

Decide

February 2023

THE 42 ABU DHABI NEWSLETTER

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ABU DHABI



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1// MESSAGE FROM **THE CEO**
- 2// **DID YOU KNOW?**
- 3// WHAT'S UP AT **42 ABU DHABI?**
- 4// WHAT'S NEW – **MARCH CALENDAR**
- 5// HIGHLIGHTING **UAE FEMALE TALENTS**
- 6// 42 ABU DHABI BOCAL – **MEET ILYES BOUCLAGHEM**

1

It's no secret that in the past, not many women considered entering the tech fields, but times are changing and we are seeing a major shift in recent years, as more and more women are choosing to enter the field of coding and pursue tech careers. I am very proud of all our female coders at 42 Abu Dhabi who are breaking barriers and gender stereotypes everyday by using coding as a powerful tool to change the world around them, drive an increasingly knowledge-based economy and secure leading positions in the digital fields.

42 Abu Dhabi has had a major role in supporting Abu Dhabi's strategic vision to create a diverse and inclusive education infrastructure that enables a future-ready workforce, by empowering women from all walks of life to learn how to code.

It brings me pleasure to say that at 42 Abu Dhabi, 111 of our students are female, representing 32% of the total number of students, with 49 of these students being Emirati female coders. The ratio of female to male coders at 42 Abu Dhabi is one of the highest across all the 42 Network schools, and that itself is an incredible milestone for us and further accelerates our efforts to foster an educational ecosystem that enables women to thrive and succeed in tech fields. To all our female talents at 42 Abu Dhabi and around the world, I wish you a happy International Women's Day, and may you keep inspiring us with your resilience, determination and achievements.



A MESSAGE FROM
MARCOS MULLER HABIG
CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY (8TH MARCH)

Did you know?

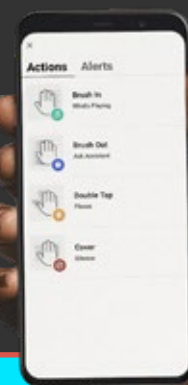
Tech and Fashion – What’s the link?

Since this newsletter’s edition is all about women empowerment, let’s talk about the one thing that all women have in common: their strong love for shopping and fashion!

Over the past few years, fashion has been booming with technological innovations. Potential to change how fashion is made, sustained, and accessed is limitless. One of the interesting examples of how technology is being incorporated into fashion is Project Jacquard, out of Google’s ATAP lab (Advanced Technology and Projects), which is a collection of conductive threads for weaving touch-responsive textiles like clothing, tablecloths, rugs, or anything else made of fabric.

Jacquard takes ordinary, familiar objects and enhances them with new digital abilities and experiences, while remaining true to their original purpose — like being your favorite jacket, backpack or a pair of shoes that you love to wear. This technology allows customers to skip a song by swiping their sleeve, take a picture by tapping on their shoulder strap or get a reminder about the phone they left behind with a blink of light or a haptic buzz on their cuff.

These inventions will definitely disrupt and change the fashion world as we know it!



What's up at 42 Abu Dhabi?

Artificial Intelligence: A Force for Good Workshop – by Dr. Sanaa Elyassami.

42 Abu Dhabi hosted an insightful workshop session under the title 'Artificial Intelligence: A force for good' by Dr. Sanaa Elyassami who is an Associate Professor at 42 Abu Dhabi and holds a PhD degree in Artificial Intelligence. The session was open to tech enthusiasts, entrepreneurs, and anyone simply interested in the future of technology to explore current use cases of Artificial Intelligence (AI), considerations that come with its development and use, and the impact of AI on industries and society as a whole. This was the first session organized and hosted by 42 Abu Dhabi which was open for all 42 network campuses virtually and witnessed a successful turnout of more than 1,000 participants from across all the 42-network community.



Innovation Workshop by BEACON RED

42 Abu Dhabi also organized a workshop by BEACON RED, an advanced defence solutions provider that tackles complex national security threats and a partner of 42 Abu Dhabi, under the title 'Innovation Workshop'. The session was presented by Philip Burgess, an experienced trainer and instructional designer from Beacon Red. Philip introduced students to design thinking

and strategic approaches to turn their ideas into successful innovations. Students who attended the session further had the opportunity to develop their understanding through practical examples of successful innovations put forward throughout the years.





Coding Competition – Innovation Month

42 Abu Dhabi students also worked on creating an innovative personal and campus-wide progress monitoring tool as part of a coding hackathon that the school held in celebration of the UAE Innovation Month 2023. The app that was developed to allow students to monitor their attendance, current project details, and estimated program completion date.

Additionally, the app supports students in generating a study plan to achieve their learning objectives and meet upcoming deadlines. It also enables 42 Abu Dhabi's staff to monitor their individual progress through an easy-to-use and scalable platform.

Candle-Making Workshop

At 42 Abu Dhabi, we are proud to be a diverse and inclusive school that welcomes people from all walks of life to be part of our community of coders. In collaboration with Zayed Higher Organization for People of Determination, 42 Abu Dhabi organized a candle-making workshop where students had a blast by making and designing artistic candles and networking with their peers. As it turns out, many of our coders at 42 Abu Dhabi are artists at heart, and they just needed an opportunity like this one to unleash their hidden talents!



Welcoming our February Pisciners

42 Abu Dhabi opened its doors for its new February Pisciners last month, which was an opportunity for aspiring coders to unleash the passion within and dive deep into the world of coding. We look forward to welcoming all those who successfully pass the Piscine to the 42 Abu Dhabi community as they embark on their new learning journey.



MultiBall GameFlow Activation

Our students enjoyed a Multiball Gameflow, which is a smart sports wall and gaming platform that sparked a sense of competition among students. The winner of this activation was awarded with a brand-new Samsung smartphone.



What's New – March Calendar

RESOLVE 2023 - Abu Dhabi International Dispute Resolution Forum.

Our CEO, Marcos Muller Habig, participated as a speaker in the panel titled 'Decoding AI & What It Means'. Drawing on his extensive knowledge of advanced technologies, Marcos discussed how AI was set to disrupt the way industries and businesses worked, as well as all the important questions that this complex topic raised for society, the economy, and governments.



Magroudy Deal - Find Joy in the Power of Books

We have some exciting news for you which will not leave you with anymore excuses for not picking up a book this month! We're thrilled to inform you that 42 Abu Dhabi is partnering with Magroudy Bookstore to celebrate the Reading Month in March, by offering students with a 30% discount on its books. There will also be a designated stand on campus for a few days where students will be able to buy a range of books from different genres.

#EmbraceEquity – Highlighting 42 Network's Female Campus Leaders

This year, on International Women's Day (March 8th), the 42 Network would like to take the opportunity to highlight our campus leaders (CEOs/Directors/sponsors) around the world. The theme is #EmbraceEquity and it aims to get the world talking about how each one of us can play an active role in embracing equity.



As part of our efforts to show how our campus leaders are taking action to #EmbraceEquity and provide new educational and career opportunities for women, 20 women from 42 Abu Dhabi will be participating in the Network's #EmbraceEquity social media campaign.

Healathon - In Honor of World Kidney Day (7-9 March)

42 Abu Dhabi will be participating in a hackathon in honor of World Kidney Day. The event is dedicated to advancing healthcare data science and will focus on several major projects including Diabetic kidney failure prediction, Prediction of cancer for diabetic renal patients, Gender inequalities in bladder and renal cancer and Machine learning for kidney cancer.

BEACON RED Hackathon (18 – 19 March)

This workshop will serve as a hands-on activity for students to set up a system to analyze a web shop, discover security vulnerabilities, and understand how attackers try to manipulate their code. Students will be able to tackle different challenges and showcase their solutions to earn prizes with the knowledge and experience that they gained during the two-day hackathon.

Highlighting UAE female talents

Mona Alhadrami

Mona is one of 42 Abu Dhabi's women superheroes, as she is a chemical engineer who joined 42 Abu Dhabi with no background in coding. Mona has excelled in her learning journey at 42 Abu Dhabi, by elevating her coding skills while also launching her own app at the same time. When we asked Mona what challenges she faced when she started her journey with 42 Abu Dhabi, this was her answer:

"Throughout my learning journey, I have faced a few challenges that have helped me grow and improve as a learner. One challenge that I faced was the steep learning curve when I first started learning to code. As someone with a background in chemical engineering, I was not familiar with programming languages, which made it difficult to understand some of the concepts and terminology. However, I was able to overcome this challenge by seeking help from experienced coders and utilizing online resources to supplement my learning."



Maha Alhosani

Maha holds an applied bachelor's degree from Abu Dhabi polytechnic in Information Security Engineering, and she is specialized in software security. When we asked her about what inspired her to become a coder, this was her answer:

"What drew me to a career in coding was the desire and excitement to go behind the scenes and understand the inner workings of the various applications and devices we use in our everyday lives. It allowed me to explore my passion for problem-solving and producing creative experiences. Through coding, I can generate ideas that solve user specific problems, design possible solutions, and then execute them to maintain the end-to-end user experience. I decided to explore software engineering in hopes of inspiring other women to do the same, and consequently contribute to our national capabilities' growth and development."



42 Abu Dhabi Boca1 – Meet Ilyes Bouchlaghem

Can you tell us more about your role at 42 Abu Dhabi?

At 42 Abu Dhabi, I am a Sr. Software Engineer and my responsibility is to make sure that each student feels fully integrated into the 42 family and its disruptive educational model. I also take care of the development of internal tools for our daily business tasks as well as the collection and analysis of data that influence our decision making.

When you are not busy hustling at 42 Abu Dhabi, what do you do in your spare time?

Before anything else, I take the time to do nothing. Doing nothing is sometimes necessary for my body and my neurons to recover. Then, I have a clear division of my time as follows: I spend few hours developing my professional career through certifications, networking and start-up ideas brainstorming. I also spend few hours learning something new such as a new language, skill or a subject that sparks my curiosity, and some time which I dedicate to sports such as basketball and combat sports.

How are students adapting to 42 gamification methodology, the project base, peer-to-peer independent learning model?

Since we were little we used to play to discover things, for example, when we learned to count we did it in a playful and funny way. We are the proof that technology can be learned in a variety of different ways, which is why we have succeeded in placing the students at the center of their learning by enabling them to use their collective intelligence in order to solve the projects that are assigned to them.



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