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Every passing year at Northwestern University in Qatar has its own distinctive character and personality, shaped by the maturation of the school and its ever-changing student body as graduates exit and new students arrive. NU-Q’s ninth year of operation was no exception—marked by momentous developments that brought both dramatic and incremental change.

NU-Q’s new home, a communication and media facility unique in the world, includes a massive atrium and media wall, an events hall, auditorium, projection theater and a soon to be inaugurated museum. With the infrastructure of a news network and a full-scale movie studio, this creative platform welcomed NU-Q’s students, faculty, and staff as the second semester began in January. In May, we formally dedicated the building in the presence of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, the visionary who inspired our school, and Her Excellency Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al-Thani, chief executive officer of Qatar Foundation. The day before, His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir and a host of dignitaries joined us for our sixth graduation along with President Morton Schapiro and departing Provost Dan Linzer who were joined by more than 50 people from the home campus.

Those ceremonies provided an opportunity to consider the importance of the new structure to the life and growth of the school, citing Winston Churchill’s axiom that “First, we shape our institutions and thereafter, our institutions shape us.” With appreciation and a sense of obligation for this daunting gift, the privilege of this stewardship was lost on no one. Architect Antoine Predock put it best when he declared that the building was, in fact, “an instrument to be played,” thus laying down a challenge for the school’s leadership, faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

In the six years from ground breaking to occupancy, we had considerable time to imagine and plan for the future by recruiting exceptional students. On the programming side, we have renewed, refreshed, and modified our curriculum, staying true to our NU commitment, but at the same time adding new courses, concentrations, and minors. Connecting our three programs in meaningful ways and avoiding silos was also a goal that came to fruition as we took heed from our Curriculum Task Force that proposed integrated first- and second-year courses, drawing on the strengths of both our journalism and communication curriculum. A “Ways of Knowing” course was developed to connect the liberal arts in a more holistic fashion.

As we added more faculty with deep Middle East interests and Arabic language capacity, we were able to create a Middle East Studies (MES) curriculum, replete with a certificate for those taking requisite courses. In 2016–17, this went a step further with a full-scale Middle East Studies minor that draws on some 20 NU-Q MES courses and scores outside in Education City. This, along with a robust Strategic Communication certificate program and concentrations in documentary and narrative film, among others, gives students greater learning options. We also strengthened our liberal arts program by recruiting scholars in various fields from literature and composition to philosophy and science and technology studies, augmenting existing courses in the social sciences and humanities. NU-Q’s new building also opens the way for developments long anticipated including two projected one-year master’s programs—in media industries and health communication, which were proposed by an NU-Q task force.

Faculty research was especially robust over the last year with books and published articles as well as book chapters, conference papers, and invited lectures, setting new levels of achievement, especially for a small school. The work, from Arab media studies to gender analysis and a myriad of topics (documented later in this report), are enhancing the reputation of NU-Q as a center for serious research and creative scholarship.

Outreach and thought leadership also matured during the year as our collaborative programs with Al Jazeera and Doha Film Institute accelerated with direct involvement in film festivals, lecture series, research collaborations, public programs, and internships that engaged faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Additionally, NU-Q organized a series, “Presidential Predications,” tracking
We also focused considerable attention on communication with our colleagues on the home campus where we host a lively NU-Q at NU-E Week that showcases student work, faculty research, and teaching innovation. Over the course of the year, NU-Q students, faculty, and staff fan out over the Evanston and Chicago campuses to engage ideas and make connections. For his annual visit, Provost Linzer led a delegation of university leaders and senior faculty, accompanied by Provost Designate Jonathan Holloway, dean of Yale College, who took office in July 2017.

Internally, operations leadership and professional staff—notably the facilities, IT, and production—made a heroic last-minute push to provide a seamless transition from the CMU building. Especially important in 2016–17 was a Building Transition Committee led by Pim Thukral, chief operations officer, who joined us in January from a vice presidency at Georgetown University in Washington D.C.

In fall 2016, two visiting professors enriched the NU-Q program: George Anghelev from Penn State University and Marco Williams from New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts. These fortuitous visits set the stage for a longer-term relationship with Professor Anglechev, an expert in strategic communication, accepting an associate professorship at NU-Q and Professor Williams, an acclaimed documentary filmmaker, named to a tenured full professorship at NU’s School of Communication concurrent with a joint appointment at NU-Q. A notable addition to the faculty in January 2017 was the return of Craig LaMay, former associate dean and associate professor at the Medill School, a renowned expert on sports and the media as well as a published author of leading works on freedom of expression and media development, who had taught earlier at NU-Q.

As we closed out the academic and fiscal years, we said goodbye to two leaders at Northwestern whose imprint on the school is indelible—NU’s longtime chair of the Board of Trustees William Osborn and Provost Dan Linzer. NU-Q also bade farewell to Professor Sandra Richards, founding director of our liberal arts program, and to longtime Professor Tracy Vaughn, who returned to the home campus as a Charles Deering McCormack distinguished professor of teaching. Also at year’s end, D. Charles Whitney who served as associate dean for academic affairs and Chief Operations Officer Kathryn Symank departed with our thanks. The posts of academic affairs and research deans were subsequently combined into a single portfolio as Senior Associate Dean to which Klaus Schoenbach was appointed.

With gratitude to faculty and staff who serve on a myriad of task forces, committees, and working groups at NU-Q and the continuing efforts of our supporting schools at NU—Communication, Medill and Weinberg—as well as other university leaders, staff, and faculty, NU-Q is poised to begin its 10th year of operations with confidence and resolve.

media coverage and public opinion surrounding the 2016 Presidential Election for the American Chamber of Commerce in Qatar.

Everette E. Dennis
Dean and CEO
VISION AND STRATEGY: EXTENDING ASPIRATIONS

Vision

Establish NU-Q as a premier one-of-a-kind school in Qatar and the Middle East, drawing on and extending the strengths of a world-renowned university and its notable programs in journalism, communication, and liberal arts, by:

• Unifying NU-Q across programs and majors to common purpose—to create a talent bench and leadership cadre for Qatar, the region, and the global community;
• Calibrating academic programs to benefit from and contribute to a digital and global society;
• Sharpening connections with Northwestern University, HBKU, and other Qatar institutions and organizations—founded on innovative instructional, research, and outreach activities;
• Arranging strategic partnerships with NU, HBKU, and media organizations in Qatar;
• Enhancing intellectual and professional traffic in concert with short- and long-term deliverables;
• Establishing a research program with an institutional agenda and support for individual effort of faculty and students aimed especially at the study of media and communication in Qatar and the Middle East;
• Engaging in thought leadership through research, problem solving, and services relevant to Qatar, the Middle East and global community;
• Extending outreach and collaboration with media industries, business, education, government, NGOs, and other sectors;
• Serving as an exemplar and model communicator in all operations and in intellectual capital development and dissemination;
• Positioning NU-Q for its Second Decade;
• NU-Q does not position itself in the region only, but also globally. This means building on Northwestern’s overall reputation of high-quality general education linked with professional competence in communication, journalism, and media. A continued unification of NU-Q’s three programs into a more seamless educational experience reflects the great changes in the media industries.

Strategic Goals

Occupy, Develop, and Refine Activities in the New NU-Q Building

NU-Q’s new world-class headquarters will play a major role in its identity, locally and nationally. This will be a rare chance to fashion new programs that benefit from rich, technological resources, and to launch new instructional and research activities, including potentially new modes of pedagogy in the media/communications fields—but also for the liberal arts which rarely have such facilities and resources to try new visual and media-oriented modes of expression.

Calibrate and Strengthen Admissions

Building on 2014–15 and 2015–16 Task Forces on Admissions, efforts have been made to strengthen the admissions process and yield—by involving faculty more strongly and by intensifying in-country recruiting of students, with visits to area schools, supported by staff and students, but also by recent alumni. With the recruitment and yield of the class of 2021 in spring and fall 2017, there was an increase in applications, yielding our largest class to date. This resulted in a school enrollment of 302 in fall semester 2017.

Recruit and Retain a High Caliber Faculty and Staff

Faculty continuity and growth is a critical element for any campus, particularly for an international one. NU-Q’s goal is to seek out and successfully recruit the strongest possible faculty members. NU-Q has been able to recruit and retain faculty from the home campus in Evanston, attract faculty of the highest caliber from leading universities—and with requisite professional experience, and achieve stability in its reappointments of existing faculty.
Create and Refine a High Caliber Academic Program

During academic year 2016–17, work continued on the curriculum. A school-wide course for technology and production has been taught for the first time in the fall of 2016. It trains all freshmen on a variety of technology platforms and equipment, with an emphasis on their intellectual and professional contexts. Curricular renewal also involves a better calibration of appropriate liberal arts courses for the first year and the modification of some other courses to better suit the needs of students in the sophomore, junior, and senior years as well.

Develop Graduate and Executive Programs Based on Needs Assessment

A Task Force on Executive and Graduate Education was appointed in the fall of 2016 and supported by a major supply-and-demand study. The task force is crafting a plan for midcareer and executive education and studying the feasibility of two master’s programs—one in media industries, the other in health communication. Concurrently, a master’s in sports media management and communication is being designed and proposed for implementation in collaboration with the School of Professional Studies.

Expand Our Research Activities

At present, NU-Q faculty is involved in more than 40 scholarly research projects. These include an already large institutional research program—Media Use in the Middle East—which is published annually and continuing as a longitudinal project with Doha Film Institute and Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) funding; and a health communications project in collaboration with Evanston colleagues, which is funded by QNRF. As always, work continued on individual faculty research on Middle East media, communication, gender, youth media, media and democracy, and other topics.

Inaugurate the Media Majlis at NU-Q

Construction of the physical space in the new NU-Q building for the planned NU-Q Media Majlis will be completed by summer 2018. It will be Qatar’s first university museum and can be expected to be a major feature of the new NU-Q building. The first exhibition, planned for August 2018, is on media images and national identity in the Middle East, and draws heavily on Arab films and other visual images.

Renew and Strengthen Current and New Collaborations

NU-Q continues as a partner in the World Internet Project, associated with USC’s Annenberg School for Communication, as well as Al Jazeera Media Network and the Doha Film Institute. We also partner with the Qatar Computing Research Institute (QCRI), where research collaborations are underway with NU-Q faculty working with QCRI in investigating communication and media theories using QCRI’s expertise in big-data analysis.

Enhance Evanston/Chicago Connections

Connections with the home campus are well-established and continuous. They include the formal relationships with the Schools of Communication, Medill, and Weinberg as well as the two-way flow of visitors. The “Semester in Qatar” for students from Evanston continues apace, complementing a two-term residency of NU-Q communication juniors in Evanston. The “Evanston Experience” brings two or more Northwestern faculty members for week-long academic visits to NU-Q. In May 2017 for the third time, an “NU-Q in Evanston” program included several days of faculty and staff presentations and a showcase of student work.

Manage Risks Effectively and Ensure Effective and Efficient Use of Resources

Operational concerns speak to the business discipline essential in leading a school 7,000 miles from its home campus. NU-Q has an active risk management group that includes key leadership and operational personnel. There are several working committees that meet regularly, update the risk management plan, and conduct drills and desktop exercises. An offsite command center in case of emergencies was established and is shared with Georgetown University Qatar.
Welcome Home!

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY IN QATAR
The highlight of the academic year was the move to Northwestern University in Qatar’s new building in Education City. The move took place in January and an official dedication was held in May, under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, chairperson of the Qatar Foundation and visionary behind Education City.

Designed by American architect Antoine Predock, the building is LEED Gold certified and designed to embody architectural elements from Qatar’s desert landscape and local culture. Inspired by the country’s landscape and local culture, the intricate designs in the building speak to the majesty of the desert, with the structure designed to integrate perfectly with it.

The building—at 515,000 square feet—is three times the size of its previous home and the largest institution of its kind anywhere in the world. It includes the largest sound-stage in the region; a projection theater, which features a 4K cinema and 7.1 Dolby surround sound; three production studios, each outfitted to serve a specific purpose; a studio that has been designed to allow students to reproduce everyday sound effects that are added to film, video, and other multimedia projects; and a 4K mastering room, which is equipped to completely edit a digital cinema-quality film.

On the outside of the building, overlooking the main entrance, is a large LED media-mesh screen—the Saif Tip. Saif means sword in Arabic and the location of the screen resembles two swords about to meet. In addition, inside the building, there is a three-story media wall with multiple screens that work with the Saif Tip in providing information through videos and images.

A newsroom, which is scheduled to be completed for the 2017–18 academic year, features the most advanced technology in broadcast and production. Designed by Beirut architect Ali Wazani, the space includes all of the components of major broadcast news studio—a news desk, an area for panel discussions, and a social media screen. Using a feed from live newswires, students will have access to information to transform into stories, graphics, and other digital visualization elements. It will have its own control room, with the ability to produce live reports across multiple platforms.
Seven thousand miles from its home campus in Evanston, Illinois, USA, Northwestern University dedicated its new state-of-the-art media and communication building in Qatar.

Northwestern President Morton Schapiro and Dean Everette E. Dennis presented a gift to Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser in recognition of her leadership in the creation of Education City and the role of Northwestern University within that vision. The gift, *Painting for Doha*, was commissioned from Judy Ledgerwood, a professor of art at Northwestern University.

“This [NU-Q’s new building] is everything you can dream about.”

– President Schapiro

TOP LEFT: President Schapiro addressing attendees during NU-Q’s building dedication ceremony.

BOTTOM LEFT: Antoine Predock, NU-Q building architect, with Jassim Telefat, executive director of capital projects at the Qatar Foundation and Saad Ebrahim Al Muhammadi, member of the Board of Directors at Qatar Foundation.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser touring the newsroom with Dean Everette E. Dennis.
As part of the dedication ceremonies for the new building, NU-Q hosted a symposium—which featured a series of conversations, discussion panels, and a showcase of student research, short films, and documentaries.

“A New Home for Northwestern in Qatar: A Conversation with Antoine Predock” was moderated by Dean Dennis and served as an opportunity for the NU-Q community and visitors to learn more about Predock’s vision and inspiration in designing the school’s new home.

In “Pushing the Boundaries: Making the Building Work for Us,” Banu Akdenizli, associate professor at NU-Q, led a panel discussion on the potential and capabilities of the building for students and faculty. Rawda Al Thani, an NU-Q alum and film programming assistant at the Doha Film Institute, joined the director of NU-Q's Communication Program, Scott Curtis, and NU-Q's Director of Production and Digital Media Services Geoff Cannaby, Craig LaMay, associate professor in the Journalism and Strategic Communication Program at NU-Q, led the third session, “NU-QF Partnership: Fostering Freedom and Respecting Cultures.” The session featured Northwestern alumni and NU-Q Class of 2017’s graduation speaker, Derek Thompson, a best-selling author and senior editor at The Atlantic; along with NU-Q alums Ismaeel Naar, online journalist and shift editor at Al Arabiya news channel; Najwa Al Thani, researcher in international cooperation at the National Human Rights Committee Qatar; and Ibrahim Al Hashmi.
Internationally celebrated Egyptian artist Wael Shawky shared his perspective on contemporary narratives of uncertainty and change, as well as his unique methodologies as an artist, storyteller, filmmaker, and educator, with the NU-Q community in September. His presentation addressed the changing form his art has taken over his career and his unique approach to creating art. Based on research and inquiry, he creates work that tackles notions of national, religious, and artistic identity through film, performance, and storytelling.

A major artist of his generation, he told the group that his art “analyzes the way humans believe in written history because in my opinion, it needs analysis—that’s why I try not to invent or change any part of the script. The scenes in my work are taken as they are written and recorded in historical contexts, and that is part of my criticism of it, because these scripts are believed and become sacred.” Shawky’s work has been exhibited internationally and is collected by public institutions including Tate Modern, London; MoMA, New York; MACBA, Barcelona; and Qatar Museums, Doha.

Renowned political analyst and internationally syndicated journalist Rami Khouri, who is also a member of Northwestern University in Qatar’s advisory board, visited NU-Q and held several forums with students, faculty, and staff. In a series of community meetings, Khouri addressed critical themes that continue to cause turmoil in the Middle East, as well as precursors that determined the region’s current fate.

Khouri, the founding director of the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut, also emphasized the need to resolve deeply-rooted problems in the region—including democracy, education, labor issues, national identity, and others—which, he said, have been disregarded by leaders and global powers, despite their importance in eradicating terrorist groups and bringing back peace and stability to the region.
JASSIM AL RUMAIHI

As part of the Al Jazeera Speaker series, NU-Q alumnus Jassim Al Rumaihi, a senior producer at Al Jazeera Arabic, discussed his experience working with a leading media network with students in September. Al Rumaihi was one of the first students to enroll at NU-Q. Studying communication theory, history of film, public relations principles, and other media literacy courses, Al Rumaihi had found his calling. Now working in a fast-paced, high-pressure environment with tight deadlines, Al Rumaihi credits his dexterity with news storytelling to the lessons he learned during his time at NU-Q. Since joining Al Jazeera, Al Rumaihi has been sent as a correspondent to a number of countries, including Nepal to cover the 2014 earthquake, Tunisia to cover the parliamentary elections, and Saudi Arabia, where he reported on the war in Yemen. “Before joining NU-Q, I never dreamed I would speak in front of a live audience, let alone work at Al Jazeera as a producer and reporter. However, thanks to the training and support I received at the University, I was skilled enough to apply for an opportunity to work with Al Jazeera. My filmmaking skills and understanding of new media helped me gain the trust of my managers at Al Jazeera,” Al Rumaihi told the group.

ANDREI RICHTER

Andrei Richter, one of the world’s leading authorities on media law and censorship, spoke on some of the major obstacles that hinder media freedom around the world, including self-censorship, discrimination, and the penalization of journalists for slander and libel. In his discussion with students and faculty at NU-Q, Richter commented on the rise of the digital age as having both positive and negative implications on media. “We lost a bit of the value media had in previous times, but we also gained a lot with access to endless amounts of information, as well as breaking news and event updates as they happen,” he said. Richter is a longtime professor of journalism at Moscow State University, Russia’s premier media school, and currently a senior advisor and formerly director of the office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Representative on Freedom of the Press in Vienna. He completed his PhD at Moscow State University near the end of the Cold War and became a leading scholar and spokesperson during and after the Glasnost reforms.
DIMA KHATIB

Dima Khatib, managing director of AJ+, a digital ‘news and beyond’ platform based in San Francisco and Doha, spoke as part of NU-Q’s Al Jazeera Speaker series in November. As managing director of AJ+ she oversees one of the largest and fastest-growing news outlets in English, Arabic, and Spanish. During the past two years, it has grown its audience to more than 7 million fans on Facebook, and more than 230,000 subscribers on YouTube. The session attracted a large group of students eager to hear from the successful journalist. She advised the students that while the news media is changing rapidly, core principles still remain. “Although we are shifting towards a digital approach to share news, the basics of reporting and journalism are still the same. Staying true to your ethics, asking the right questions, and reporting fairly are still the core of good journalism,” she said. Khatib studied English literature at Damascus University. Fluent in eight languages, she holds a master’s degree in translation from Geneva University, Switzerland, and has a published poetry collection in Arabic.

MARCO WILLIAMS

Marco Williams, an award-winning filmmaker and visiting professor at NU-Q, screened scenes from his most recent film, The Undocumented, at a community meeting in November. The film, broadcast on PBS, traces the causes and effect of the rising number of migrant deaths between 1981 and 2016 near the Arizona-Mexico border. Williams, a professor of film production at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts, taught classes in screenwriting and directing while at NU-Q. William has documented issues of race, gun violence, social injustice, and immigration through his work and said that he “always looks for characters that have a strong experience or a situation that elicits a certain reaction.” A graduate of Harvard and UCLA, his films have been screened at the Sundance Film Festival, the Pan African Film Festival, and the Miami International Film Festival, among others. An earlier documentary, Freedom Summer, was broadcast on the History Channel and received an Emmy Award.
GILES KENNINGHAM

Giles Kenningham drew from his experience as the head of political press for former UK Prime Minister David Cameron’s election campaign and the recent Brexit referendum in his address to the NU-Q community. As a press officer for the Tories beginning in 2006, Kenningham was known for making politics “more relevant to people locally with less Westminster bias” and fostering the interplay between national and local media.

At the NU-Q community meeting, he discussed the implications of political press on voting results, and the challenges that politicians encounter in developing strong arguments and messages throughout their campaigns. “With the shift toward social media, and other online platforms such as blogs and forums, the cycle of campaign outcomes has become much less predictable. More disruptions and unforeseen trends are expected—this explains why, with the outcome of the Brexit referendum and the recent U.S. elections, most of the pollsters and pundits were inaccurate,” he said.

ALI MUSTAFA

Ali Mustafa, a digital journalist who has covered the news for several media networks including Al Jazeera English, VICE news, and CBC in Canada, spent several weeks at NU-Q meeting with students and sharing his experiences as an international reporter. He currently produces content for TRT World, a Turkish public broadcaster’s digital English content service.

Mustafa, who has taught classes at NU-Q in the past, attended several multimedia and digital reporting classes to advise students on current trends and to share his thoughts on journalism and accurate reporting. “NU-Q is training some of the best journalists and content generators in the Middle East, and the university is a sort of incubator for new ideas and innovation. I am interested in utilizing NU-Q’s excellent student body, as well as its new state-of-the-art facilities, to further innovate the students in the digital realm,” said Mustafa.
VISITORS AND EVENTS

SHAHNAWAZ ZALI

NU-Q alumnus Shahnawaz Zali screened his Student Academy Award nominated film, *100 Steps*, for the NU-Q community in September. The film, set in Pakistan, follows a young boy who discovers that his local religious school has been a front for a radical extremist recruitment camp. Zali told the group that he had enrolled at NU-Q “because I was so sure about the potential for the Pakistani media industry to tell their own stories. We’re used to seeing Pakistan in a certain light and I wanted to show the world that there’s more,” Zali said.

The film has won recognition at the Miami Independent Film Festival, MovingMedia Film Festival in Detroit, and an excellence award at the Accolade Global Film Festival. “In the near future, I hope to gain practical experience in visual storytelling for commercial purposes,” Zali said. “I would also like continue my studies, and to develop my filmmaking skills before returning to Pakistan to tell the world more stories.”

PRESIDENTIAL FORUMS ON 2016 U.S. CAMPAIGN

The American Chamber of Commerce in Qatar held several sessions on the U.S. presidential election, which featured NU-Q’s dean and members of the faculty.

Dean Dennis moderated the sessions with Craig LaMay, associate professor at NU-Q; Jocelyn S. Mitchell, assistant professor at NU-Q; Yasir Khan, senior editor of digital video at Al Jazeera English; and Clyde Wilcox, professor at Georgetown University in Qatar.

Before and after the election, the events focused on the rise of fake news and the responsibility of the media, reflecting on lessons learned during and after the election.

The panelists also evaluated the shortcomings and misinterpretations of polls by well-established news organizations. “There’s a difference between raw data and the interpretation of that data. The lesson I’m taking away from this election is to ask how I can expand my own interpretations of the data,” Mitchell said.
PULITZER CENTER: HIDDEN LIVES OF MIGRANT WORKERS

Visiting Pulitzer Center for Crisis Reporting fellows urged students to expand their knowledge of the world and uncover hidden stories during a campus visit to NU-Q.

Alison Shelley, independent photographer; Ana P. Santos, reporter on reproductive health, gender issues and Philippine migrants; and Tom Hundley, Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting senior editor, spoke to students about employing their unique perspectives and passions in their work as journalists.

“In every class, students have known about the context that we are talking about, and have asked really probing questions about geopolitical things, social context, and questions that went far beyond basic journalist skills,” Shelley said. The two correspondents also evaluated student work, provided detailed feedback, and showcased their work at a community event open to NU-Q faculty, staff, and the larger student body.

WORKSHOP ON VIRTUAL REALITY

Assistant Professors Emily Withrow and Assistant Professor Zach Wise from Northwestern’s creative software development studio, Knight Lab, discussed with faculty and staff how to push journalism into digital spaces at a workshop in Doha.

An interactive workshop demonstrated ways in which the basic principles of journalism can be adapted for a highly digital world. “The concepts of great storytelling never really change; they consist of developing characters, and building a story arc and plot. What we like to do is look at new platforms and figure out how to craft the best storytelling in those spaces,” Withrow said.

At an NU-Q community meeting, Withrow and Wise also showcased software created in the Knight Lab, which has been used by leading news agencies and organizations, including NPR, BuzzFeed, Medium, FiveThirtyEight, and The Washington Post.
VISITORS AND EVENTS

QATAR MEDIA INDUSTRIES FORUMS

The Qatar Media Industries Forums, hosted annually by NU-Q, continued to engage decision makers on topics of critical importance to Qatar’s emerging media and communications industry.

The first Forum, “Going Regional: Taking a Media Company Beyond Borders,” focused on the regionalization of media companies and featured high-profile industry leaders on its panel. Moderated by Ilhem Allagui, associate professor at NU-Q, the panel included Fares Akkad, head of distribution and digital business development at MBC Group; Redha Al-Haidar, board member at Tihama Holdings; and Raza Rizvi, head of technology, media, and telecommunications at Simmons and Simmons, Middle East LLP.

Later in the year, a second forum, “Sports Media and Qatar’s Future,” explored Qatar as a growing hub for international sports events. Moderated by Craig LaMay, NU-Q professor and sports media expert, the panel featured Nasser Al-Khater, assistant secretary general for tournament affairs at the Supreme Council for Delivery and Legacy; Nigel Rushman, founder of Rushmans; and Jackie Brock-Doyle OBE, former director of communications and public affairs for London Olympics 2012.

GILES TRENDLE

Al Jazeera Media Network’s approach to the evolving media landscape was the topic for a community meeting with Giles Trendle, acting managing director of Al Jazeera English.

Trendle described the process behind creating content for the channel’s documentary programs Top Secret and Witness and shared highlights from his career as a journalist, which started in the mid-1980s when he began as a freelance reporter covering the Lebanese Civil War.

The acting manager also noted the high caliber of journalists that have graduates from NU-Q, “Al Jazeera has worked with many NU-Q students and graduates, both as interns and full-time employees. We are constantly impressed with the quality of the students’ work, their professionalism, and their understanding of the fast-paced media industry.”
JEFFREY COLE

Jeffery Cole, founder of the World Internet Project and director of the Center for the Digital Future at the USC Annenberg School for Communication, discussed the social, economic, and political impact of the internet at a community meeting. He also shared his predictions for the near future, speculating that driverless cars will gain rapid popularity and that automation will be at the heart of other daily routine activities—replacing thousands of jobs.

For internet companies now experiencing great success, he said that the main issue will be that they will become “too content with their performance to consider introducing alternative methods of operation, and that is a huge mistake that often triggers the beginning of a company’s demise.”

ASIFA QURAISHI-LANDES

A redefinition of the term Muslim feminism was called for by Asifa Quraishi-Landes at a lecture held at NU-Q. Quraishi-Landes, professor of law at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, spoke at the first of a series of interdisciplinary lectures that are part of NU-Q’s new Middle East studies minor.

“There seems to be a West vs. Islam polarity,” explained Quraishi-Landes. “So, you’re either for women’s rights and against Islam, or for Islam and against women’s rights. And there is very little room in between. That’s how the international discourse has been set up, and how most people, including Muslim women, talk about this.”

The U.S. constitutional law expert further argued that advocacy work for women’s rights in Muslim societies has been most successful when it has avoided a Western liberation versus Islamic conservatism false binary. “Women in Muslim societies would benefit from more education in Islamic law. This is a proposition that many Western feminists find unpalatable,” said Quraishi-Landes.
DEAN ELECTED TO AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Everette E. Dennis, dean and CEO, was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences—one of the oldest learned societies and independent policy research centers in the United States.

Among the 228 elected are winners of the Pulitzer Prize and the Wolf Prize; MacArthur Fellows; Fields Medalists; Presidential Medal of Freedom and National Medal of Arts recipients; and Academy Award, Grammy Award, Emmy Award, and Tony Award winners.

“Their talents and expertise will enrich the life of the Academy and strengthen our capacity to spread knowledge and understanding in service to the nation,” said Don Randel, chair of the Academy’s Board of Directors of the group.

Dennis has taught at five universities and was the founding president of the American Academy in Berlin and founding executive director of the Media Studies Center at Columbia University.

He has written or edited some 45 books that have been translated into ten languages, as well as more than 200 articles, essays, and monographs about global media, media industries, media law, and management. At Northwestern’s home campus, he is a professor in the Medill School of Journalism and is cross-appointed in the School of Communication.

His PhD is from the University of Minnesota, his MA from Syracuse University, and his BS from the University of Oregon. A life member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the America Antiquarian Society, Dennis has held advanced fellowships at Harvard, Stanford, and the East-West Center.

As Northwestern University in Qatar entered its ninth year in Doha, Qatar and moved into its new 515,000 square foot building, our students continued to acquire an in-depth knowledge of media and communication as well as communication skills of all kinds while also learning to adapt to an ever-changing industry. From the digital sphere and its effects on news content and communication to the basic skills that all storytellers need to be successful, NU-Q students learn in the classroom and by experiencing some of the world’s most advanced newsroom equipment, editing software, cameras, and more.

While many of the tools used in the media industry have changed and continue to change, Northwestern maintains the academic standards and rigorous education that has placed it among the top universities in the world.

The core of the undergraduate experience at NU-Q remains the two major programs—the program in communication and the program in journalism and strategic communication. In addition, all students are required to take courses from NU-Q’s third program—liberal arts. It gives students an overall understanding of the various facets of the human experience—providing them with a better understanding of a story’s context and history.

ACADEMICS AND RESEARCH
This academic year, for the first time, freshmen were not required to declare their majors until the end of the academic year—after attending introductory classes on basic media theories and practices.

COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

Combining the humanities and social sciences with media production, NU-Q’s Communication Program educates students on how to convey a message effectively, but also aesthetically. Students learn about the effects of a message on audience behavior and about the techniques of producing content. Director of the Communication Program and Associate Professor in Residence Scott Curtis says: “The ideal student for the program is someone who is adept at thinking in different ways—analytically, methodically, and creatively.”

For communication students, courses are divided into three areas—media history and aesthetics, media audience behavior, and media production—to give students an all-encompassing education in the field. As a result, during a typical semester at NU-Q, a communication student could be observing genres and techniques used in conveying a message in a Middle Eastern cinema class, attending a course on theories of persuasion, examining how messages are crafted using psychology and sociology, and also creating new content that could take the form of a documentary script or film in a production class.

A number of new courses were offered by the program this year, including National Cinema: Middle East and North Africa, which addressed some of the major trends and issues in the region. Issues in World Cinema, meanwhile, introduced students to iconic styles, artistic movements, and film industry developments in developing and less developed parts of the world. Documentary Production and an undergraduate seminar on Women and Documentary covered the basics of documentary production, the history of the genre, and examined how traditional forms of documentary are featured to explore topics such as gender, race, art, history, philosophy, and the environment.

Also, for the first time, students in the program were able to build on their knowledge of basic screenwriting principles and develop a story from an outline to a full narrative for a feature-length film. During the first semester of the program, visiting Professor Marco Williams, a tenured professor at New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts, brought his experience as an award-winning documentary and nominated fiction film director to NU-Q.

JOURNALISM AND STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

The underpinning of the Journalism and Strategic Communication Program is a strong public service mission to help citizens make informed decisions. The program is constantly evolving, mirroring every significant development in society and the industry. This year, to provide clarity and emphasis on the similarities between skills that both journalism and strategic communication careers employ, the program changed its name to reflect that evolution. In expanding its strategic communication element, the program offered students courses in advertising, public relations, branding, promotions, social media marketing, web analytics, and content execution.
An important development in the program this year resulted from the disruption in the media world due to the increased use of technology and social media in journalism and strategic communication. Mary Dedinsky, director of the program and associate professor in residence, and her faculty developed an updated curriculum. It focuses on educating their students on how to adapt and succeed in an ever-evolving world of digital media. “We are marrying the traditional values of excellent journalism—those of accuracy, fairness, balance, and excellent writing—while also preparing students to tell the dynamic, interactive, and engaging stories that the market needs,” Dedinsky said.

With the increased attention on Qatar as a sports destination, Northwestern Professor Craig LaMay joined NU-Q to develop a program on sports, media, and leadership while teaching undergraduate courses on sports and media. Focusing on the different types of sports journalism ahead of Qatar’s 2022 FIFA World Cup, in LaMay’s course, students gained a deeper understanding of sports journalism and the nuances of what sporting events reveal about societal issues like technology, gender and sex identities, national and ethnic identities, and globalization.

NU-Q PROFESSOR AWARDED UNIVERSITY TEACHING AWARD

Tracy L. Vaughn-Manley, associate professor of liberal arts, was one of seven Northwestern faculty members honored with a 2017 University Teaching Award.

The first NU-Q professor to receive the honor, Vaughn-Manley received the Charles Deering McCormick Distinguished University Professor of Instruction award for her outstanding performance and dedication to undergraduate education at the event.

In receiving the award, Vaughn-Manley said her teaching philosophy is to “create and maintain an environment that is physically, emotionally, intellectually, and culturally safe and conducive to the free-exchange of thoughts and ideas.”

Students at NU-Q have attributed their success in their undergraduate careers to lessons learned in Vaughn-Manley’s classroom and have described her teaching style as being passionate and meticulous.

Among the comments testifying to her success, students said that Vaughn-Manley was “a source of inspiration,” and another student wrote simply, “I became more tolerant.” Students characterize Vaughn-Manley as “interactive,” “dynamic,” and with a passionate love of literature that makes it feel “urgent, provocative, and as engaging as breaking news.”

Vaughn-Manley, who is returning to the University’s Evanston campus, was named to the Northwestern University Associated Student Government Faculty Honor Roll in 2006, 2007, 2008, and 2010. She has also served as the delegate of the Modern Language Association’s Executive Council and was the recipient of Northwestern University’s Department of African-American Studies 2006 Teaching Award for Outstanding Performance in the Classroom.

Vaughn-Manley received a PhD and an MA from the University of Massachusetts and a BA from California State University, San Bernardino.
LIBERAL ARTS PROGRAM

The Liberal Arts Program supplements both majors by giving students an education in understanding human expression and interaction—vital to their successful performance as professionals in the media industry.

This academic year, faculty in the program designed an epistemological course, “Ways of Knowing,” which will teach students how various disciplines approach, investigate, analyze, and construct knowledge and try to solve complex problems. For the 2017–18 academic year, the topic of the course will be climate change. Guest lectures from professors in various fields will explain to students how methodologies they employ answer how evidence is gathered and marshaled into arguments on the issue of climate change—underscoring the interconnectedness of their disciplines and the value of an interdisciplinary approach to solving global issues.

Another highlight for the Liberal Arts Program was its new minor in Middle East Studies, an expansion of the certificate program that NU-Q has offered for several years. The minor provides a deeper understanding of the region’s cultures, histories, politics, and intellectual contributions. It also addresses global issues that are essential for future communicators to understand the Middle East, such as decolonization, orientalism, gender, or religious revivals. Students enrolled in the Middle East Studies minor attended interdisciplinary lectures with guest speakers that included internationally syndicated journalist Rami Khouri and Asifa Quraishi-Landes, professor of law at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

This year, students at NU-Q have discussed the impact of social media activism on voting patterns; the former director of communications for the UK’s Conservative Party analyzed new storytelling formats with the managing director of AJ+, dissected the impact of fake news on the U.S. presidential campaign with the former ombudsman of The Washington Post, and more. Other experts have shared their career journeys, providing insights into the field that students may not have access to within the classroom.

TEAM TEACHING AT NU-Q

For students at NU-Q, understanding the role that media play in society is the cornerstone of their undergraduate experience. To introduce students to the themes and theories that they will explore during their undergraduate career at NU-Q, all students are required to take an introductory course on media and society.

Professors teach the course as a team, each from a different program. Amy Kristin Sanders, associate professor in the Journalism and Strategic Communication Program, and Banu Akdenizli, associate professor in the Communication Program, team-taught the course this year. “Media and Society,” Sanders said, “is not a journalism course or a communication course—it’s a media course. It introduces students to the media environment in general.”

The course challenges students to think critically about the way content is produced and how that content may impact different societies. Akdenizli pointed out that by examining content, production, and distribution, “students have the tools to identify messages that may be biased, contain editorial slants, points of view, or advocate for certain points or ideologies.”

Collaborating on crafting a course that requires a team approach, Sanders and Akdenizli benefitted from their different backgrounds. Sanders is an expert in media legislation and Akdenizli in communication research.

“Our partnership worked because, not only do we have the same teaching styles and overlapping areas of expertise, but also because media and society is the perfect bridge between the two programs and our work meets right at that bridge,” Sanders said.
RESEARCH

In addition to the academic experience at NU-Q, faculty and students also build on the tradition of its home campus, Northwestern University, as one of the leading private research universities in the United States.

Institutional Research

As an institution, NU-Q has several major research projects. Over the past five years, it has conducted the Media Use in the Middle East surveys, a longitudinal study based on interviews with people in six countries—Egypt, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, and the United Arab Emirates. It offers insight into film and TV viewership, online and social media use, but also cultural attitudes, censorship and regulation. Last year’s Media Industries study served as the first systematic look into the content offering, production, use, and distribution of media in the region.

A study on mobile media in Qatar is providing a data-driven model of potential mobile media content innovation in Qatar and the UAE. NU-Q Dean Dennis and Rachel Davis Mersey, an associate professor at Northwestern, are collaborating with John Pavlik at Rutgers University, and with Qatar University’s Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI) on this project, which received a $726,000 grant from the Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF).

Also, in collaboration with other institutions, Klaus Schoenbach, senior associate dean, and Ellen Wartella, the Sheik Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani Professor of Communication Studies at Northwestern, are examining how Qatari adolescents use digital technologies for health information and health monitoring. The study, which received a $268,000 grant from QNRF, includes Principal Investigator Salma Mawfek Khaled, a survey researcher and assistant professor at Qatar University’s Social and Economic Survey Research Institute and—as a consultant—Paul Amuna, head of research at the Primary Health Care Corporation of Qatar.

Faculty Research and Creative Scholarship

Bringing experience often from both academia and industry, NU-Q professors are experts in their fields. NU-Q faculty engage in research and academic activities that include scholarly works, chairing and participating in panels, and giving lectures and presentations at leading international conferences.

Qatar National Research Fund’s Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP), NU-Q has been awarded nine grant projects, which have offered NU-Q students and faculty the opportunity to immerse in innovative pedagogical methods, and produce widely published journal articles. Three of these UREP grants were awarded this year.

Faculty members Susan Dun, assistant professor, and Amy Sanders, associate professor, along with six students, received a grant from the Qatar National Research Fund to study migrant workers’ health and sporting activities. Addressing a gap in the literature regarding their access to health resources in Qatar, the project will investigate the habitual patterns migrant workers engage in, i.e. how they may attempt to use health resources and what they do during their leisure time.

Two additional grants were received by professors in NU-Q’s Liberal Arts Program: Hasan Mahmud, assistant professor of sociology, and Anto Mohsin, assistant professor of science and technology studies.

Mahmud’s study aims to contribute to the development of a knowledge base in international affairs, especially those related to allocation of foreign aid for developing countries. Mohsin’s study focuses on the cultivation of a science-based community and scientific culture in Qatar.

Mounir Ouanaimi, adjunct professor at NU-Q, received a grant from Northwestern’s Office of the Provost and Faculty Distance Learning Workgroup to adapt the popular NU-Q course, Arabic for Media, to an online version. As the only Arabic-language massive open online course in Education City, the course offers students an opportunity to advance their knowledge of journalism within the region.
Student Research

NU-Q students are familiarized with research of all kinds in many of their classes. Often, their assignments consist of interviews, content analyses, or archival research. Students also conduct independent research. In 2016–17, NU-Q students won several grants and awards, including those listed below.

The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting awarded a grant to NU-Q students Ifath Sayed and Jueun Choi to tell the story of the mental health and education of Yemeni refugee children in Malaysia through a feature story, documentary, and story map.

The Northwestern Undergraduate Research Journal, the University’s peer-reviewed journal, featured the paper of an NU-Q student—Yazan Abughaida—which documented how three Arab-Israeli citizens use music to express their struggles living under occupation.

At the Undergraduate Research and Arts Exposition in Evanston, an annual forum for original research and creative work by Northwestern undergraduates, Shakeeb Asrar and Jemina Legaspi were chosen to showcase their work in the highly selective oral presentation and panel presentation categories. Asrar won third place for his presentation on Sensationalism in Pakistani News Channels: The Downside of Media Deregulation and was also named best panel presentation winner at the event for Global Challenges and Connections.

Northwestern’s Office of Undergraduate Research also awarded three students—Maram Al-Qershi, Huda Barkat, and Yow-Ru Chen—Undergraduate Language Grants. Three other students—Neha Rashid, Zaki Hussain, and Ammar Younas;—received a Summer Undergraduate Research Grant to produce a documentary on the practice of bonded labor in Pakistan.

For the research awards of NU-Q’s annual Media and Research Awards event, Shakeeb Asrar won in the humanities category for his paper Evolution in Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, while Muhammad Faizan Shakir won the award in the social sciences category for his paper Effects of childhood cancer on siblings and their coping mechanisms.

Meanwhile, Professors Andrew Mills and Amy Sanders from the Journalism and Strategic Communication Program and Shakir Hussain, an IT user support specialist at NU-Q, received a Provost’s Digital Learning Fellowship to develop blended-learning courses in ethics and leadership for Northwestern University in Qatar media students.

Joe F. Khalil, associate professor in the Communication Program, received the Top Paper Award from the Global Communication and Social Change Division of the International Communication Association. His paper—The cultural politics of Arab hip hop: The view from Tunisia and Saudi Arabia—was selected from among 150 submissions worldwide.

Danielle Beverly, assistant professor in the Communication Program, screened her feature documentary film, Old South, at the 70th annual University Film & Video conference, where it was awarded the top prize—Award of Merit for documentary. Her feature documentary film, Learning to Swallow, was broadcast nationally on PBS/The World Channel. Beverly was also co-producer and cinematographer for the short documentary Lonnie Holley: The Truth of the Dirt, which premiered at SF DocFest and took the Audience Choice Award for Documentary at The Macon Film Festival.


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### Individual Faculty Projects—A Selection

**Media and Communication in MENA Countries**
- Nation branding and media narratives
- A historical analysis of local versus global media strategies in the Arab world
- FIFA 2022 Qatar World Cup media coverage and effects
- Arab youth and alternative media in Saudi Arabia and Lebanon
- Media use and politics in the Arab region
- The media’s changing role in Turkey
- Neo-Arab nationalism and Palestinians in the diaspora
- Media law in the Middle East: A comparative perspective

**Issues in Islam**
- Religious media
- The history of Muslim societies in West Africa
- Theology and religious authority in the contemporary Muslim World

**Other Topics**
- Sociological and historical studies of science and technology
- Analysis of the political economy of global media cities

**Women, Media, and Communication in MENA Countries**
- Feminism, feminity, and citizenship in 1970s girls media
- Qatari women’s civic engagement via female Majaalis
- Representations of women in local news media: symbolic annihilation?
- How women’s rights activists use social media to engage with Middle Eastern audiences and advance their causes
- Feminist media studies in the Arab Gulf
Qatar National Research Fund: Research Grants

National Priorities Research Program (NPRP)

Media use in the Arab Gulf: A longitudinal study
LPI: Everette Dennis
PIs: Justin Martin, Robb Wood
Collaborating Institutions: Al Jazeera Media Network, Doha Film Institute
Status: Ongoing; Year Two completed; Year Three data collection finished in spring 2017; website launched; printed report available
Total Award: $849,601

Qatari Adolescents: How do they use digital technologies for health information and health monitoring?
LPI: Klaus Schoenbach
PIs: Ellen Wartella (SoC, Northwestern), Salma Mawfek Khaled (SESRI, QU)
Status: Ongoing
Total Award: $268,316

Content innovation strategies for mobile media in Qatar
LPI: Everette E. Dennis
PIs: John Pavlik (Rutgers University), Rachel Davis Mersey (Medill, Northwestern)
Status: Ongoing
Total Award: $726,407

National museums and the public imagination: a longitudinal study of the National Museum of Qatar
PIs: Pamela Erskine-Loftus, Jocelyn Mitchell
Submitting Institution: University College London-Qatar
Status: Ongoing
Total Award: $17,102

Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP)

Assessing and improving migrant workers’ access to and utilization of health information and resources
Primary Faculty Members: Susan Dun, Amy Sanders
Status: Ongoing
Total Award: $29,993

Cultivating a science-based community and scientific culture in Qatar
Primary Faculty Member: Anto Mohsin
Status: Ongoing
Total Award: $15,000

Helping oneself by helping who needs: The discourses and practices of Qatari foreign aid to developing countries
Primary Faculty Member: Hasan Mahmud
Status: Ongoing
Total Award: $13,483
Internal Scholarly Research Grants

Tehran noir: The films of Samuel Khachikian
Kaveh Askari

Analog artifacts: Music, memory, materiality, movement
Danielle Beverly

Barriers and enhancers of Muslim women’s physical activity
Susan Dun

Changing driving behaviors of Qatari men
Susan Dun

Worker health and sport in Qatar
Susan Dun

National museums and the public imagination: A longitudinal study of the National Museum of Qatar
Jocelyn S. Mitchell

Investigating Qatari women’s representation in Qatari media
Christina Paschyn and Elizabeth Lance

Girls talk back: Girls’ media, feminism, and female youth in the women’s liberation era
Kirsten Pike

Privacy in the Middle East: Conflicting comparative approaches
Amy Kristin Sanders

Empire under attack: Imperial patriotism and the Great Siege of Gibraltar, 1779–1783
Christopher Sparshott

New manuscript resources for Islamic Scholarship in the 18th Century
Zachary Wright
Faculty recruitment continued to be successful with the addition of several new faculty members, a program director, and visiting faculty.

2017

Craig LaMay, a Northwestern University scholar and expert in freedom of expression and media development in democratizing and post-conflict societies, and sport as a social institution, returned to the Qatar campus in January. LaMay, who is currently on leave from his position as associate professor at Northwestern’s Medill School, is also a former associate dean at Medill. He will be in residence at NU-Q until 2019. While at NU-Q, he will develop a program on sports, media, and leadership. He will also teach undergraduate courses on sports and media, drawing heavily on the local Qatari sports culture. LaMay is author or co-author of several books, including *Measures of Press Freedom*, with Monroe Price and Susan Abbott; and *Inside the Presidential Debates*, with Newton N. Minow.

A former newspaper reporter, he has a BA from Brown University, an MA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

2017–18

Hariclea Zengos will serve as director and professor of the liberal arts program, teaching courses in literature and literary studies. Her achievements have focused on academic excellence and institutional improvement. Most recently, she served as associate dean for academic affairs in the Office of the Provost at the American College of Greece where she previously served as associate dean in the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Zengos holds a PhD in English from Tufts University and an MA in English from Clark University. She also earned an MEd at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education where she studied higher education administration and has a BA in English from the American College in Greece.

George Anghelcev returns to Northwestern University in Qatar as associate professor of journalism and strategic communication. Anghelcev served as associate professor at NU-Q in 2016 for one semester. He joins NU-Q from Pennsylvania State University where he served as a tenured associate professor in the College of Communications’ Department of Advertising and Public Relations. Anghelcev received his PhD in mass communication from the University of Minnesota.

Rana Kazkaz, an award-winning filmmaker, will serve as assistant professor of communication in residence at NU-Q. Kazkaz’s films have been recognized in the world’s leading film festivals. Her teaching experience includes the Arab States Broadcasting Union, the Media Preparing Institute, and the American Language Center—all in Damascus, Syria. She received her MFA degree from Carnegie Mellon University, and a bachelor’s degree from Oberlin College in theater and Russian language, as well as one from the Moscow Art Theater in acting.

Aaron LaDuke, an authority on Great Plains literature, has been named assistant professor of liberal arts. Prior to joining NU-Q, he served as a lecturer at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, teaching in Haining, China, as part of University of Illinois’ partnership with Zhejiang University. LaDuke completed his BA in English at Northwestern University, his MA in creative writing at Western Washington University, and his PhD in English at Ohio University.

Sam Meekings will serve as an assistant professor of liberal arts. An accomplished novelist and poet, he joins NU-Q from Qatar University where he is a lecturer in writing and rhetoric.

Meekings was educated at Oxford University where he received a BA in English literature and modern history at Mansfield College and subsequently did two master’s degrees, one in creative writing at the University of Edinburgh and a master of arts at Oxford University. His PhD in creative writing is from Lancaster University.

Torsten Menge has been appointed assistant professor of philosophy in the faculty of liberal arts. He taught previously at Georgetown, Marymount, and Humboldt Universities. He received his PhD in philosophy from Georgetown University in Washington D.C. and holds a masters in philosophy from the Humboldt University of Berlin. He was most recently a visiting assistant professor at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.
Pamela Krayenbuhl will serve as assistant professor of communication. She received her PhD in screen cultures from the School of Communication at Northwestern. She has been a graduate teaching mentor, teaching consultant, and workshop lecturer at the Searle Center for Advancing Teaching and Learning. She is starting a book manuscript based on her dissertation research on the intersection of dance cultures and commercial film and television. She completed her MA in screen cultures at Northwestern University and a dual BA in rhetoric and interdisciplinary studies from UC Berkeley.

Dana Atrach is the first NU-Q graduate to serve as a member of the faculty at Northwestern. She has been appointed assistant professor in the Communication Program and, in addition to her degree from Northwestern, holds an MFA in screenwriting from the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television, where she was also a teaching assistant.

REAPPOINTMENTS

Communication
Banu Akdenizli, PhD; Scott Curtis, PhD; Susan Dun, PhD; Joe F. Khalil, PhD; Susan H. Pak, MFA, JD; Kirsten Pike, PhD; Ann Woodworth, MA.

Journalism and Strategic Communication
Ibrahim N. Abusharif, MSJ; Andrew Mills, MS.

Liberal Arts
Khaled AL-Hroub, PhD; Maria Lombard, PhD; Jocelyn S. Mitchell, PhD; Christopher Sparshott, PhD.

PROMOTION

Journalism
Justin D. Martin, PhD to associate professor in residence

Highest degree earned

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For students at Northwestern University in Qatar, their experience as undergraduates goes beyond the academics. While the Liberal Arts Program provides a foundation for critical thinking, alongside studying journalism, strategic communication, filmmaking and theory, students are also engaged in hands-on experiences at international destinations, pursuing causes they are most passionate about, and perfecting their ability as storytellers.

The student body is also diverse—representing more than 30 nationalities—which provides our students with the opportunity to learn in an environment that, by its nature, has multiple perspectives. Whether exchanging opinions on current events, seeking out new ideas, or showcasing their own culture's food, film, and music, students at Northwestern experience the global world on a daily basis. Keelie Sorel, assistant director of the student affairs department, notes that the diverse student body is a key component of the student experience. “As journalists, communicators, and filmmakers creating stories on multimedia platforms,” she said, “it is important that our students understand empathy and see the humanity in everyone—including those who are different.”

With the arrival of each new class, the NU-Q community welcomes them with fanfare. For the 82 students who joined this year, that was no exception. It begins with a long-time Northwestern tradition—the March Through the Arch—and moves on to a week of orientation, which concludes with a convocation ceremony. This year, journalist and author Ellis Cose spoke to the students at convocation, urging them to make the most of their undergraduate experience. “There is something universal about the college experience. It is a time to become whatever you aspire to become, to be reborn, in a sense. It is a time to relish and enjoy—a time offering freedom unlike what you will experience at any other point. It is a time of reflection, and of myriad possibilities,” Cose said.

Northwestern University in Qatar is recognized for educating the future leaders in the fields of journalism, media, and communication. Before pursuing these majors, however, all NU-Q students study the liberal arts. From humanities to social sciences, NU-Q fosters rigorous interdisciplinary thinking to broaden and enrich our students’ experience and their understanding of human expression and interaction. In preparing our students for successful
LEARNING BY DOING

One of the things that makes the academic experience at Northwestern unique is the emphasis placed on hands-on learning. Throughout their undergraduate studies, students at NU-Q are encouraged to intern and network with local and international media companies and their representatives through on-site visits, classroom visits, and internships.

For students in the Journalism and Strategic Communication Program, this includes a long-term internship during their junior year. These 10-week residencies are designed so that students learn what it is like to work under deadlines and alongside colleagues working in the field today.

For Jia Naqvi, who interned at The Washington Post this year, “from day one” her editors “threw me into the fire.” Before she was even given email login details, she was assigned a story. Naqvi, who wrote articles dealing with children and adolescents, pollution, climate change, opioids, and tobacco, said the experience has encouraged her to pursue health and science journalism after graduation.

In London, Awad Mohammed developed and presented campaign pitches for companies, including Google, while interning at Ogilvy & Mather UK. “Being involved in coming up with creative strategies and tactics gave me the chance to apply theoretical knowledge—like gaining trust, managing reputation, and building a favorable image with audiences—to real-life cases,” Mohammed said.

Ifath Sayed, who interned at the non-profit The Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting—which produces and supports journalism covering under-reported global issues—took on a wide portfolio of responsibilities from managing its social media to contributing to blog posts about the Center’s work. Sayed felt at home at the Center because it “talks about a lot of issues that I really care about—women’s rights, the rights of disenfranchised people ... my values match with its values.”

Other organizations students have been placed at include USA Today, Al Jazeera London, Amnesty International, Vice Media, The Boston Globe, and Blue Rubicon.

careers in various media industries, we recognize that all successful careers require critical thinking, teamwork, sensitivity to cultural and societal differences, as well as political perspectives. A liberal arts education provides this grounding.

The two majors offered by NU-Q—media industries and technology and journalism and strategic communication—open possibilities for students to explore different areas of the media. From learning how to be a strategic communicator for a multinational corporation to a journalist for an international news outlet to producing a documentary film that may be nominated for a Student Academy Award, NU-Q is shaping the next generation’s leaders in the media industry.
Along with our students’ academic work in the classroom, NU-Q also offers a number of educational opportunities outside the classroom. Over the course of the academic year, students have more than 80 opportunities to participate in an international academic experience.

During their junior year, journalism and strategic communication students participate in the Journalism Residency program, which has been a central part of the experience for all students enrolled at Northwestern’s Medill School. The program is an internship with either a major news outlet for those pursuing careers in journalism or with an international organization for those pursuing careers in strategic communication.

This year, students interned at USA Today, The Washington Post, VICE News, Ogilvy & Mather, Blue Rubicon, Al Jazeera London, the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting, and Amnesty International among others. NU-Q’s Dean notes that the residency program “distinguishes NU-Q as the only media school in the region with an embedded program for students to experience working at top media operations around the world. Our students’ experience is heightened during their residences—developing new skills, testing recently learned skills, working under deadline, and building confidence in their capabilities as professional communicators.”

Other opportunities to network with industry leaders occur through the Global Media Experience program. In May, NU-Q students travel to Dubai and New York to meet prominent figures and attend events that give them a better idea of careers in these fields, what it takes to succeed, and to see the work in action. Among the media organization students that meet with the students are NBC Universal, TIME Inc, ABC, VICE Media, and OSN.
Recognizing that the undergraduate experience goes beyond the classroom and academic experiences, students are also encouraged to participate in service learning trips. This year students visited refugee migrant centers in Italy to help migrants learn basic computer software to create and apply for local jobs as well as short courses on shooting and editing video using smartphone apps.

“These trips have pushed me far away from my comfort zones. From sleeping in a room with a dozen lizards climbing all over the walls to living in a foreign country where I didn’t know the language, they’ve helped me gain confidence and independence,” Mirza said.

NU-Q students participate in service-learning trips to explore economic, political, and social issues of the host community, drive cross-cultural conversations, and experience the intrinsic value of serving others. “A university experience is more than just getting good grades in class. It’s about gaining as much experience as you can and stepping out your comfort zone and Wildcat Serve offers that,” she said.

“These trips have given me a different perspective on life—seeing people work hard to attain the things we take for granted every day has made me grateful for everything I have, but also empowered me to bring awareness to those who aren’t as fortunate,” Mirza added.

Back in Doha, Mirza plans to continue to volunteer to teach basic English language skills to custodial staff in Education City.

LEARNING THROUGH SERVICE

Traveling in service of under-privileged communities around the world gave Anzish Mirza an opportunity for self-exploration.

As a sophomore, Mirza traveled to Vietnam and worked in a soup kitchen. This year, she participated in the Wildcat Serve program, which offers grants to students who plan travel in an effort to solve global issues. For Mirza that meant teaching English to children at a local school in Indonesia.
An important part of student life for NU-Q students is participation in student clubs and organizations to develop leadership skills, expand personal interests, and engage with the NU-Q community. The clubs and organizations offer them an opportunity to learn essential real-world skills of planning, organizing, and budgeting.

The NU-Q Student Union advocates for the NU-Q student body and acts as a liaison between students and the administration and the faculty.

The school’s online student newspaper The Daily Q appointed a slate of editors this year who have revolutionized the website under the guidance of their faculty adviser Christina Paschyn. Paschyn says the paper “gives student reporters the experience of functioning with tight deadlines and also receiving feedback from the community on the stories they have written. We see a passion for journalism increasing every year.”

Many NU-Q students and alumni have achieved success in their production of films and documentaries. Outside of the classroom, this love of film continues in the Not Another Film Club where students discuss themes, aesthetics, and production of various films—combining their love of film production with their recently acquired knowledge of media production. This year, the students in the club organized a day for local children to learn about filmmaking by guiding them through the process of creating a short film. “Our goal was to offer the community a new perspective on filmmaking and help them appreciate it as an art form. We would like these kids to know that there’s a career in this field, if they want it,” said Amal Al Muftah, president of the student club.

Other clubs run by students include:

- **Best Buddies** – enhances the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities by raising awareness and helping find solutions to integrate them into our communities.
- **Bibliophiles** – fosters a culture of literary appreciation and creative thinking by developing reading and writing skills, as well as an understanding of poetry and the written word.
- **Culture Club** – brings communities closer by bridging cultural gaps through hosting events and building awareness of Qatari traditions and customs.
- **Debate Club** – equips its members with leadership, critical thinking, and oratory skills to become avid debaters and passionate public speakers.
- **Music Society** – creates a culture of music, both for performing and appreciating, at NU-Q.
- **Not Another Film Club** – screens films that are significant to the art of filmmaking and takes part in local, national and international film festivals and conferences.
- **Society of Professional Journalists** – is dedicated to the perpetuation of a free press and providing information in an accurate, comprehensive, timely, and understandable manner.
- **Studio 20Q** – creates a thriving film culture, provide opportunities for students to experience filmmaking outside of production classes, and support future filmmakers.
NEW PERSPECTIVES

Yassine Ouahrani came to NU-Q with a singular focus—to develop as a filmmaker; however, he soon learned how narrow his focus had been.

“The Global Media experience opened up to me all the possibilities of working in the media industry. The organizations brought a new perspective to the table and encouraged us to look into upcoming trends in the media and to be critical of them,” Ouahrani said.

Students selected to join the highly-competitive trip visit major media organizations in Dubai and New York. Through on-site visits and conversations with people who are now leaders in the media industry, the students get a first-hand look at global media and all of its diverse forms. The experience—as Ouahrani notes—gives them the opportunity to on how they might best approach a career in twenty-first century media.

Ouahrani’s group participated in company visits to OSN network and BPG Public Relations in Dubai, while in New York, they visited Time Square Studios, Vice News, the Huffington Post, and Fleishman Hillard.

“Overall the trip encouraged me to learn more about how these organizations operate and what their day-to-day functions are. It also taught me how to speak with professionals and learn what skills are needed to thrive in this industry,” Ouahrani said.

STUDENTS
STUDENT RECOGNITION

Media and Research Awards

Each year the university holds its major media and research award competition. The competition has ten categories within media, communication, and the liberal arts. The winners are selected by a panel of prominent experts, including representatives of Al Jazeera, Doha Film Institute, and Qatar National Library.

These were the winners:

Creative Writing
Amna Al-Baker for “Chromosomes”

Documentary
Maryam Al-Thani and Sheikha Bahzad for “Al Ghwasa – Pearl Diving”

Fiction
Suleima AlHaj Abed, Hessa Al-Mannai, and Noura Ibrabim for “Mkhammar”

Independent: Image
Jemina Legaspi and Muhammad Faizan Shakir for “Somewhere, Sometime”

Independent: Writing
Jueun Choi for “Despite Student Concerns, EC Tap Water is Safe to Drink”

Journalistic Writing
Habibah Abass and Ifath Sayed for “Underreported Rape Crimes in Qatar”

Multimedia
Urooj Kamran Azmi (with Saskia Wiesebron & Avery Fisher) for “Graphics Corner”

News
Lolwa Al Thani for “Breastfeeding in Qatar”

Research: Humanities
Shakeeb Asrar for “Evolution In Pakistan and Saudi Arabia”

Research: Social Sciences
Muhammad Faizan Shakir for “Effects of Childhood Cancer on Siblings and Their Coping Mechanisms”

2017 President’s Luncheon Awards

On graduation day, President Schapiro hosted the President’s Lunch for graduating students and their families where students were acknowledged for individual achievements.

Students receiving recognition were:

Vibhav Gautam
Dean’s Award

Muhammad Shakeeb Asrar
Journalism and Strategic Communication Award

Jemina Marcos Legaspi
Communication Award

Nayab Malik
Liberal Arts Award

Hend Mohammed Al Thawadi
Student Leadership Award
NU-Q students Jemina Legaspi and Muhammad Faizan Shakir with Hafiz Abdulla, director of museums at Msheireb Properties, are awarded Best Independent Image.

Lolwa Al Thani, winner of Best News Package, with one of the judges for the competition, Kamahl Santamaria a news anchor and journalist at Al Jazeera English.
This year’s graduation ceremony—the sixth for NU-Q—was the first one held in its new building with the largest graduating class to date.

The class’s achievements were also a highlight for the graduates. Among the 44 graduating seniors were the highest number of minors and certificates, including minors in Middle East studies, media and politics, theater, and English; and certificates in Middle East studies, civic engagement, strategic communication, and public relations.

“This marks a proud moment for the faculty and staff at NU-Q and an opportunity for us to join together to celebrate the caliber, character, and capabilities of our graduating students,” said Dean Dennis. “We look forward to watching you move out into the world, fully capable of achieving your dreams and making positive contributions, whether you choose to pursue a career in journalism, filmmaking, strategic communication—or attend graduate school. You will no doubt make your mark.”

Derek Thompson—Northwestern alumnus, best-selling author, and senior editor at *The Atlantic*—gave the graduation speech. “Everything that we do in life,” he told the graduates, “ultimately serves merely as a frame—a massive arch—to make us see the things we have not yet done. To live fully in this world, to be totally alive to its possibilities and its joys, you have to fall in love with the work of it. You have to learn to love the hero’s journey, not only for the brief victory that may come in the end, but also all its potholes, the frustrations large and small, and the friends and the nemeses along the way.”
LEFT: His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir of Qatar (center); Morton Schapiro, president of Northwestern University (left); and Everette E. Dennis, dean and CEO of NU-Q (right) with the Class of 2017.
Six students represented Northwestern University in Qatar’s graduating class at a grand ceremony addressed by tennis legend and equality advocate Billie Jean King. With regular visits on exchange programs, summer trips, and internships, NU-Q students have developed a strong connection to the University’s home campus—making attending Annual Commencement at Ryan Field a part of the NU-Q undergraduate experience.

Class of 2017 Valedictorian Vibhav Gautam, having attended the Communication exchange program, said the event was an unforgettable part of his experience at Northwestern. “It’s great to represent the Qatar campus at such an important event. It definitely felt like we were part of something much bigger,” Gautam said.

Other NU-Q students who participated in the Evanston commencement were Urooj Kamran Azmi, Bohao Liu, Shakeeb Asrar, Amanda Melhem, Muhammad Faizan Shakir and Shuhan Zhang. The Qatar Support Office in Evanston facilitates the student’s inclusion into the relevant school’s convocation program and serves as a resource for graduation and other events, as well as for local accommodations.
NU-Q – EVANSTON PARTNERSHIP

NORTHWESTERN VISITORS 2016–17

Northwestern University in Qatar hosts a series of visitors throughout the year—including many from our home campus in Evanston. These visits reinforce the close working relationship between the two campuses from student engagement and research to faculty collaboration between faculty on both campuses.

The highlight of these visits each year is the visit by the provost and a delegation of academic leaders on the Evanston campus. This year that delegation included Northwestern’s new provost—Jonathan Holloway.

We also welcomed a large delegation from Evanston, led by President Schapiro, for graduation and the dedication of our new building.

Daniel Linzer
Provost of Northwestern University, Professor of Molecular Biosciences, former dean of Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences

Daniel I. Linzer, who stepped down as provost in 2017, met with the NU-Q community to discuss future plans for NU-Q, and to reflect on its first eight years. “To enable NU-Q to thrive as its own school has been one of the highlights of my tenure as provost. To see it contribute to the global development of the university, create opportunities for students to travel back and forth between the US and the Middle East—none of that was happening a decade ago,” Linzer said.

Jonathan Holloway
Provost-designate of Northwestern University

Succeeding Linzer as provost is Jonathan Holloway, the Edward S. Morgan Professor of History at Yale University and dean of Yale College. In his inaugural visit to the Qatar campus, he noted its uniqueness. “When I see all these students working together from all these different backgrounds, as if it were just the most natural thing in the world, to me that is a powerfully hopeful sign. If NU-Q can do nothing but inspire a recognition of our broader human commonalities, it’s done something very valuable.”
Other visitors included:

**William Osborn**  
Chair, Board of Trustees

**Nim Chinniah**  
Executive Vice President

**Pamela S. Beemer**  
Vice President and Chief Human Resource Manager

**Philip Harris**  
Vice President and General Counsel

**Ronald R. Braeutigam**  
Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education

**Lindsay Chase-Lansdale**  
Associate Provost for Faculty

**Jean E. Shedd**  
Associate Provost for Budget, Facilities, and Analysis

**Jabbar R. Bennett**  
Associate Provost and Chief Diversity Officer

**Andrea Bueschel**  
Assistant Provost for Faculty

**Ellen Wartella**  
Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani Professor of Communication, School of Communication

**Stephanie Grahaim**  
Deputy General Counsel

**Priya J. Harjani**  
Deputy General Counsel

**Anne Fish**  
Executive Director Benefits, Office of Human Resources

**Zach Wise**  
Associate Professor, Medill School of Journalism

**Emily Withrow**  
Associate Professor, Medill School of Journalism

**Karen Hunt Ahmed**  
Adjunct Lecturer, Kellogg School of Management

**Kathleen Lee**  
Assistant Director for External Programs, Medill School of Journalism

**Bridget Samuels**  
Assistant Director, Student Services and Communications, Kellogg School of Management
As the 12th school of Northwestern University, NU-Q offers its graduates a vast network of fellow alumni who include leaders in government, business, and the arts.

Since its first graduating class in 2012, NU-Q alumni have joined this network with our alumni working as media professionals in government, business, and media companies around the world. Many of our alumni—nearly 40 percent—have also chosen to attend graduate school and represent NU-Q at leading institutions that include Harvard University, University of Oxford, University of Cambridge, Northwestern University, Cornell University, and the London School of Economics, among others.

To provide our graduates with a lasting connection to their alma mater and connect them with fellow alumni, the NU-Q alumni association meets regularly and organizes events for our graduates to stay connected to each other and to Northwestern. In addition to playing active roles in this year’s community events such as Purple Fest, Go Wild Week, and Senior Dinner, NU-Q alumni were also involved in other events throughout the year.

**DINNER WITH 12**

The Northwestern tradition of connecting current undergraduate students with alumni working in related industries was adapted in Doha this year. The NU-Q Alumni Association hosts a dinner for 12 students so that the students have an opportunity to network and learn more about the host’s career path and professional experience.

This year Northwestern University alumni hosted two dinners with students from NU-Q.

Imad Chemaly, an alumnus of Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law and currently legal counsel for the International Bank of Qatar, hosted a dinner for students interested in attending law school. Meanwhile two NU-Q alumni, Rezwan Al Islam and Florent D’Souza, along with Alli Divine, a recent graduate from the Evanston campus, hosted students at a second dinner later in the year.

“My Northwestern pride is boundless,” Divine said, “and I have had the good fortune of being part of the Northwestern community in Evanston and Qatar. This dinner was a perfect summation of what ties us together: inquisitive, driven individuals passionate about making the world a better place in whatever field they choose to pursue.”
NEW BUILDING RECEPTION

NU-Q alumni were welcomed back to their alma mater at a reception held in the university’s new building in Education City. Dean Dennis welcomed the group back to NU-Q, noting that over the years he had been promising students and parents that the building would be opening shortly.

“It has taken a bit longer than I had anticipated,” Dennis said, “but it gives me great pleasure to welcome you back to a place of your own.”

NU-Q staff provided tours of the new building for the visiting alumni. Abir Bouguerra, co-founder and CEO of Vectorize, a 3D printing startup, pointed to the advanced technology that the new building offers. “It’s amazing to see professional, cutting-edge equipment on campus,” she said.
PARTNERSHIPS

As a partner with Al Jazeera, the Doha Film Institute, Qatar Computing Research Institute, and the World Internet Project, NU-Q faculty and students go beyond the classroom to help nurture and expand Qatar’s media landscape.

In partnership with the World Internet Project, NU-Q continued its survey on media use in the Middle East. The 2017 questionnaire was revised and updated to track new media trends and emerging public opinion issues. It incorporated comments, feedback, and requests from faculty across all three NU-Q departments, as well as students, Nielsen, and others. It also included adjustments to fit recent changes to World Internet Project Questions.

The Al Jazeera Speaker Series hosted Jassim Al-Rumaihi, Doha correspondent and an NU-Q alum; Dima Khatib, managing director of AJ+, an award-winning digital news service in English, Arabic and Spanish, launched by Al Jazeera Media Network; and Giles Trendle, managing director of Al Jazeera English.

Al Jazeera also committed to being a contributing partner on the Media Use in the Middle East survey project for upcoming surveys.

The Qatar Media Industries Forums this year focused on taking media companies regional and international, and the sports media in Qatar. The first forum—“Going Regional: Taking a Media Company Beyond Borders”—was moderated by NU-Q Professor Ilhem Allagui and brought together leaders in Qatar’s publishing, digital media, public relations, and advertising industries to discuss the opportunities and challenges media companies face when expanding beyond national borders.

“Sports Media and Qatar’s Future” was moderated by NU-Q professor and sports media expert Craig LaMay, and included as panelists Nasser Al-Khater, assistant secretary general, Tournament Affairs, Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy; Nigel Rushman, founder of Rushmans consultancy; and Jackie Brock-Doyle OBE, executive director for communications at IAAF and former director of communications and public affairs for London Olympics 2012 as panelists.

The Doha Film Institute continues to support research through our surveys and reports on the Middle East media industry. NU-Q also participated in the Institute’s Ajyal Youth Film Festival, and the Qumra film festival. Two films by NU-Q students were selected as official Qumra workshop projects—“Sh’hab,” by Amal Al-Muftah and “AlFanoos,” by Aisha Al-Muhannadi. Faculty also participated at Qumra, including Sue Pak, Justin Reifert, Joao Queiroga, Danielle Beverly, and Anto Mohsin.

Research collaborations between NU-Q and the Qatar Computing Research Institute consisted of exchanging theoretical ideas about communication of all kind and the teaching of computer-aided content analysis to NU-Q faculty. A highlight was the presentation of ongoing studies by five leading QCRI researchers to NU-Q faculty—to encourage new research ideas and collaboration on existing projects.
PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMMING

NU-Q offered workshops at local high schools to help students and their advisors with the college admissions process. This included discussing effective methods for constructing application essays, and learning to write about complex subjects with confidence, structure, and understanding.

Another program—Northwestern Workshops—feature innovative teaching styles and research. This year, seminars have included Arabic for Media with Professor Mounir Ouanimi; Islam, the West, and The Media by Professors Ibrahim Abusharif and Zachary Wright; Inequality in America Through Politics and Film by Professors Scott Curtis and Jocelyn Sage Mitchell; and Mobile Video Reporting by Professor Miriam Berg.

The University also hosted a two-week summer program led by Miriam Berg, assistant professor in the journalism program. The course was attended by over 20 high school students from throughout Qatar including international students from China, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates—all of whom learned about the Northwestern experience. The group participated in hands-on photography and news broadcasting exercises and learned the foundational concepts of a media education.
MEDIA COVERAGE

The coverage NU-Q received from local, regional, and international media, as well as on social media, continued to grow and be placed more frequently and strategically. As part of the outreach effort for the move to the new building, NU-Q secured multiple special features and exclusive interviews in print, broadcast, and social media outlets throughout the year.

Forbes Middle East, a leading regional business publication, published a four-page interview with Dean Dennis, including descriptions and photos of the new building. Qatar Today, a local business magazine, was the first to announce NU-Q’s move to the new building in an exclusive four-page interview with the dean about the University’s academic achievements, future plans, and new home. The new building was also the cover story in Interiors magazine, an architecture and interior design magazine in Qatar.

The year’s coverage also included a series of pieces that illustrated NU-Q student achievements. Multiple local papers, including Al Arab and Al Sharq, published interviews and stories with students and alumni, highlighting their successes and educational experiences at Northwestern. NU-Q is now becoming a source for local media to interview faculty as industry experts on different topics ranging from politics to technology and digital security to sports media.

A highlight for broadcast coverage took place during the Qatar Media Industries Forum (QMIF), Sports, Media and Qatar’s Future. TV channels including Al Jazeera, Al Kass, Qatar TV, and Rayyan TV broadcast highlights of the forum as well as interviews with NU-Q’s dean and faculty.

In addition to traditional media coverage, NU-Q continues to broaden its outreach through social media. This year we introduced more live coverage events and several interactive campaigns on all of our channels: Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

NU-Q also reinforced its connection to the home campus in Evanston by increasing its coverage in Northwestern University media channels including its online newsletter, Northwestern Now, and newsletters distributed by the Office of Alumni and Development and the Office of Research, as well as University magazines—The Dialogue and Research News. NU-Q also worked in concert with Evanston to promote several major events, including graduation and the building dedication, across the University’s social media platforms and website.

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<tr>
<th>Social Media Followers</th>
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DELVING INTO THE REGION’S MEDIA THROUGH QATAR

A RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS THE FUTURE

OUTREACH
JOINT ADVISORY BOARD

H.E. Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al-Thani
Vice Chairperson and CEO of Qatar Foundation
(co-chair)

Daniel Linzer
Provost, Northwestern University
(co-chair)

H.E. Sheikh Ahmed bin Jassim
bin Mohamed Al-Thani
Minister of Economy and Commerce,
State of Qatar

William Osborn
Chair, Northwestern University, Board of Trustees

Nim Chinniah
Executive Vice President, Northwestern University

Rami G. Khouri
Director of the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut

Geneva Overholser
Editor and Educator; Senior Fellow, Democracy Fund

Maryah Al-Dafa
Executive Director of Strategic Planning and Special Projects, Qatar Foundation

Yaser Bishr
Executive Director of Digital, Al Jazeera Media Network

Ahmad M. Hasnah
President, Hamad bin Khalifa University, Qatar Foundation (ex officio member)

Everette E. Dennis
Dean and Chief Executive Officer, Northwestern University in Qatar (ex officio member)

LEADERSHIP

Everette E. Dennis
Dean and Chief Executive Officer

David Albanese
Director of Human Resources

Greg Bergida
Director of Student Affairs

Scott Curtis
Director of the Communication Program

Mary Dedinsky
Director of the Journalism Program

Pamela Erskine-Loftus
Director of The Media Majlis at Northwestern University in Qatar

Nanci Martin
Director of Strategic Media and Marketing

Sandra Richards
Director of the Liberal Arts Program

Klaus Schoenbach
Senior Associate Dean

Barry Sexton
Director of Business and Finance

Kathryn Bright Symank
Chief Operations Officer (until January 2017)

Pim Thukral
Chief Operations Officer (after January 2017)

D. Charles Whitney
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Robb Wood
Director of Strategic Partnership
# FACULTY

## Communication Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banu Akdenizli</td>
<td>Associate Professor in Residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaveh Askari</td>
<td>Associate Professor in Residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Beverly</td>
<td>Assistant Professor in Residence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Dun</td>
<td>Assistant Professor in Residence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe F. Khalil</td>
<td>Associate Professor in Residence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan H. Pak</td>
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<td>Kirsten Pike</td>
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<td>Joao Queiroga</td>
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<td>Justin Reifert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allwyn Tellis</td>
<td>Lecturer in Residence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marco Williams</td>
<td>Professor in Residence</td>
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<td>Ann Woodworth</td>
<td>Associate Professor in Residence</td>
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## Journalism Program

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ibrahim N. Abusharif</td>
<td>Associate Professor in Residence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ilhem Allagui</td>
<td>Associate Professor in Residence</td>
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<td>George Anghelev</td>
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<td>Miriam Berg</td>
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<td>Marci Brown</td>
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<td>Craig LaMay</td>
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<td>Justin Martin</td>
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<td>Andrew Mills</td>
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<td>Christina M. Paschyn</td>
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<td>Amy Kristin Sanders</td>
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## Liberal Arts Program

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Khaled Al Hroub</td>
<td>Professor in Residence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giovanni Bandi</td>
<td>Adjunct Assistant Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sami Hermez</td>
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<td>Maria Lombard</td>
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<td>Hasan Mahmud</td>
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<td>Jocelyn Sage Mitchell</td>
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<td>Yulianto (Anto) Mohsin</td>
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<td>Mark Newmark</td>
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<td>Mounir Ouanaimi</td>
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<td>Christopher Sparshott</td>
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<td>Tracy L. Vaughn</td>
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<td>Zachary Wright</td>
<td>Associate Professor in Residence</td>
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## Library

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<tr>
<td>Iman Khamis</td>
<td>Technical Service Librarian</td>
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<td>Mark Paul</td>
<td>Director of the Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeremy Walker</td>
<td>Public Services Librarian</td>
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STAFF

Dhoha AbdelSatar
Curator for The Media Majlis
at Northwestern University in Qatar

Nadeen Abo Mazid
User Support Specialist

Christopher Adamescu
Broadcast Systems Administrator

Alanna Alexander
Writer/Editor

Maha Al Ghanim
Administrative Assistant

John Alindayo
Facilities Logistics Coordinator

Chito Almacen
Production Equipment Specialist

Safna Ansaruddin
Director of Student Records

Bianca Apps
Administrative Assistant

Ismael Aquino
Library Associate

Safa Arshad
Exhibition Coordinator

Resil Barcelo
Human Resources Coordinator

Bromwyn Bethel
Writing Center Administrator

Erin Bishop
Communication Program Support

Bradley Bower
Manager of Community Relations

Lea Bowman
Business and Risk Analyst

Leona Bowman
Gallery Registrar

Frank Box
Infrastructure Project Manager
for the Media Majlis at NU-Q

Anne Brothers
Program Assistant, Qatar Support Office

Geoffrey Cannaby
Director of Production
and Digital Media Services

Jocelyn Casambros
Library Assistant

Wielder Catapat
Manager of Production Operations

Patricia Collins
Counselor/Coordinator of Health and Wellness

Ray Corcoran
Director of Facilities

Mano De Rosairo
Administrative Assistant

Alli Divine
Special Assistant, Office of the Dean

Nadiyah El-Amin
Academic Advisor

Lawrence Ferrer
Purchasing Supervisor

Will Froning
Manager of Infrastructure Operations

Heba Gomaa
Academic Records Assistant

R. Daniel Hague
Senior Audiovisual Technologist

Amira Hariri
Assistant Director of Admissions

Haneen Hindi
Communications Coordinator

Tiffany Ho
International Experience Manager

Sian Houlsby
Manager of the Dean’s office

Christopher Hurless
Systems Engineer/Administrator

Shakir Hussain
User Support Specialist

Amir Hussin
Broadcast Engineer

Zeena Kanaan
Public Relations Specialist

Zanib Khalid
Business Analyst Associate

Amy Khatib
Manager of Student Finance
Elizabeth Lance
Research Administrator

Shinoj Leela
Broadcast Support Engineer

Erin Libby
Manager, Qatar Support Office

DeYette Little
Events Manager

Nadeem Lughmani
Senior Network Engineer

Abir Maarouf
Purchasing Coordinator

Louise Malinis
Administrative Assistant

Jesse Manley
Administrative Assistant

Arnold Marcelo
Office Assistant/Driver

Christy Marianta
Executive Assistant to the COO

Michael McDonough
Director of Health, Safety, Security and Environment

Tames McTigue
Senior Systems Engineer/Administrator

Saeed Mohamed
Government Relations Manager

Marie Newkirk
Career Services Manager

Victoria Ng’eno
Administrative Assistant

Durriya Niaz
Manager of Accounting and Financial Reporting

Ryza Odencio-Tenorio
Library Assistant

Dragos Onciul
Facilities Administrative Assistant

Terri-Lyn Perez
Broadcast and Production Technical Support Specialist

Jan-Marie Petersen
Web Content Manager

Jesly Quimbo
Facilities Workshop Technician

Connie Ramadan
Human Resources Administration Manager

Rajiv Ravishankar
User Support Specialist

Bradford Rawson
Marketing Manager

Marium Saeed
Research Study Coordinator

Nadeen Said
Broadcast and Production Technical Support Specialist

Genus Salas
Facilities Services Supervisor

Alex Schultes
Director of Admissions

Delora Sequeira
Administrative Assistant

Frederico Silva
Manager of Strategic Recruitment

Bianca Simon
Administrative Assistant

Rommel Solicar
Facilities Supervisor

Keelie Sorel
Assistant Director of Student Affairs

Alex Sotelo
Systems Engineer/Administrator

Michelle Telafici
Academic Advisor

Kim Theodore
Human Resources Manager

Indee Thotawattage
Student Life Specialist

Patrick Tingson
Production Coordinator

Robert Vance
Director of Information Technology

Paul Wood
Broadcast System Administrator

Ihsan Yahya
Manager of Broadcast Engineering
APPENDIX 2: SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Books


Other monographs and edited volumes


Articles in scholarly journals


Articles in other periodicals and in conference proceedings


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**Book chapters**


**Conference papers**


Martin, J. D., Martins, R. J., & Naqvi, S. (2016, August). Political gratifications of internet use in five Arab countries: Predictors of online political efficacy. Presented at the annual conference, Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication, Minneapolis, MN.


### Invited lectures, panel participation: Academic audiences

Abusharif, I. (2016, October). *Fact, fiction and all that is between*. Invited lecture, Qatar Leadership Conference, Doha, Qatar.


Beverly, D. (2016, May). *Popular culture research workshop, special collections music library & Bill Schurk sound collections*. Workshop participant, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH.


Curtis, S. (2016, June). *Depth and movement: Hugo Münsterberg and psychological aesthetics*. Invited lecture, Department of Film Studies, University of Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland.


Dun, S. A. (2016, October). *Culturally contextualized focus groups: Locating and leveraging existing settings to facilitate in-depth and valid discussions*. Invited Lecture, Qatar Foundation Faculty Forum, Doha, Qatar.


APPENDICES


LaMay, Craig (2017, April). Panel participant, session “Sports, society and the state in the Middle East working group,” Georgetown University in Qatar, Doha, Qatar.


Martin, J. D., Martins, R. J., & Naqvi, S. (2017, January). Do Arabs really read less? Patterns and predictors of traditional and e-book reading in six Arab countries. Invited lecture, Qatar Faculty Forum, Education City, Doha, Qatar.


Mitchell, J. S., Kane, T., & Pike, K. (2017, April). In majaalis-al hareem: The complex professional and personal choices of Qatari women. Invited lecture, research seminar, Stenden University, Doha, Qatar.


Schoenbach, K. (2017, February). The stars don’t lie: Season of birth and media use. Invited lecture, Qatar Faculty Forum, Education City, Doha, Qatar.

Schoenbach, K. (2017, June). Media and communication research in the Middle East and North Africa. Invited lecture, Department of Communication, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria.

Woodworth, A. (2016, May). *The classroom as stage*. Invited lecture, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI.


**Serving as session chairs and discussants: Academic audiences**


Akdenizli, B. (2017, April). Chair, session “Cultural awareness and analysis,” annual conference, Global Media Association, Greensboro, NC.

Dun, S. A. (2016, August). Chair, session “Frames, blames and applications of health communication,” annual conference, Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication, Minneapolis, MN.


Lombard, Maria (2017, April). Discussant, the New York University in Abu Dhabi Writing Studies Working Group, Abu Dhabi, UAE.


Pike, K. (2017, March). Chair, session “Cinematic renderings and/or global activism,” annual conference, Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Chicago, IL.


Invited lectures, panel participation, workshops: Non-academic audiences


Hroub, K. (2017, April). Master of the ceremony. Chair, principal award winning ceremony of The International Prize for Arabic Fiction, Abu Dhabi, UAE.


LaMay, C. (2016, October). Everything you know about the presidential debates is wrong. Invited lecture, Chicago Club and Public Affairs Working Group, Chicago, IL.


