The 3rd Higher Education Leadership Forum

MENA

"Strengthening the Dialogue Between Higher Education, Government and Industry: Working Together towards a Common Vision"

14th - 16th of November, 2017
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Call for Institutional Best Practices & Case Studies

Forum Main Organizer

CLICKS
Center for Learning Innovations &
Customized Knowledge Solutions

About the MENA Higher Education Leadership Forum

The Higher Education Leadership Forum is one of the very few networks established in the MENA region to address higher education decision makers and leaders. The Forum through its various meetings aims at providing an international platform with a regional focus to discuss latest trends, developments and issues pertinent to the field; share experiences and identify future directions for higher education.

Participants and contributors to the Forum include leaders and decision makers coming from more than 60 countries.

The third edition of the Forum taking place in Dubai from 14th-16th of November, 2017 will be organized under the theme "*Strengthening the Dialogue Between Higher Education, Government and Industry: Working Together towards a Common Vision*" and was selected given the importance of the topic and the need to build a seamless relationship between Higher Education, Government and Industry to support the development of a knowledge based economy and society that is equipped with well-prepared graduates. This is becoming even more critical at a time where the increase in foreign products competition is increasing with the emergence of open market and globalization policies

Throughout the different activities planned during the Forum, a number of important sub-topics and concepts linked to theme will be discussed; these include but are not limited to looking at the new role of universities in supporting innovation and technology transfer, the role governments play in encouraging the establishment of successful university- industry partnerships, the need for curricula reforms which foster 21st century skills and thus improve employability.

Submission to the 3rd MENA HELF and Topical Guidelines

One of the main objectives from organizing the MENA-HELF is to support and encourage the exchange and sharing of case studies and experiences from institutions regionally and internationally. As such the Technical Committee of each Forum edition invites institutions of higher learning to submit institutional case studies and best practices in line with the theme and sub theme of the event. Accepted submissions to the Forum are generally not only accessible to the Forum's Participants but are also disseminated across the wider HE community through different linkages and collaborations by the Forum main organizer (CLICKS) and key partners; the ultimate goal being to serve the wider learning community.

As such the 2017 MENA- HELF planned around a theme "Strengthening the dialogue between Higher Education, Government and Industry: Working Together towards a Common Vision" and the below five sub-themes invite submissions that address successful stories where: public policy and models fostering university-industry collaborations exist; where successful university- industry collaborations were established; where curricula were revamped to support improved employability of graduates; and where university actively worked with industry to support research, innovation and technology transfer.

The Technical Committee of the 3rd MENA Higher Education Leadership Forum invites leaders of higher education as well as those representing government and industry to contribute to the Forum. The submitted case study shall demonstrate a clear alignment with the main theme and sub-themes of the Forum and shall provide lessons learnt that other institutions of higher education or other organizations can adapt for their own institutions.

Any submission of case studies to the Forum is to be made against one of the following streams. Authors are required to specify the stream against which they are submitting their case study:

Stream 1: Promoting University- Industry Collaborations

- ▶ Universities, government & industry: Building an innovation driven ecosystem
- ▶ Promoting university- industry collaborations: Models, frameworks and case studies
- ▶ Building an entrepreneurial university ecosystem
- ▶ Creating synergies through alliances, networks and partnerships
- ▶ Developing incentives for encouraging university-industry cooperation
- ▶ Measuring the impact of interactions and partnerships and ensuring sustainability
- ▶ Funding models for projects between higher education, government and industry

Stream 2: Improving Graduates Employability through Innovative Curricula

- ▶ Strategies for improving graduates employability
- ▶ Integration of employability skills and competencies in curriculum
- ▶ The role of internship and field experiences
- ▶ Extracurricular activities and their role in improving soft skills
- ▶ Improving the learning experience
- ▶ Improving faculty and teaching staff skills to support employability
- ▶ Engaging with the industry throughout the program lifecycle
- ▶ Engaging Alumni
- ▶ Stimulating entrepreneurial mindsets, attitudes and creativity
- ▶ Joint Curriculum development for innovation and entrepreneurship
- ▶ Using Data Analytics

Stream 3: Promoting University Technology –push and its Role in Technological Innovation and Transfer

- ▶ Frameworks and models for University- Industry Technology Transfer
- ▶ Setting and managing incubators, technology transfer offices (TTOs) and science parks and their role in the entrepreneurship ecosystem
- ▶ Technology commercialization examples and case studies
- ▶ Technology transfer in university-industry-government cooperative research
- ▶ Effective and efficient models for patenting & licensing issues

Stream 4: University – Industry and Government Research & Innovation Collaborations

- ▶ Frameworks and models to support research and innovation driven collaborations
- ▶ Common approaches and methods for creativity & innovation
- ▶ University, government and industry R&D Collaborations
- ▶ Examples of successful academic-industry collaboration for advancing innovation
- ▶ Cooperation patterns: R&D consortia, international strategic alliances
- ▶ ROI of academia quality research and its positive impact on national GDP

Stream 5: Public Policy Supporting Academic- Industry Collaborations

- ▶ Regional and national innovation systems
- ▶ Government Policy and legislation supporting academic – industry collaboration
- ▶ Governmental and private funding and support infrastructures
- ▶ Government reforms to improve employability of HE graduates

General Guidelines

The focus of the submission should be on a case study or good practice experience at an institutional level that have shown success and should recommend best practice. It shall be in line with the overall theme of the forum and its identified sub-themes. It shall be intended to be a practical summary to improve practice rather than a formal, rigorous research paper. The following are specific requirements authors shall comply with when making their submissions:

1. Abstract and Full Paper Submission Guidelines

■ An extended abstract between 350-500 words shall be submitted to inquiries@menahelf.com by no later than the 15th of November, 2016 for consideration and review by the Forum International Technical Committee. Submissions may be considered after this cut-off date if the Technical Committee is able to undertake the revisions.

■ All submissions to the Forum are blindly reviewed.

■ The abstract shall be structured in a way that the purpose, findings and implications of the case study are clear and well described.

■ The full paper of the best practice submitted should be between 10 to 15 pages in length, excluding references and appendices. It shall be submitted in Ms-Word format in a single-spaced, 12-point Arial style; title centered, in bold and all in capital letters; text and sub-titles aligned left.

■ The title page should be separate and should include the author(s) title, full name affiliation(s), country and email information.

■ The case study itself shall provide:

- a background of the institution(s) involved
- The context for the case study /best practice- what trends does it address; in other words the problem that prompted the initiative or the reason why the initiative was undertaken with possible examples illustrated
- The goals and outcomes intended to be achieved by the institution(s)
- The actual implementation strategy
- The results and outcomes which resulted from implementing the strategy
- Reflections on lessons learnt on the topic (the last page ideally shall include a list of bulleted lessons learnt). This could also include recommendations (positive or negative) to other learning institutions wishing to implement a similar practice.

■ References shall adopt the Harvard style and must be carefully checked for completeness, accuracy and consistency.

■ Use up to 10 key words that describe the case study for web searches in your manuscript.

■ Figures and tables should appear within the text of the case study and shall be numbered consecutively. The figure or table number and description should appear left-justified in 10-point size at the top. Legends should be short and define any acronyms, abbreviations or symbols used.

■ All submissions of full best practices shall be emailed to inquiries@menahelf.com on or prior to the 1st of March. 2017.

■ Submissions are all reviewed between the 10th of March and the 1st of May, 2017.

■ Once reviewed by the Technical Committee, authors shall make any recommended changes or amendments to the paper and ensure the latter is submitted by no later than the 1st of June to allow organizers to allocate the paper. Papers submitted after this cut-off date may not be considered.

2. Best Practice/ Case Study Presentation Guidelines

■ Presentations of the best practice/ case study during the Forum are made using power point slides or poster presentation as deemed relevant.

■ Every presentation is allocated 20 minutes followed by 5 minutes for Q&As managed by the stream chair. Authors of approved case studies shall receive additional guidelines about their presentation once their submission is approved.

■ All PowerPoint presentations shall be submitted by no later than the **1st of November, 2017** via email at inquiries@menahelf.com. Authors shall also ensure that their registration is completed before this cut-off date.

In the case where you are using poster presentation and this was approved by the Technical Committee:

■ Ensure that the poster is not larger than 1.0 meter in width and 1.4m in height. A freestanding bulletin board will be available in the session room for the mounting of the poster.

■ Use softer colors. Posters should be readable from a distance of approximately 20 feet.

■ Poster must clearly highlight the one essential theme that is put across to the audience.

Important Dates

■ Extended Abstract Submission Deadline: **15th of November, 2016**

■ Full Paper Submission Deadline: **1st of March, 2017**

■ Final Full Paper Submission Deadline: **1st of June, 2017**

■ Deadline for PowerPoint Presentation Submission: **1st of November, 2017**

CLICKS

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