

كلية طب وايل كورنيل في قطر  
Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

*Member of Qatar Foundation*

# The Foundation Times



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On behalf of the foundation class of 2012, I introduce the Foundation Times—a newsletter written and produced by the foundation students. I have had the distinct pleasure of teaching a bright group of students who are full of energy, drive, and ambition. They worked hard and were eager to share with you the fruits of a productive academic year. This publication showcases a myriad of exciting activities ranging from the student's celebration of the Mole Day and the International Year of Chemistry to their adventurous field trips to the Inland Sea and Shaikh Faisal Museum. Have you ever wondered what Deans Sheikh and Ameduri's favorite books are? Well, foundation students had the privilege to find out through their interviews with our college leaders. If you also like to read, check out the student's great reviews of fiction and nonfiction texts and log on the blog they created—[www.writingmajlis.com](http://www.writingmajlis.com) to catch a glimpse of their entries and peer's responses about these books. This newsletter promises an impressive mosaic of stories, art, Cornell life, book and movie reviews, and student accomplishments. I am proud of my students' hard work and dedication, and it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the Foundation Times.

Dr. Rachid Bendriss

# Events @ Cornell



Here's where the fun begins :)



# Bio Field Trip



Al Jazi & Jaber

On February 21, 2012, the 2012 Foundation class supported their theoretical studies about Bacteria and Archea by going on a trip to Khor Al-Edaid. Five cars were prepared to take us to our destination, with the foundation students showing their DJ skills from the back seats. We went the long way around, over high dunes and salt flats, then found out later that there is an even more treacherous shortcut called "Devil's Path" for all its turns and hills. The purpose of the trip was to collect three samples of cyanobacteria, which are green bacteria that use light to photosynthesize. The samples were taken back to the lab where their respiration was measured. It was a smelly trip due to the sulfur bacteria, and had its slippery moments because we waded through the water on top of the slimy membrane some cyanobacteria have. Despite the cold weather, slimy terrain and our wet clothes, we had a lot of fun at the inland sea. We then moved on to a camp where we could relax and have lunch. Some of the students went camel riding while others went sand boarding, and others just relaxed on the beach.

Kahlid Al-Marri & Dana Al-is'haq made us proud

# Education Excellence Day



Foundation Students Win a Prestigious Award in the Education Excellence Day. Two Foundation students and a Weill Cornell Medical College of Qatar graduate were lauded at the prestigious Annual Education Excellence Day for their high academic achievements. His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Heir Apparent and the Chairman of the Supreme Education Council, in the presence of Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser, Chair of Qatar Foundation and Vice-Chair of the Supreme Education Council, presented 28 awards for academic excellence. Among the winners, two from Foundation program were awarded during the ceremony at the Doha Convention Center. Dana Al-Eshaq won the High School Platinum Award and Khalid Al-Marri won the High School Gold Award.

"It has been an amazing experience for me and I encourage other students to work hard at their studies because it brings rewards. We can only improve ourselves and our country by education and it is something that I always try to do," Dana said. Khalid Al-Marri was a school leader and high achieving student at Al Shahaniya Independent School for Boys in Doha before starting at WCMC-Q. "This award is such an honor and privilege for me and I thank all my teachers for the support they have given me over many years. I am grateful for their help and for their encouragement which has resulted in me winning this prestigious award," Khalid said.

# Mole Day

Every year on the 23rd of October, foundation students organize a celebration of Mole Day, named and dated for Avogadro's Number,  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$ . Although chemistry is a challenge not every student enjoys, the foundation students managed to make Mole Day a fun, engaging, and educational event. A short comic play was performed by the students, telling the story of Avogadro and his discovery. They even proceeded with engaging jokes, questions and presentations by the students. Many people attended the event and hopefully got a little bit more educated about the importance of moles; it was a great experience for us foundation students as well to be the entertainers.



# Shaikh Faisal Museum

In the second semester, the English professor Dr. Bendriss organized a field trip for the foundation students to the Sheikh Faisal Museum located in Shahaniyah, west of Doha. We, the foundation students, were asked to take pictures of the artifacts we liked; it was fun, and we used the photographs in our English class for a creative writing assignment. The museum was beautiful and so was the company: our professors and TAs joined us in exploring the history of Qatar and its people. It was an amazing, educational and engaging experience. We recommend you to visit the Sheikh Faisal Museum and enjoy Qatar's history!



# Chemistry in Medicine

## Chemistry Symposium, Fatima

On November 26th, 2011, WCMC-Q hosted a Chemistry Symposium competition to celebrate the International Year of Chemistry (IYC) 2011. Prior to the presentations, students from different schools and undergraduate institutions submitted abstracts illustrating the relationship between chemistry and medicine. After being evaluated by the WCMC-Q faculty, a number of these students were promoted to the next stage of the competition, the presentations. All the Foundation students participated in writing an abstract. Even though only five were promoted, this experience itself was rewarding and fun. Jaber Al-Adba, Eman Al-Mosleh, Zahra Hejji, Dana AL-Ishaq, and I were promoted to the presentation stage. It was an intense competition against first year per-med students and QU pharmacy students.



The Foundation students presented some interesting topics; for example, Zahra's presentation was about the use of radioactive elements in ECG, and mine was about the use of chemistry to help in finding the cause and a cure for Alzheimer's disease. I honestly felt that we performed well and I actually believed one of us would win. None of us did win, but being able to participate in this experience was rewarding enough.



# Arts



## Bashayer Hassan

One of the most remarkable fashion icons in the fashion industry is Versace, an Italian trademark created by Gianni Versace in 1978. Versace outfitted many famous figures, including Princess Diana, Elton John, Madonna, and Tina Turner, before he was murdered in 1997. People hear the name of this brand everyday and everywhere, but how much do they really know about Versace?



Gianni Versace was born on December 2, 1946 in Reggio di Calabria, Italy. He moved to Milan in 1972 to begin working for a variety of Italian fashion companies until he finally found his own sense of style. In 1978, he launched his first ready-to-wear collection for women, and was widely recognized afterwards by a number of international designers. Perhaps one of the factors that distinguished Versace from other designers was that he used innovative materials and fabrics for his clothing. For example, he once designed a dress that was made of aluminum! In addition to the unique materials, Versace was awarded for creating new techniques to fuse leather and rubber using laser technology. Not long after, he started designing stage costumes for many pop artists such as Madonna and Tina Turner, which expanded his brand internationally. In addition to clothes, Versace published numerous books, such as *The Art of Being You* and *Rock and Royalty*.

### Henna, Jaber S.

Henna is a flowering plant that is used to dye skin, hair, fingernails, and leather. The henna plant is native to tropical and subtropical regions of Africa and southern Asia in arid-zones. Henna is commercially cultivated in many Arab countries such as Morocco, Saudi Arabia, and India. Henna has been used in the Bronze Age to dye different regions of the body and is traditionally used in various ceremonies and celebrations. Most groups in the areas where henna grew naturally celebrate the Night of the Henna: Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Christians and Zoroastrians, among others, all celebrate marriages by adorning the bride, and often the groom, with henna. The magic coloring property of this extraordinary plant comes from lawsone, a burgundy organic compound that has an affinity for bonding with proteins. This compound is tremendously concentrated in the leaves. Preparing henna to dye skin is an easy task, it only requires mixing the following ingredients: henna powder, lemon juice, essential oil, and sugar. Henna is very healthy for hair; one of its advantages is strengthening the hair shaft and reducing the occurrence of dandruff. It also conditions the hair and colors it in a safe and natural way. There are other beneficial properties such as improving defense against infections when henna is applied on skin and lowering inflammation that results in pain.



## Reviews

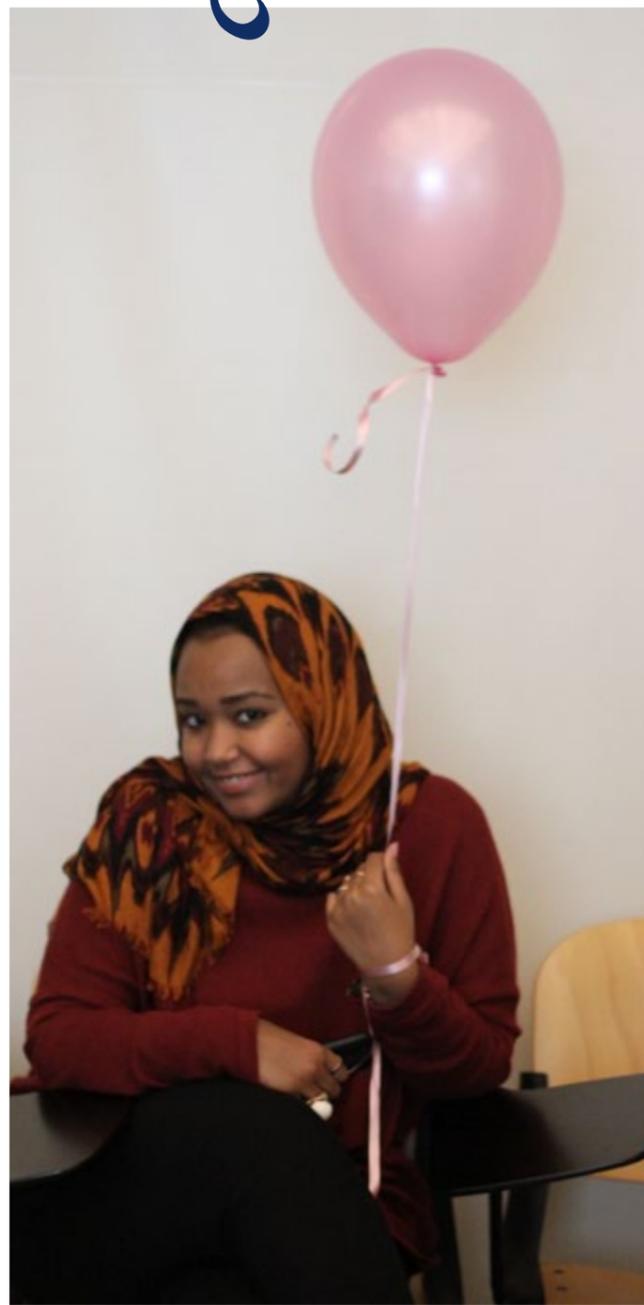


### Mission Impossible IV: Ghost Protocol by Dana

This movie is a continuation of the successful Mission Impossible series. Tom Cruise, who acted in the previous three movies, is the featured actor. Cruise stars as Ethan Hunt, a super agent, who accomplishes the most impossible mission. The movie was filmed in many different parts of the world; however, the scene in Dubai on the Burj Khalifa accounts for the success of the movie worldwide.

### **Under The Tuscan Sun by Reem**

Under The Tuscan Sun is a travel memoir written by Frances Mayes in 1995 and published two years later in 1997 by Broadway Company. Frances Mayes is an American author from San Francisco and a creative writing professor at San Francisco University. She is also a poet, a cook, and a traveler. In her memoir Under The Tuscan Sun, Mayes recalls her time spent in Tuscany. After suffering from a bad divorce, Mayes felt that her life ended and all the doors were shut in her face. The author discusses her decision to buy the Bramasole house in Tuscany, which was a sign of growth and strength. However, the core theme of the book is when Mayes realized that the house she bought eventually became a home. The author's trip to Tuscany was a healing experience for her soul. It is a place where she felt home, grew as a person and discovered the unknown, which turned out to give her happiness. I enjoyed reading this memoir. Mayes was vulnerable, her emotions flooded in to the letters on the page. I liked her growth as a person; it is fascinating to me how she found happiness. I remember the first time I went to Italy. I was stunned by the beauty of people, food and history. I recommend this book for those of you who love to discover new cultures and great food, and those who are not afraid to take risks when your instinct whispers.



### **The Notebook by Maryam**

"The Notebook" by Nicholas Sparks is a mix of both love and tragic stories set in World War II. A young boy, Noah, falls in love with a young girl, Allie, from a high status family, but the financial class realities stop them from being together and force them to separate. However, Noah does not give up hope and writes Allie a letter every day for a year, yet his letters are left unanswered. Noah then goes off to war trying to forget about the love of his life. Later, after Noah comes back from the war to his old farmhouse, he restored it just as he promised Allie he would. After 14 years of separation, a newspaper article about a very nice fancy house, the house that was renewed and reconstructed by Noah, catches Allie's eye and she decides to return to him, reentering his life for two days. The only problem is that she is now engaged to another wealthy young man. Would Allie break her family rules and her fiancé's heart to be with the person she always loved, or follow her family and be with the person they chose for her for the rest of her life?

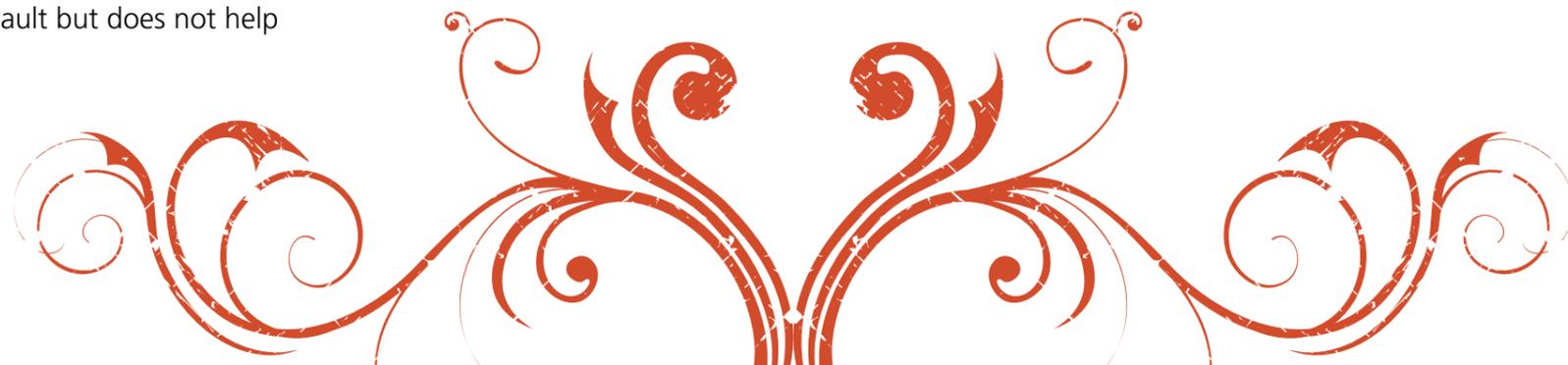
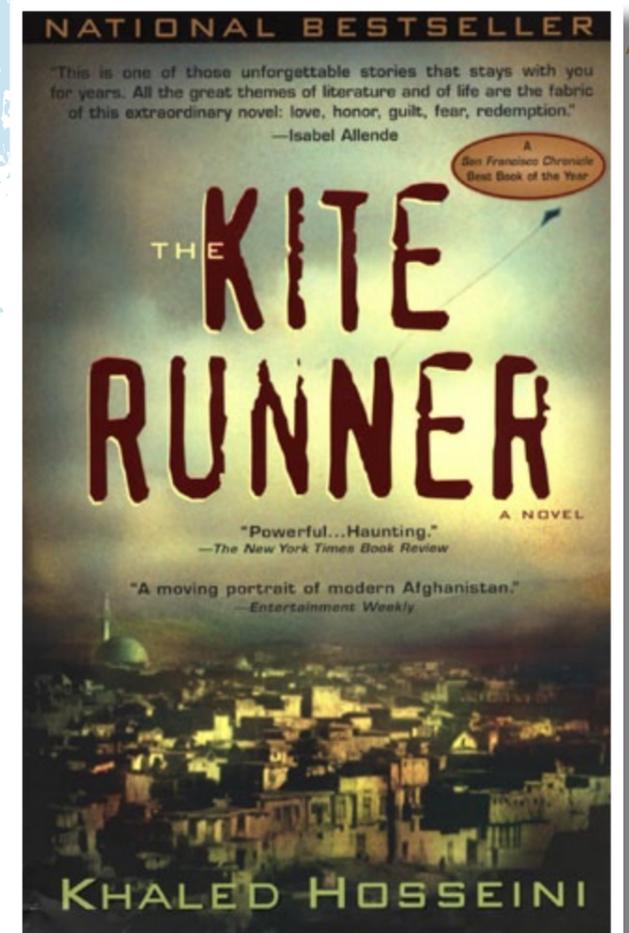




### **The Kite Runner by Khalid Al Marri**

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini was published in 2003. The writer talks about a story that happened in the 70s in Afghanistan. Amir and Hassan, Amir's loyal friend and son of their servant Ali, are raised together in Amir's father house, playing and running kites on the streets of a peaceful Kabul. After Amir wins a competition of running kites, Hassan runs to bring a kite to Amir, but he is beaten and raped by the brutal Assef in an empty street to protect Amir's kite; the coward Amir witnesses the assault but does not help the loyal Hassan.

On the day after his birthday party, Amir hides his new watch in Hassan's bed to frame the boy as a thief and force his father to fire Ali. The book chronicles what happens in Amir's adulthood when he reflects on this shameful past. This book takes the reader into many historical events that happened in Afghanistan back in the 1970s. I highly recommend this book to everyone.



Upload/Insert



Each student was supposed to read a certain book and write ten posts that summarized the main ideas in the books. Moreover, the other students were able to reply and add their comments about other students' ideas. There were seventeen different books that the students chose, including *Thirteen Reasons Why*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *The Kite Runner*, *My Sister's Keeper* and *The Notebook*. After reading and blogging, each student presented about the book he or she read during the winter break. After that, the students were assigned to write and express their feelings toward the book they read. This idea of learning was fun for most of the students in the foundation class, as they enjoyed the level of communication it allowed them in this assignment during the time away from regular classes.

Path:

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Dr. Rachid Bendriss, the foundation English professor, created a blog where the foundation students could discuss the books they were assigned to read during the winter break. The students started blogging new creative ideas about what they read and felt while reading their books. The Internet witnessed seventeen new bloggers at the beginning of January. Firstly, the students were fighting about the name of the blog, and some of the students suggested to name it with funny names. Finally, they decided to name it "The Majlis." Also, the students contributed to their classmates' discussions by asking questions in blog comments and relating them to their lives and books that they read. The blog setting made the students' opinions easily accessible, so faculty members could occasionally check on their activity.



### My Sister's Keeper by Ghoroor

*My Sister's Keeper* is a novel written by New York Times Best Selling author Jodi Picoult and published by Atria in 2004. The novel talks about a girl, Anna, who had always wondered about why she was born. Is it because her family wanted a new member like in any other family, or was there a specific reason? She questions whether she only lives her life for the purpose of saving her sister Kate, who needs organ donation to live through leukemia. Anna sues her parents for medical emancipation when she is expected to donate a kidney to her sister Kate. After following Anna in her journey, you will realize that it's important to make a decision in the right time and at the right place. It's not always necessary for it to be the right one so that you can learn from your mistakes. Sometimes you don't know what is the right thing as a mother, as a doctor, or even as a sibling: you do what you think is right for you. I recommend this book to everyone. It is one of the most emotional, humanitarian books I have ever read in my entire life.



# Sports



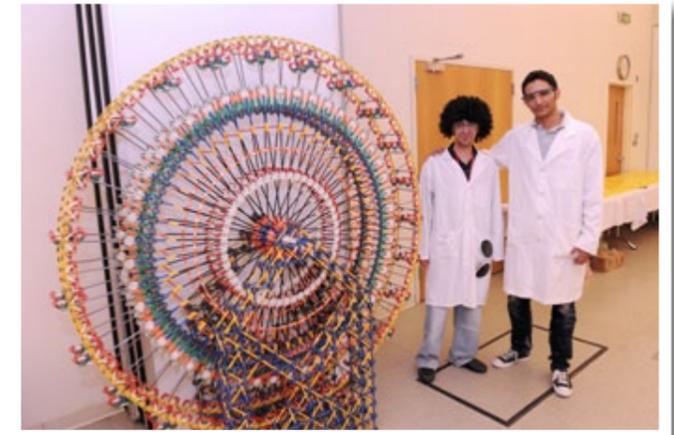
## Match Report by Abdulla

The match on January 25, 2012 was the best game ever played by Barcelona, a team sponsored by Qatar Foundation, and Real Madrid. Although Qatar Foundation sponsors Barcelona, being a Madrid fan, I would have loved for Madrid to win. It was a tense situation for both teams. Real Madrid should have scored within the first fifteen seconds, but unfortunately, Higuain missed the shot. Considering gameplay during the first half, Real Madrid played better and showed great performance

during the entire second half. Barcelona scored and led by two goals at the end of the first half. Two minutes before the first half ended, Pedro scored the first goal for Barcelona. Alves then scored an astonishing goal two minutes after the official half ended, right before halftime. Dani Alves curved the ball into the left hand corner and Casillas stretched out to reach it but unfortunately could not. Although falling back by two goals in the first half, Madrid players did not give up and played even better. Ozil kept on tormenting Barcelona's defense and finally it happened, the moment all Madrid fans were waiting for. Cristiano Ronaldo scored at the 70-minute mark by an amazing through pass from Ozil. The score was 2-1 for Real Madrid, but this is not how it ended, not this time. Just minutes after the first goal, Benzema scored an amazing goal and the match ended in a draw. Barcelona fans probably expected their team to win like they usually do, but this time there was a twist in faith.

# Photo Gallery









# Interviews

## Interview with the Dean Dr. Javaid I. Sheikh, M.D.

### Favorite Movie/Book

Dr. Sheikh reads so many books. What he likes most are *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho, *Consilience* by Edward O. Wilson and *How We Decide* by Jonah Lehrer. *How We Decide* is about the organization of the brain and how people decide certain things in a way that we are not aware of. *Consilience* is his all-time favorite book. *Consilience* means unity of knowledge. The book is about bringing together arts, sciences and humanities, which are the roots of all knowledge. However, regarding movies, he doesn't watch movies.

### Favorite Quotes

He likes most of Alama Mohammad Iqbal's quotes. These are all special quotes that enlighten and encourage him to love life and continue living happily. He feels these quotes tell him, "You can do it." Alama Mohammad Iqbal is also his role model.

Dr. Sheikh in one word: ----- Optimistic-----

### What does Dr. Sheikh like most about Qatar?

Qatar is remarkable and unique with enlightened leadership. Also, Qatar has strong commitments and high goals.

### Best advice ever received

"Young man, go west," which meant that he should basically go to California. California in his time was the place where new ideas, a sense of openness, and abundant resources were emerging and all people came together.

### Dr. Sheikh's role model

Alama Mohammad Iqbal is his role model because he was ahead of his time. He writes beautiful poetry and ideas.

### What makes Dr. Sheikh happy/sad?

Because students make Dr. Sheikh proud, the graduation and the white coat ceremonies touch him and hence make him so happy.

### What is his best advice for the newly graduating who start their medical career?

He thinks of the exact opposite advice he was given as a young man, which is to stay in Qatar and enhance local capacity. He also advises the students to try to get as much knowledge as they can to make this country a role model and thus a center of civilization in the Middle East.

### How would Dr. Sheikh see Cornell in next few years?

He sees Cornell moving in a direction of becoming the pillar of Qatar community. He said, "We need to stay true to our roots and values as a US institution, but at the same time we need to weave ourselves completely into the fabric of the local society."

### Dr. Javaid I. Sheikh describes Foundation students in one word: ----- Remarkable -----

He sees remarkable transformation throughout the years: the schooling starts hard, then reaches a point of big change, and consequently the students graduate as medical doctors, thereby remarkably joining the best residency-training programs in the world.

### Advice to Current Foundation Students

He views this as a first step in a long journey and encourages them to have fun while they are doing their work. Also, he says, "Don't judge yourselves in the short term, give yourselves some time. Be patient because you will hopefully surprise yourself with what you can achieve."

### Memorable Moments in Cornell:

In 2008 seeing the first graduation batch, as well as each year of the first year medical students donning their white coats and the foundation students' graduation ceremonies, are all so touching to him they bring tears to his eyes.

### What motivated you to get in the teaching field?

"My passion for teaching developed over a period of time," Dr. Sheikh says. He also likes to help people, and his profession of psychiatry lets him both help and educate people. So, he likes to facilitate, educate, and help people achieve their potential dreams.



## **Interview with Dr. Ameduri Associate Dean for Premedical Education**

### **Favorite book/movie:**

Dr. Ameduri's favorite book is always the latest book he reads. Some of the books he has read multiple times are: *The Name of the Rose*, a book written by an Italian author Umberto Eco and *Faust*, a German book. The Name of the Rose is an interesting mystery novel with a historical point of view that took place in Medieval Time in Italy. *Faust* is a legendary story of European history. He does not like to watch movies often, but an Italian movie, *Federico Fellini's La Strada* (The Road) is one movie he likes to watch.

### **Embarrassing/ funny moment:**

Last year in the foundation program, during a physics class, a board marker broke unexpectedly. Usually, he illustrates the concept of motion mechanics in physics by taking one of the board pens and throwing it into the air. Unfortunately, one day, the marker was broken into two pieces once it was thrown.

### **Role models:**

He has plenty of role models. One influencing role model is a physics professor in Cornell, Hans Bethe, who is one of the most important physicists in the 20th century. Dr. Ameduri likes Bethe's ability to combine his passion and his commitment to science, teaching, and students. Hans Bethe was also involved in the development of the first Atomic Weapons. Moreover, since the end of World War II, he was a powerful figure in stopping Nuclear Warfare. In brief, he is a role model because of his ability to combine passion and responsibility towards community and the entire world.

### **Best advice:**

He always gets advice from the Dean and Dr. Mamtani, but "Don't be too focused," was a piece of advice he received as a graduate student from professor Brian Greene. Simply, he was advised to learn the details but to never lose track of the big picture.

### **Favorite place/ country:**

Dr. Ameduri likes Qatar the most because he lived in it the longest. In addition, he likes the charming landscapes, the hospitable and friendly people, as well as how Qatar reminds him of Italy by the warmth presented among the family members and culture. He enjoys everything in Doha and tries to learn Arabic.

### **What makes Dr. Ameduri happy/ sad in terms of teaching?**

The moment he walks to the classroom and his interaction with his students make him feel so happy. On the other hand, sometimes he fails to communicate and to share his enthusiasm with his students. Noticing that through some expressions on his students' faces makes him feel sad.

### **Favorite quote:**

In 2004-2005, he found an incredibly beautiful quote said by President Clinton during a Doha Debate. A student asked for advice on what to do to have an impact on the world. He said, "Pick what you want to do, be committed to it and don't waste your time because it doesn't take long to live a life."

### **What would he change if he goes back in time?**

He never regrets his choices because he feels that humans choose based on their experience at that time. In addition, humans have to remind themselves of what they confronted what they knew, and if they had made the right choices and so, "Move on and live with the consequences."

### **Motivation in the field of teaching:**

He is motivated in teaching because he likes to share his passion for physics and to interact with young people. He feels it is a privilege to teach all curious and mature people.

**Dr. Ameduri describes himself in one word as a:** -----Physicist-----

**Dr. Ameduri describes Foundation students as:** -----Lively-----

Dr. Ameduri advises Foundation Students to remain lively because it makes them and the people working with them happy. However, at the same time, "Use this energy in a productive way, and don't worry so much; you have to take time to relax." He also wants them to keep their sense of humor and remain focused and committed.



## **Interview with Dr. Richer Biology Faculty**

### **Favorite movie?**

Her favorite movie is Antonia's Line, a foreign movie. She says she likes it because it illustrates the goodness of people from all walks of life.

### **Favorite book?**

Her favorite books are Crime and Punishment and The Last Town on Earth, which she read recently.

### **Favorite music?**

One of her favorite artists is Damien Rice, an Irish singer. She also likes Trombone Shorty's music.

### **Funny/embarrassing/memorable moment in Cornell?**

Last year, on the Khor Al-Aidad field trip, the company that usually drives us got us lost in the desert. She said it was so horrible and a waste of time.

### **Favorite quote?**

Her favorite quote is from Robert Frost, at the end of his famous poem, The Road Not Taken: "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less travelled by, and that has made all the difference."

### **Favorite country/place?**

Qatar and Zimbabwe

### **Your favorite dish/cuisine?**

In Qatar, she likes fowl with fresh made bread from Al Mashaheer.

### **One word that you describe yourself?**

Simple

### **What makes you happy in Cornell?**

She loves her job here; it's been a fantastic year for her and Cornell has been very good to her. She also loves working with the students here.

### **What do you like the most in Qatar?**

It is an extreme place, in terms of culture and environment, and she finds this very exciting. The diversity of people is also interesting.

### **What motivated you to get into the field of teaching?**

She has always been motivated to do research in biology. It's her passion, and eventually teaching came along with it.

### **The best advice you can give to foundation students?**

Take advantage of the opportunities offered, such as the help and the professors.

### **What are the difficulties you faced during teaching?**

She finds it difficult trying to help students see the magic in biological systems. She tries to make them love biology the way she does, and finds this a challenge for herself as well.

### **One word you would describe foundation students?**

Rambunctious





## **Interview with Dr. Griffard's Biology Faculty**

### **Favorite movie/ book:**

Dr. Griffard's favorite book depends on the week. Her current favorite book is about a primate biologist who studies the stress levels in primates. He also talks about Africa, a place where she lived. In brief, she thinks the book is nice and the author is excellent and funny.

Her favorite movie is the one she watches most often. She watched this Italian movie, *Cinema Paradiso*, in her 20s. She describes the movie as sweet and funny.

### **Best advice ever gotten:**

"Be yourself. Do what you love and do not worry about what other people think."

### **Favorite quote:**

There are many; some of her favorite ones are about education and learning, such as "Learning is a series of diminishing deceptions," (David Ausubel, a philosopher). It talks about how, as you develop in life, you believe in things during childhood, and when you reach adulthood you realize it is so much more complex, and as you go on further, you realize there are always more deceptions in what you learn now which will become more complex later on.

**One word to describe Dr. Griffard:** ----- Energetic-----

### **Dr. Griffard's Childhood nicknames**

Her grandfather—an old French man who did not speak English very well—calls her Toot-toot and he gives her other cousins nicknames that they all still use today.

### **What motivated Dr. Griffard to get into the teaching field?**

When she was an undergraduate student, she did not know what to study. She liked science because she was good at it during her high school. However, she decided to study engineering. When she took calculus, she got frustrated with it, and consequently she decided not to take it again. "No more engineering," she thought. Her mission is not to build things as engineers do, but to understand the natural world. Therefore, she changed to studying biology; it was easy for her and she liked it. She was never interested in medicine but her friends were. She asked her parents what to do. They told her since she

was a senior with a high GPA, her father suggested that she teach. Nevertheless, she never thought she could like teaching. Then in graduate school, she realized she actually liked tutoring. Thus, she got her first job as a teaching professor 25 years ago, once she found that she was good at it, and her colleagues encouraged her. From the first week, she realized that teaching is what she really likes to do.

### **Best advice Dr. Griffard gives to Foundation Students:**

"Keep your eyes on the prize." Never get stuck in little things, which will make you give up.

### **If Dr. Griffard could go back in time, what would she change?**

She would change so much! When she was an undergraduate student, there were some hard classes, which she decided not to take because they lowered her GPA. She thinks she gave up too quickly for some classes such as calculus, physiology, and culture of man.

**Dr. Griffard describes Foundation Students:** ----- Happy-----





## Interview with Dr. Qureshi Chemistry Faculty

### **Favorite book?**

Her favorite book is Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen.

### **Favorite movie?**

She enjoyed Gladiator because it is about honor she likes the message it sends.

### **Favorite music?**

She likes a variety of music, including bands such as Enigma, Sacred Spirits, Clannad.

### **Favorite quote?**

“Live everyday as though you will live forever and live everyday as though this is your last,” by the prophet Mohammed PBUH.

### **Childhood nicknames?**

Her mother used to call her Mini as a child and for some reason reverted to that before she died.

### **Favorite country/place/city?**

The state of Arizona made a big impression on her, but she says there are too many to name them all.

### **Describe yourself in one word.**

Persistent, because she doesn't give up on students, her family, or herself.

### **What motivated you to become a teacher?**

She says she didn't aim to become a teacher. She was doing a joint major in biology and chemistry and discovered she was better at chemistry. She doesn't regard chemistry as an easy subject, which is why she understands it can be challenging to our students. She originally worked in the pharmaceutical industry and left that to teach.

### **What makes you happy in teaching?**

Happy for her is when her students are engaged and interacting with the subject, and when they work hard to earn good grades.

### **If you could go back in time what would you change?**

She says the only thing she might change is she would spend more time with her mother to be able to repay her for all that she did.

### **Why have you chosen to come to Qatar?**

After her husband got a job in Qatar, she applied to work at Cornell, and they hired her.

### **Do you like it in Qatar and why?**

She does, because it is nice and comfortable living in a Muslim country. She feels she doesn't have to worry about certain issues, especially since she was born and raised in England.

### **One word you describe foundation students?**

Bubbly and sociable.

### **Best advice you would give to students?**

Always try to be organized; time management is the key and master your study skills because they will help you in the pre-medical program. Also, always think of chemistry outside of the box because it relates to physics, math and biology. Not only with chemistry but with all subjects, think outside the box.

### **Your role model?**

Her mother.

### **Your favorite dish?**

She likes fish, but doesn't have a favorite dish.



# Acknowledgments



BashaYer Hassan



Fahad Al-marri



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Reem Abdul Fatah



Ghoroor Al-Ahmed



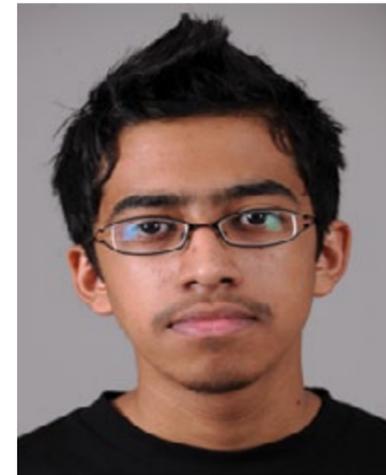
Sheikha Al-Abdulla



Aljawhara Al-Jufairi



Eman Mosleh



Abdulla Ansari



Maryam Al-Jaidah



Hamad Al-Hail



Jaber Al-Adba



Zahra Hejji



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