

Robert Coelen  
Robert.coelen@stenden.com



**Stenden**

# Education Hubs in the Gulf Countries



**Stenden**

# Education in a changing world

- Where is the demand for education going to be in one and a half decade?
- Education Hubs as a phenomenon
- Gulf Countries with education hubs:
  - United Arab Emirates
  - Qatar
  - Bahrain

# Global Changes

- Definition of middle classes: can have access to:
  - Good Health Care
  - Good Education (for children)
  - Accouterments of stable living: housing, pension, vacations
- Where will the middle classes of the world live in 2030?
  - Regions
  - Countries

# Education Hubs

- Definition of Education Hubs (Knight, 2011)
  - Where a host country has a
    - Planned & concerted effort to build a critical mass of local and international actors strategically engaged to:
      - Strengthen HE sector
      - Expand the talent pool
      - Contribute to knowledge economy
  - Requires provider mobility
  - May require student mobility to be effective, can also have programme mobility

# Nature of Education Hubs

- Country-wide presence, e.g. Malaysia
- Specific geographic co-locations: e.g. Education City in Qatar, DIAC and Knowledge City in Dubai
- Country hub: Singapore (small city state)
- Various Perspectives: host country, local students, home HEI
- Knight (2011) distinguishes 3 models: student, talent – local HR development, knowledge/Innovation

# The rise and fall....

## BU-Dubai Dental Collaboration Ends

Institute graduates second and final class

07.10.2012

By [Name]

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

## University of Waterloo closes Dubai campus

JAMES BRADSHAW

2012, 5:43 PM EST

8:07 PM EST

HIGHER ED NEWS

OPINION

HIGH WIRED

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

APPOINTMENTS

LETTERS

g+1

0

Print / License

AA

ing its branch campus in Dubai after  
ments that fell far short of the school's

## UNSW Singapore campus doomed to fail

OTHER AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE CITY-STATE ARE TRYING TO LIMIT T  
THE AUSTRALIAN | JUNE 27, 2007 12:00AM



SAVE



the fall of 2009 as part of an ambitious  
ents complete two years of  
athematics in Dubai. followed by their final  
ised

**AFTER** just one semester, the University of NSW's Singapore cam-  
closes its doors tomorrow, an uneasy conclusion to one of  
education sector's worst business failures.

## Overseas venture proves a costly lesson

May 11, 2005



news > world > middle east

## Michigan State To Close Dubai Campus

by LARRY ABRAMSON

July 06, 2010 3:00 PM ET

4:13 pm ET  
May 31, 2012

UNCATEGORIZED

## Duke B-School Puts Dubai Plans on Hold

ology first set up a campus overseas, it lost millions of  
missioned by the federal Department of  
angers.



# Issues....



**News** **World news** **United Arab Emirates**  
**NYU 'will investigate' reports of Abu Dhabi campus worker mistreatment**  
University had promised ethical labor standards but Times report details squalid living conditions of migrant workers

**Banned universities operating from RAK**  
Over 500 students endure daily commute to northern emirate to keep attending classes  
By Joseph George  
Published Monday, December 13, 2010

**Report on investigation into the University of Newcastle's handling of plagiarism allegations**



ICAC REPORT

**EDUCATION**  
**In Abu Dhabi, a B-School's Program Goes Adrift**  
Email Print 6 Comments  
By MELISSA KORN  
May 2, 2012 7:28 p.m. ET

**DEALBOOK COLUMN**  
**N.Y.U. Crisis in Abu Dhabi Stretches to Wall Street**  
By ANDREW ROSS SORKIN MAY 26, 2014 10:14 PM 39 Comments  
Correction Appended

# It's not all bad....

CASS BUSINESS SCHOOL DUBAI  
CENTRE WELCOMES SEVENTH  
EXECUTIVE MBA INTAKE

Home > Cass Business School Dubai Centre Welcomes Seventh Executive MBA Intake



## Birla Institute of Technology and Science Pilani acquires its Dubai campus.

PTI : Dubai, Wed Apr 17 2013, 15:48 hrs



Home · ESMOD DUBAI 5th Graduation Ceremony 2013

## ESMOD DUBAI 5TH GRADUATION CEREMONY 2013

27 June 2013

ESMOD DUBAI | fashion show

## Counsellors' workshop at Murdoch University

Staff Reporter / 18 March 2014

*Murdoch University is all set to host its Annual School Counsellors' Workshop on March 29 at the Towers Rotana.*

## New York Film Academy, Abu Dhabi, to host free 4K film making workshop

Chris Newbould | May 6, 2014

UAE | Education

## The University of Wollongong in Dubai opens research centre

Centre will support simulation-based research in a diverse range of fields

EDUCATION

## Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi launches first FIFA/CIES Programme



# Gulf Countries



# Qatar

- Independence on 3/9/1971
- About 2.1 million inhabitants, of which 280,000 are Qatari
- 11,500 square kilometers, 563 kilometer coast line, 1.2% arable land
- Petroleum, natural gas, fish
- 77.5% Muslim, 8.5% Christian
- Growth rate of 3.6% (5<sup>th</sup> in the world), birth rate 194<sup>th</sup> in the world
- Obesity: 33%
- Education Expenditure 2.5% of GDP (154<sup>th</sup> in the world), 97% literacy
- GDP (ppp) \$200B (56<sup>th</sup>), GDP/capita \$102K (1<sup>st</sup>)

# Qatar & Education

- Components of higher education in Qatar:
  - Supreme Education Council (SEC -2002, Emiri decree)
    - Highest decision-making body on education
  - Higher Education Institute (agency of SEC, 2003)
    - Remit: advise individuals about career options and opportunities for higher education in Qatar and abroad
    - applying standards for licensing and accreditation, other regulatory activities
  - Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF, 1995)
    - Major sponsor of Education City, assist in transformation of carbon economy to knowledge-based economy
  - Qatar University (established 1973 as National College of Education)

# Higher Education Institute

- Higher Education Institute (agency of SEC, 2003)
  - Remit: advise individuals about career options and opportunities for higher education in Qatar and abroad
  - applying standards for licensing and accreditation, other regulatory activities:
    - Licensed institute must be a branch with same procedures and academic accreditation systems as parent university
    - Cannot cease without looking after students
    - May not make substantive changes in academic programs or change degrees or diplomas offered without approval by director of Higher Education Institute



# Qatar – Education City

- Consists of 8 branch campuses, K-12 schools, special and preparatory education programs
  - USA IBC's: Texas A&M, Carnegie Mellon, Weill Cornell Medical College, Georgetown University – School of Foreign Service, Northwestern, Virginia Commonwealth, HEC Paris, UCL – IBC model was deliberate to allow for 'picking the cherry's out of the cake' and tailoring programmes to national needs
  - Residency for faculty staff, not fly-in, fly-out intensive model
  - A manifestation aligned with Qatar National Vision 2030 to unlock human potential
  - Needs-blind admission, with loans or scholarship on merit base
  - Preparatory program to assist entry into IBC's
  - No cost to foreign institutions (infra/HR), tuition fees part of the income, full sponsorship to Qatari students, sponsorship agreements (oil, banking, health) with stipend for students – after graduation work with sponsor)

# Higher Education Opportunities

- Diploma/Bachelor/Master/limited PhD opportunities
- Disciplines: Engineering, Biological Sciences, Business & Management, Tourism, Hospitality, Foreign Service Science, Journalism, Communication, Islamic studies, medical, fine arts, fashion, graphic design, interior design
- Qatar Community College, College of the North Atlantic Qatar for diploma level studies, wide range of programs, some articulation to degree programs
- 2000 students at Education City Branch Campuses
- 8000 students at Qatar University
- 450 students at Stenden University
- 1500 CCQ, 4600 CNAQ

# Qatar – STP

- Established in 2004
- To stimulate:
  - R&D in Qatar in applied research, technology development and valorisation
  - Corporate R&D
  - Attraction of international research-led organisations
  - Formation and growth of start-up tech companies
  - Innovation and diversification of knowledge based industry
  - Employment of university graduates
- Free zone, 100% foreign ownership, no taxes, duty-free import/export, unrestricted repatriation of capital and profits
- ±40 companies, about 1000 staff

# Qatar – National Library





# Qatar – Research facilitation

- A National Library with:
  - Every imaginable full text database
  - 500,000 e-books
  - 1.2 million books
- Qatar National Research Fund, programs:
  - National Priorities research Program (\$20K-\$300k/year, 1-3 yr)
  - Junior Scientists Research Experience Program ( $\leq$ \$100K, 1-3yr)
  - Postdoctoral research Award (2-3yr, all expenses, salary)
  - Graduate Student Research Award
  - Undergraduate Research Experience
  - Others: SSREP, MSSCP, QIPA
  - Conference and Workshop Sponsorship Program

# QF – Research Organisations

- Qatar Computing Research Institute
- Qatar Biomedical Research Institute
- Qatar Cardiovascular Research Center
- Sidra medical and Research Center (412 bed, \$7.9B)
- Qatar Environment & Energy Research Institute
- Qatar Solar Technologies
- Qatar Biobank

# Qatar Education Hub

- Education to develop human potential in Qatar
- Strong development of research capability and infrastructure
- Part of development of knowledge-based economy
- Extremely well funded infrastructure development

# United Arab Emirates (Qatar)



- Independence on 2/12/1971
- About 8.3 (2.1) million inhabitants, of which 1.0 (0.3) million are Emirati
- 83,600 (11,600) square kilometers, 1,318 (563) kilometer coast line, 0.6% (1.2%) arable land
- Petroleum, natural gas
- 76% (77.5%) Muslim, 9% (8.5%) Christian
- Growth rate of 2.7% (3.6%) (21<sup>st</sup> (5<sup>th</sup>) in the world), birth rate 129<sup>th</sup> (194<sup>th</sup>) in the world
- Obesity: 33% (33%)
- Education expenditure about 1% (2.5%) of GDP, 90% (96%) literacy
- GDP (ppp) \$270B (\$200B) (50<sup>th</sup>) (56<sup>th</sup>), GDP/capita \$30K (\$102K) (48<sup>th</sup>) (1<sup>st</sup>)



# UAE & Education

- Largest number of foreign higher education providers in the region (37 or so)
- Intent on enhancing the knowledge economy (local development. Talent attraction, economic activity), education:
  - UAE build and operate public HEI for nationals
  - Instruction in English, recruitment of English-speaking faculty
  - Female education
- Establishment of free zones, or generous support to establish outside free zones, e.g. in Sharjah – University City

# Higher Education Opportunities

- Diploma/Bachelor/Master/limited PhD opportunities
- Disciplines: wide range
- About 120,000 students in higher education of which about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> in federal institutions
- Accreditation is through the Commission for Academic Accreditation outside of free zones, in Dubai the University Quality Assurance International Board (UQAIB) monitors quality in free zones, whilst RAK has no monitoring system in place
- IBC monitoring based on equivalency (with home campus)
- Free zones: Dubai International Academic City, Knowledge Village, Dubai International Finance Center, Ras al-Khaimah (RAK)
- Common desire by Emirates, no clear overarching structure, more complex environment than Qatar
- Financing of HEI through investor model with local legal partner, successful models of collaboration must ensure no interference in academic administration and quality of the campus

# Concluding remarks

- Differences in approach between Qatar and UAE:
  - Central approach in Qatar, multiple approaches in UAE (Abu Dhabi more like Qatar's Education City, Dubai established free zones)
  - National vision on educational development in Qatar, not in UAE
- From institutional perspective:
  - Robustness and applicability of programs are better tested (more than one jurisdiction); opportunities due to different locales
  - Opportunities to work in different cultural contexts for both staff and students
  - Stenden has created an intercampus mobility concept that keeps the students within our pedagogical paradigms, but offers vastly different cultural contexts