CORE

RESEARCH CONFERENCES

During the Academic Year 2022/23 and as part of its research mandate, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi organized research conferences and Seminars, including international ones. Leading global researchers convened to present and share research results to their peers and the wider public. Conferences were also an opportunity to build stronger and wider research networks with locally based and international researchers.

International conferences

During the academic year 2022/23, the University has organized a series of international conferences, bringing together a range of disciplines to shed light on contemporary issues and past issues bringing a new perspective to current developments.

History Department, Dr Yann Rodier

Eloquence of the Body: Physiognomics, Medicine and related sciences between East and West (Middle Ages and Early Modern Times) invited researchers from the UAE, Russia, France and Israel to discuss how several sciences, intellectual curiosity and esthetic attitudes contributed to the development of the perception of human body in all historical societies and the lasting impact it is having on today's research and society. As such, one of the researchers presented how analyzing Arab pharmacopoeia and especially the pharmacology of Al Hamawi is helping find a solution to antibiotic resistant nosocomial infections and could be a breakthrough in today's pharmacology.

InterPARES 2nd Symposium: Developing a Fertile Ecosystem for AI through Records, Data, and Information gathered researchers and specialists from the University of British Columbia, universities in China, the UNESCO and Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi to establish synergies among different players in promoting the application of emerging technologies in managing information, and to create a platform for global debates on the challenges and opportunities of AI in information management and promote the attainment of the UAE National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence 2031.

Law, Economics & Management Department, Prof Nathalie Martial-Braz

Professor Nathalie Martial-Braz, director of the CEDAG (French center for Law and Business Management) gathered French and Emirati researchers and lawyers around two conferences. One analyzed Cryptocurrency Regulation through a comparative perspective between the UAE and the EU regulations to see how the legislator's choices can be inspired by the two, in the face of the objectives pursued regionally in Europe and in the Middle East. They questioned if the private regulations adopted within the DIFC and ADGM free zones can offer the flexibility that the European framework is often criticised for lacking? And if the adoption of the future text of the MiCA regulation in an (almost) federal Europe could constitute an interesting source of inspiration for the UAE legislator?

The other conference entitled **Data Governance for Artificial Intelligence Purposes: Comparative Perspective UAE/GDPR**, offered a comparative analysis of these regulatory frameworks in order to highlight the points of convergence and dissimilarity between the new data protection regulation adopted in the United Arab Emirates (Federal Decree Law No. 45/2021 on the Protection of Personal Data, which came into force in January 2022) and the standard framework constituted by the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Law, Economics & Management Department, Dr Maia-Oumeïma Hamrouni

The Conference Religious Diplomacy: International Challenges and Opportunities brought together internationally renowned public figures to discuss the role of Religious Diplomacy in today's world and how it can be an alternative to traditional diplomacy.

Sciences & Engineering Department, Dr Lama Tarsissi

As the Committee for Women in Mathematics Ambassador in the UAE & Lebanon, Dr Lama Tarsissi organized the Third Edition of International Women in Mathematics Day 2023 where women mathematicians from seven universities and institutes came together to advance the mathematics research in the UAE. It was an occasion to connect women researchers from UAE University, NYUAD, TII, Zayed University, Abu Dhabi University, American University of Sharjah and Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.

Philosophy & Sociology, Dr Clio Chaveneau & CEFREPA, Dr Elizabeth

Dr Clio Chaveneau participated to the international forum Insaniyyat, International Forum for Humanities and Social Sciences which gathered more than 1,400 participants from the MENA region and Europe. She organized one of the only two panels dedicated to the Gulf Region entitled "Khaleeji Public Spaces: Urban diversity, segregations, and sociabilities in the Gulf" during which she presented her research "Exploring Abu Dhabi Public Spaces: Questioning Social Diversity and Hierarchy in their Quotidian Manifestations".



Law, Economics & Management Department, Dr Salem Boubakri

The Impact of COVID-19 on Economic Activities and Wealth Management united researchers and professionals to understand the impact of COVID-19 on international trade and how this has affected the global economic growth. It also focused on explaining how wealth management firms around the world have managed the health crisis, whether their digital transformation have been able to live up to client expectations, and what type of action they are planning to take in the future.

CEFREPA, Dr Elisabeth Vautier

The Contemporary Novel in the Arabian Peninsula, co-organized with CEFREPA and UAE U, offered to researchers from different backgrounds and locations, a platform to discuss knowledge and ideas pertaining to literary topics and to create synergies to develop literary studies on the novel of the peninsula. It also aimed at developing analysis on the situation of the contemporary novel in Arabian Peninsula, by studying the esthetics choices that characterize it, and showing the challenges it is facing as well as the orientations that foreshadow its future.

Sciences & Engineering, Dr Omar El Dakkak

Organized by the Abu Dhabi Stochastics Group, this weekly Abu Dhabi Stochastics Seminar brings together Abu Dhabi based researchers, particularly from New York University Abu Dhabi and Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi and covers a wide range of topics in pure and applied probability as well as Mathematical physics and related areas (eg: Statistics and Machine Learning).

Seminar series in Records Management & Archival Science

Spread throughout the academic year, the seminar series ran under five themes. Captains of industry, digital technology experts as well as relevant practitioners and professionals were invited to engage in conversations on records management and archival science in the Arabian Peninsula. Issues discussed included Records & Archives as enablers of knowledge economies, AI & Records and Archives, Audio-visual Heritage Management, Digital Preservation Strategies, universal access to information, Archives & Climate Change, The future of Galleries, Libraries, Archives & Museums as the backbone of UAE's Cultural Heritage. Overall, the seminar series explored the current trends and patterns in records management and archival science.

- International Day for universal access to information, September 28,2022 by Dr. David Fricker and Dr Svård Proscovia
- Artificial Intelligence, Records and Archives, October 20,2022 by Hamad Abdulla Al Mutairi, Zakaria Elabid and Wridhi Majumder
- International Audio-Visual Heritage Day, October 27, 2022 by Mohan Krishnan and Ahmad Saeed Al Areef Al Dhaheri
- Artificial Intelligence and Health Records, SUAD, November 28, 2022 by Dr Hamed Ali Al Hashemi, Vikaas Sudera and Maxence De Rochechouart
- Archives as Enablers of Knowledge Economies, February 2,2023 by Dr Wafaa Ali, Dr Zulpat Aziyeva and Shaima Al Aydarous
- Archives and Climate Change, April 27,2023 by Dr Haïfa Ben Romdhane, Dr David Fricker and Dr Seyda Tilev



VI. RESEARCH & INNOVATION AT THE CORE

SUAD – CEFREPA DIWANS

This annual cycle of conferences presents French research in human and social sciences across the Arabian Peninsula. Organised by Sorbonne University and the CEFREPA (French Research Centre of the Arabian Peninsula), it connects local research entities with a wider research network and is a key opportunity to present research performed in the region.

- Preislamic Oman: a History to Write, October 31,2022 by Mounir Arbach
- Issues of Qur’anic Studies at Al-Zaytuna University in Tunis in the Last Decade, November 22,2022 by Géraldine Jenvrin
- Algeria at the time of Arab nationalism and pan Islamism: the tours of the Seikh al-Ibrâhîmî (Oulemas’ association) in the Middle-East in the 1950’s, February 27,2023 by Charlotte Courreye
- The Contemporary Novel in the Arabian Peninsula, March16,2023



Research Awards

Professor Mathieu Tillier wins the Sheikh Zayed Book Award

Professor Mathieu Tillier won the prestigious Sheikh Zayed Book Award under the category “Arab Culture in Other Languages” for his book entitled “L’invention du cadî: La justice des musulmans, des juifs et des chrétiens aux premiers siècles de l’Islam”.(The Muslims, Jews and Christians justice during the first centuries of Islam) The annual award is one of the Arab World’s most prestigious and well-funded prizes.

Professor Tillier is a Professor of Medieval Islamic History at Sorbonne Université (Paris) and a regular visiting professor at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi. His award-winning book is an important contribution to the field of Islamic history, and a testament to his dedication to academic excellence.



جائزة الشيخ زايد للكتاب
Sheikh Zayed Book Award

VI. RESEARCH & INNOVATION AT THE CORE

SUPPORTING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN THE UAE

The University has been supporting research and innovation through publications in peer reviewed journals in the fields of humanities, social sciences and science and developing partnerships with major industry players to develop further research and development in the country. As such, the Sorbonne Centre for Artificial Intelligence was created with two chairs of excellence TotalEnergies and Thales. To further enhance these efforts, the department of Innovation and Research Partnerships was established in early 2023 and additional partnerships are under development.

Advancing research for the benefit of the UAE

In January 2023, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi signed a tripartite agreement with Thales and Tawazun Technology & Innovation aiming at developing comprehensive research in the field of Artificial Intelligence, and therefore expanding research and innovation in the fields of defense, innovation, and technology.

THALES



Developing Innovation and Research Partnerships

In January 2023, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi opened the department of Innovation and Research Partnerships to support Research at the university and strengthen collaborations with external partners, from industry players to business communities and private and public sector in the country.

Led by H el ene Daniel, former Managing Director French Business Group Abu Dhabi & Deputy Managing Director & Business Development at the Emirati-French Chamber of Commerce, the department strives to anchor Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi in the regional innovation ecosystems by developing partnerships with UAE based or UAE owned companies.

By identifying the sectors of excellence at the University on the one hand and the strategic sectors being developed by the emirate of Abu Dhabi and the UAE on the other hand; the department's goal is to become the preferred partner of government entities, businesses, and industry in the UAE.

In 2022/23, the department started to build a network of professionals from the public and private sectors and academics of the university to develop research and innovative projects in common fields of interest.

Furthermore, and with the Legal Adviser, it started putting in place a legal framework to structure and consolidate the development of existing and future research partnerships. In addition, the department also monitors agreements and promotes their outcomes.



"My role is to grow industry engagement and promote the University research and innovation activities and its application at National and Global stages."

H el ene Daniel

Head of the Innovation & Strategic Partnerships Department

VI. RESEARCH & INNOVATION AT THE CORE

POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS' RESEARCH

Postgraduate students represent a key component of the research activity at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi through work undertaken for their master's thesis or capstone project reports. With a strong connection to the current social issues, the student research addresses contemporary issues, participate in advancing public policies and contribute to providing data and a better understanding of areas that are key in the process of building the future of the UAE. Below is a list of master thesis defended in the areas of teaching at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi.

Master thesis in Applied Sociological Research

- The golden visa: anatomy of making a long-term home in the UAE"
- Parental Impact on Juvenile Delinquent Self-Perception in Relation to Social Bond and Shame "
- A Transition of Love: Emirati Youths Perception of Love Marriages"
- Revealing the Burnout Issues In The Workplace Environment"
- "Experiences at the Museum: Exploring children's experiences at Louvre children's museum"
- "The impact of Globalization on Muslim Homo Economicus in the UAE"

Master thesis in Environment: Dynamics of Territories and Societies

- "Assessing the Use of Oil and Gas Produced water for Soil Aquifer treatment in Abu Dhabi".
- "Food Security & Social Awareness in the United Arab Emirates"
- "Impact of Rejected Disposable Brine from Inland Desalination Plants on Soil and Groundwater in Liwa Oasis-UAE"
- "Ecotourism in the UAE"

Master thesis in International Business Law

- Combating Money Laundering in the UAE
- Foreign Investment Law – A Comparison between the UAE and France
- Money Laundering in the UAE

Master thesis in International Law, International Relations and Diplomacy

- Analysis of UAE Law for the Foreign Investment
- How can UAE citizens purchase a land in Judea and Samaria

Master thesis in Banking and Finance: Law and Regulations of Banking and Financial Systems

- Impact of Digital Banks on Conventional Banks in the UAE
- Corporate Governance in Higher Education: A case study of Higher Educational Institutes in Abu Dhabi
- Protection of Bank's customers in the UAE
- Impact of COVID-19 on profitability of Banks in UAE and France: Trends, Issues and Determinants
- Green Taxonomy and its implications for UAE

Master thesis in Health Economics

- Mental Health and Mental health literacy importance and challenges in the UAE

Master thesis in Marketing, Management, Communication, Media

- Arabic coffee as a way of communication
- The Transformation & Continuity of Emirati Female Entrepreneurs
- How globalization impacts brand strategies –Emirates Airline
- EXPO 2020 as a huge communication strategy and soft power for the UAE
- The Impact of Linguistic Globalization on the Arabic Language Among Arab Youth in Abu Dhabi

Master thesis in Teaching French as a Foreign Language

- Français Langue Etrangère dans le contexte de l'éducation supérieure

Master in History of Art and Museum Studies

- Museum engagement and emotional well-being
- Evaluation in Natural History Museums
- The power of visual culture in the modern Arab world: a case study on Palestine (1948) and Egypt (1952)
- Curating the Gulf: The Desert as a cultural movement
- Originality: a story of belief: why do museums need to have original artworks in their collection?
- Abu Dhabi's soft power through the architecture of museums
- Children education and behaviour in museums and the various supportive mediation tools
- Fact or fiction? Artistic dialogue between Picasso and Islamic art
- Learning for Senior Emiratis in Museums of the United Arab Emirates: Do Emirati museums recognize senior Emiratis through their educational programming?
- Art masterpieces and museum identity

V. CONTRIBUTING TO **THE ENVIRONMENT & SOCIETY**

Community Engagement and Environment friendly practices are at the heart of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi priorities. During the academic year 2022/23, the University played its role of connecting all citizens and communities through creating a space for knowledge sharing, and discussions on topics of crucial importance for our societies, here in the UAE and abroad.



V. CONTRIBUTING TO THE ENVIRONMENT & SOCIETY

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

During the Academic Year 2022/23, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi prioritize raising awareness about climate change by announcing its Go Green Year and therefore organizing throughout the year internal and public events to advance the cause of Climate Change.

Sorbonne University's participation to strategic events & programmes

In line with its sustainable goals, the University participated to national and regional key events, aiming at sharing knowledge, developing research and finding solutions to mitigate the effects of the Climate Change on our societies and economies.

Students participated to workshops during Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week in January 2023 playing a role at the Youth 4 Sustainability Forum and discussing with representatives of IRENA, in another workshop.

The University was also invited in May to the conference UAE Climate Tech, organized by the Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology, ADNOC and Masdar to reflect on the crossed role of Industry, renewable energy companies and Academia in the fight for Sustainability.

In June, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi participated to the Times Higher Education Global Sustainable Development Congress hosted by the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) in Saudi Arabia and which brought together over 1,600 global thought leaders and innovators to discuss urgent solutions to the sustainability emergency.

An active member of the COP 28 Universities Climate Change Network to lead global efforts in the Academia Sector in the UAE, the University has also been engaged in the ADERN research network by the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi and in the UAE Climate Change Research Network of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment to take part in the establishment of high-quality research networks in the country.

Sustainable outreach activities for the community

This year, the University organized sustainable outreach activities having a direct impact on the community. Students organized two off campus activities to give back to the Nature and take action for the protection of the environment. They hand planted over 60 mangroves in Reem island to offset the carbon footprint of the university in terms of printing during the year and they collected 115kg of waste during the beach clean-up day.

On campus, three events took place between March and May 2023 addressing the community. Sheikh Abdul Aziz bin Ali Al Nuaimi "The Green Sheikh" delivered a talk during which he presented his vision of "a sustainable tomorrow". The Night of Ideas, in cooperation with the French embassy, Veolia, and Sea Cleaners, welcomed the public to raise awareness on sustainability and present innovative solutions to protect our planet.

As a Francophone University, it was also important to target the French and Francophone community in the UAE by organizing "The Green Dictation", a spelling contest known as "La Grande Dictée" in France and organized in Abu Dhabi in cooperation with RECCAP by Veolia and eleven international partners & twelve international sponsors. The text, written by Dr Karine Germoni, tackled climate change issues and invited contestants to reflect on climate change in a interactive setting.

Talk: A sustainable tomorrow through the eyes of the Green Sheikh

Students' engagement for sustainability

Students have been massively engaged in sustainable activities and initiatives. As such Year 2 Law Student, Malick Kouassi Traoré was nominated as the University's Green Ambassador and therefore becoming the spokesperson of the students community. Students of the Environmental Health Club also played an active role by organizing awareness sessions and events for students. In addition, six students' events were held on campus:

- o Sustainability Day Workshops
- o Sustainable monthly Movie Nights
- o Green Talk: "Sustainable Future: Ideas Worth Spreading"
- o Sustainability Escape Game for FLE students
- o Students Green Festival
- o Go Green Recycling Challenge at the student housing



V. CONTRIBUTING TO **THE ENVIRONMENT & SOCIETY**

Students' engagement for sustainability

Two students of the Sciences & Engineering Department significantly contributed to the efforts of companies towards limiting the effect of climate change.



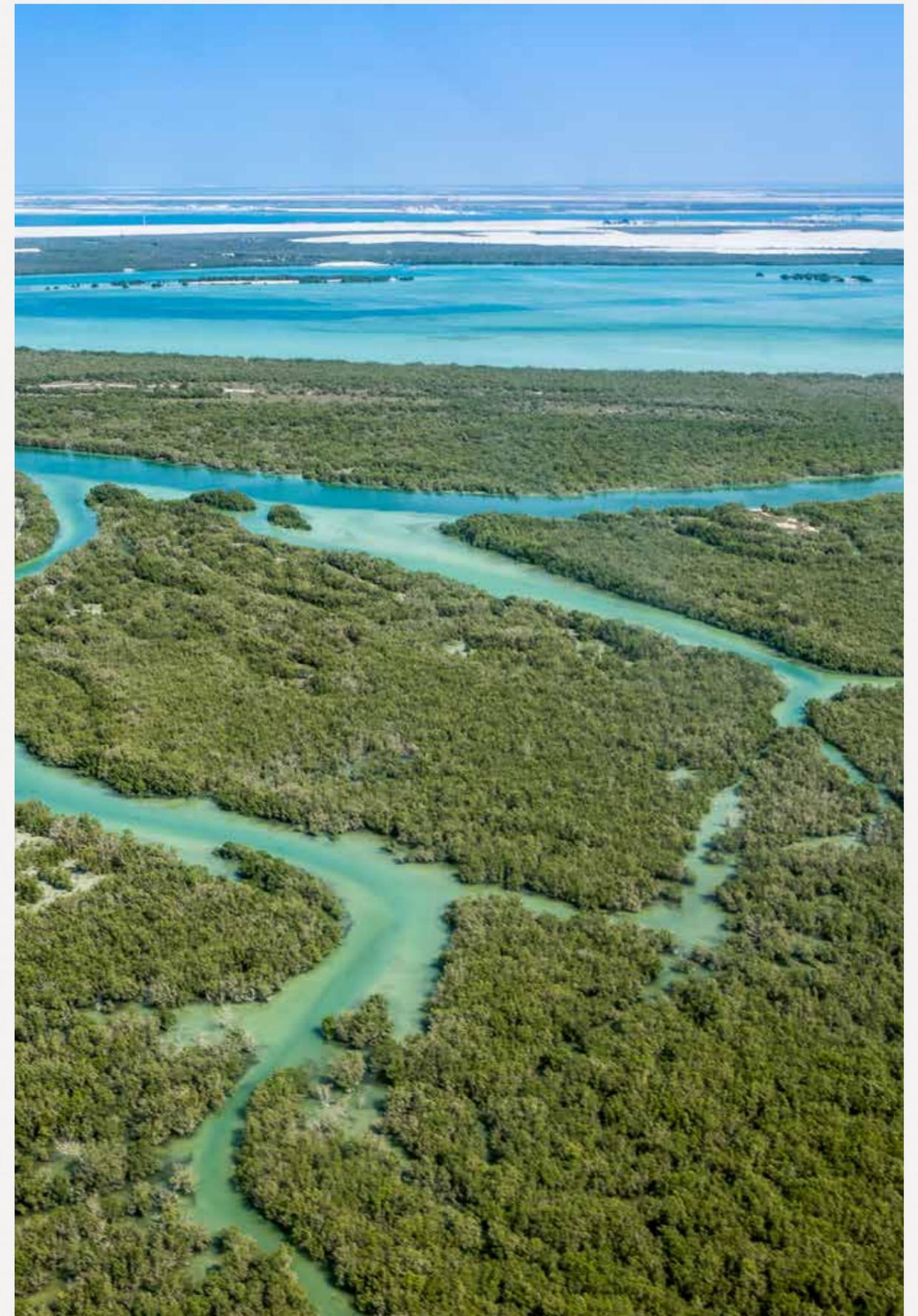
Zeina Qassem

A year 1 student in Mathematics completed an internship at FortyGuard whom uses up-to date technologies and advanced statistical tools to cool cities. Zeina studied and analyzed heat maps and extracted temperature data of cities (New York City, San Francisco, etc..) to build essential data sets for working towards solutions of global warming.



Mohamad Nasar

A year 2 student in Mathematics won the first place at the Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) Future Innovators Hackathon for his project on deploying 600 EV chargers known as charging stations for electrical vehicles across the city.



V. CONTRIBUTING TO THE ENVIRONMENT & SOCIETY

A KNOWLEDGE CENTER IN THE CITY

As a multidisciplinary research university, Sorbonne Abu Dhabi is not only a knowledge creator and a knowledge broadcaster with its students and research faculty but also with the wider community. In fact, during the academic year 2022/23 over 100 events open to the public with the aim to share knowledge and engage with the society..

Research outreach activities

Research outreach activities play a key role in the university's life as they increase the relation with the external community and allow to connect with the society by discussing a wide variety of topics, all having an impact on today's society.

On the occasion of the International Translation Day, Dr Hana Subhi organized a round table, in collaboration with Kalima reading club and the Arabic Language Centre, mainly focusing on the significance of the Arabic translation of the novel *La Quarantaine* by Jean- Marie Gustave Le Clezio, Nobel prize laureate in 2008, and the Arabic Translation of the book of the French philosopher Edgar Morin "The humanity of the Humanity, the human identity".

As History plays an important role in reflecting on nowadays societies, Dr Yann Rodier proposed a talk with renowned historians François Crouzet and Elisabeth Crouzet-Pavan on the theme What history tells us about our societies in which they attempt to respond to the fruitful questioning on what history teaches us about our societies and the work of the historian, torn between an ever-present past and a past present with sometimes disturbing echoes.



During the holy month of Ramadan, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi organized its yearly Ramadan Talks to open discussions on themes related to Ramadan from a philosophical, historical or economical point of view. This year, Dr Omar Bortolazzi, Associate Professor of Political Sciences, talked about Social Solidarity and Islamic Welfare and explained the difference between Islamic philanthropy and philanthropy in Muslim Countries.

The University also welcomed the winners of the literary Sheikh Zayed Book Award for a discussion on literature and their winning books.

Professor Jalila Al Tritar: winner of the Art & Literary Criticism Award for her book *Women Views: Studies on Arab Women Self Writings*.

Said Khatibi: winner of the Young Author Award for his novel *The End of the Desert*'.

Les Entretiens d'Abu Dhabi "Towards an International Hub of Talents"

On 14 November 2022, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi hosted the third edition of Les Entretiens d'Abu Dhabi, an open exchange dialogue bringing France and UAE together, organized by CCI France, the French Embassy in the UAE and l'Abbaye de Royaumont. Inspired by Les Entretiens de Royaumont founded in 2003 at the Royaumont Abbey in France, Les Entretiens d'Abu Dhabi promote a free-wheeling dialogue amongst representatives from sciences, economy, arts and education.

As part of the France UAE strategic dialogue, and in a national context of Emiratization, Les Entretiens d'Abu Dhabi aimed at analyzing UAE transformations in both its economic and foreign policies, as well as understanding the importance and value of the Emirati talent pool being a part of the broader private sector.

Today, UAE nationals employed in the private sector represents 3.7% and the private sector was given five years (2021-2025) to increase it to 10% of the total workforce while France is the fourth largest investor in the UAE with over 600 French companies including CAC 40 companies and the largest expatriate community in the Middle East with nearly The UAE has also the largest French expatriate community in the Middle East with over 30,000 expatriates living in the UAE.

In a transition to a post-oil economy, the vision of the UAE strives for sustainable development and diversification of economic resources in which the 300,000 Youth enrolled in universities play a pivotal role as the sustainable leadership of tomorrow.



V. CONTRIBUTING TO THE ENVIRONMENT & SOCIETY

AN ARTS CENTER IN THE CITY

Arts play a key role in the development of the society and encourages cohesion within societies. Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is devoted to uniting communities around performing arts to reflect on the role of arts in the society and to promote cultural diversity as a Bridge between Civilizations”.

Promoting arts through cultural performances

During semester two, pianists Marie Sontag, and Dr Claude Vishnu Spaak, who’s also a Philosophy professor at Sorbonne Abu Dhabi enchanted the community with Illusions, Dreams and Impressions, a musical evening during which the community could experience the power of classical music and its full range of emotions.

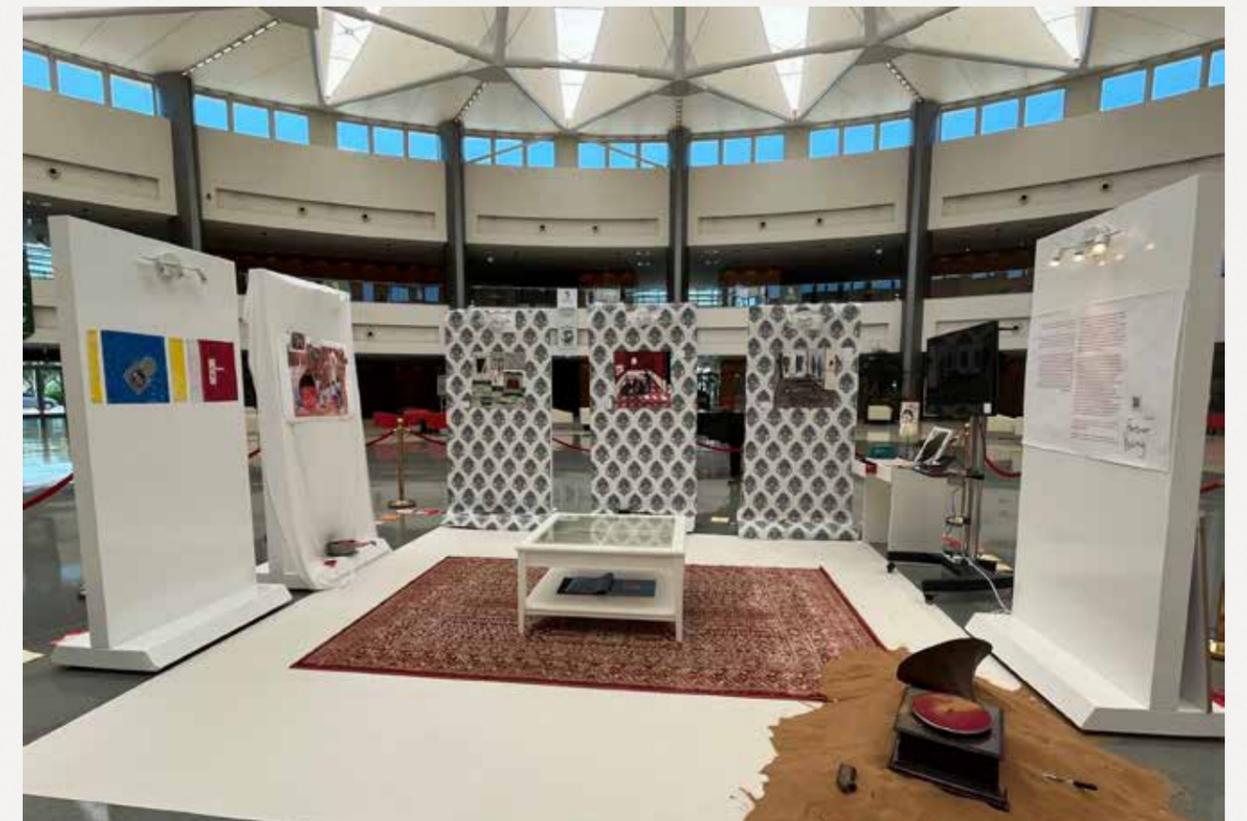
As part of the Korean Festival held on campus, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi in collaboration with the Embassy of the Republic of Korea and the Korean Cultural Center organized the performance Connect with K-Arts Dance by the Korea National University of Arts “K-Arts Dance Company”.



Exhibitions for Cultural Diversity and Discovery

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi has built a strong partnership with the Embassy and Cultural Centre of Korea in the UAE throughout the years. This collaboration extends to universities in Korea, promoting UAE-Korea ties and the links between the two cultures. In the Korean Traditional Paintings by Promising Painters exhibition, young artists of the Korea National University of Cultural Heritage reinterpreted forty-five traditional Korean painting embedding both Korean and Arab traditional culture.

The Forever Young Exhibition by Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi talented artist and graduate Medyyah Altamimi revealed the concept of Girlhood or what it is like to be growing up in the UAE as an Emirati girl. Medyyah shed light on realities with strong paintings by Bahraini artist Huda Jamal depicting her poems and personal family photographs, usually kept private. She brought into the exhibition other elements characteristics of UAE homes for an immersive discovery journey.



V. CONTRIBUTING TO THE ENVIRONMENT & SOCIETY

BRINGING THE BEST OF SPORTS PRACTICE & KNOWLEDGE TO THE PUBLIC

The Sports Centre at Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi has two main functions. It is designed to accompany students enrolling in sports activities as part of their curriculum and it also operates as a sports centre open to the public.

Offering excellence in sports practice and knowledge

The Sports Centre offers high level practice of sports to the community through its programme "Sports Classes Accessible to the Public". First introduced in 2017, it provides residents of the UAE with an innovative approach to sports and access to elite trainers. Today, it counts over 200 members from preschoolers to adults can enjoy up to ten different activities (tennis, climbing, martial arts, dance, volleyball, badminton, basketball, futsal or even fitness) and be trained by former sports professionals playing for national teams.

In addition to the sports practice offering, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi offers an Executive Diploma in Sports Management as part of its continuing and executive education department, in partnership with CIES/FIFA and the UAE Football Federation. The certificate aims at training high level executives, and senior management of sports organizations.

A high-end offer in climbing activities and culture

The Sports Centre offers exclusive classes, trainings and classes in climbing with a dedicated team of professional climbers led by climber Magdalena M. Nowak. From classes for beginners to more advanced levels, Magdalena also developed climbing injuries prevention classes and organizes conferences on climbing throughout the year to enhance climbing knowledge and culture amongst the climbing community in the UAE.

The sports centre also organized the Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi open Bouldering Championship 2023 – international climbing competition sponsored by the Abu Dhabi Sports Council, The North Face, ADISL, Traks Pro, Two Pandas, Nirvana and supported by the Saudi Climbing and Hiking Federation to secure IFSC-certified judges. During this 2-day competition, 160 participants from 40 countries competed and trials for young Emiratis were also organized to find the next generation of Emirati climbers.

Developing sports activities with People of Determination

During the Academic Year 2022/23 and in association with Rab3i platform, the University hosted two climbing events and 1 judo event for people of determination. During these activities, students, members of the community and people of determination were paired together to perform activities.



Providing state-of-the-art facilities for VIP sports events

The state-of-the-art facilities have been attracting private companies to use the facilities for their practice. As part of an agreement with SMK tennis Academy, an elite private tennis club, empowering women, sports classes are being held on campus for kids and adults, participating further to enhancing brand reputation.

V. OUR IMPACT

CAMPAIGNS:

Main Campaigns **6**

Advertising Campaigns **425**

Targeted Countries **27**

People Reach **29,030,443**

Ads Impression **638,428,945**

Ads Engagements **7,337,926**

Ads Clicks **3,785,961**

Leads **135,183**

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Total Posts **1,082**

Total Followers **142,740**

Total Engagements **70,136**

WEBSITE:

Website Visitors **1,613,658**

Website Sessions **2,267,184**

Website Pageviews **3,530,528**

42 PRESS RELEASES

with a circulation reach of **9,700,700**

180+ EVENTS SUPPORTED

in person, online and hybrid



V. OUR SPONSORS

THE FRIENDS OF SORBONNE UNIVERSITY ABU DHABI ASSOCIATION

The Friends of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi Association was established under the patronage of HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces. It is supported by the French Ambassador to the UAE. The Association was founded in Spring 2007 as a result of a group collaboration between Emirati and French residents in the UAE who are keen to support the development of a prestigious and ambitious project, while bringing together renowned Emirati and French companies as strategic partners in the outreach and development of Sorbonne Abu Dhabi. Members of the Association believe that education and culture are a crucial part in the economic development and the wellbeing of the community. The Association's primary role is to seek funds to support the university's scholarships and to facilitate the transition of graduates into the professional world.

The Association Executive Committee consists of:

- President:** Mrs Fairouz Villain
- Vice-President:** HE Saeed Al Hajiri, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA)
- Vice-President:** Mr Sultan Al Hajji, French alliance Abu Dhabi
- General Secretary:** Mrs Asma Al Ghanem, Doctors without Borders
- Committee Member:** Dr Usra Soffan, National Center for Documentation and Research
- Committee Member:** Mrs Eudeline de Tinguy, Thinkers & Doers
- Committee Member:** Mrs Raphaële Francois-Poncet, Baker & McKenzie/Habib Al Mulla
- Committee Member:** Mr Hussain Al Jaziri, Ja'afar Alwan, Al Jaziri & Associates
- Committee Member:** Prof Silvia Serrano, Vice-Chancellor of Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi
- Member of Honour:** Prof Nathalie Drach-Temam, President of Sorbonne University
- Member of Honour:** HE Nicolas Niemtchinow, French Ambassador to the UAE

Gold



Silver



Bronze



THE COMPANIONS OF ENLIGHTENMENT OF SORBONNE UNIVERSITY ABU DHABI

The Companions of Enlightenment of Sorbonne Abu Dhabi is a sponsorship programme, which brings together individuals and companies that have privileged relations with the university. These philanthropic donations support the local and international research development at the university, the Master's scholarships programme, and the university's events.world.

Our existing companions of enlightenment are:

Individual sponsors:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| The late Mrs Claire Matta & Mr Albert Matta | Ms Fakhera Ahmed Al Kindi |
| Mr Ziad Salloum | Ms Alya Ahmed Al Kindi |
| Mr Walid Halabi Mrs Badreya Riyad El Ferekh AlFahim | Ms Maimoona Ahmed Al Kindi |
| Mr Jean-Paul Villain | Dr Chawki Mounayer |
| Ms Fatima Ahmed Al Kindi | |

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