

**Under the patronage of
His Excellency Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan
UAE Minister of Culture Youth & Community Development**

University of Manchester to host first MBA graduation ceremony in the Middle East

3rd October 2013 (Dubai, United Arab Emirates): The University of Manchester will hold its first MBA graduation ceremony in the region, for students of Manchester Business School (MBS) Middle East Centre, at Atlantis The Palm Hotel, at 10.30am on Thursday October 10th 2013. The Presiding Officer at the graduation ceremony will be the Dean of MBS, Professor Fiona Devine, and the ceremony will be conducted in the presence of His Excellency Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, UAE Minister of Culture Youth & Community Development; Sheikh Nahayan will also address the congregation. 85 graduates will be awarded the University of Manchester MBA degree at the ceremony, which will be attended by family members, VIP guests, students and alumni of Manchester Business School.

The first University of Manchester graduation ceremony in the Middle East will bring together all the latest MBS students in the region who have successfully completed their MBA programmes, as well as those who studied at the Middle East Centre and graduated previously but who had not attended the formal graduation ceremony on campus in Manchester.

Part of the University of Manchester, Manchester Business School is one of the oldest business schools in the UK and Europe's largest campus based business school. MBS opened its Middle East Centre at Dubai Knowledge Village in 2006 and, today it is the largest and fastest growing of the School's network of seven centres around the world.

The MBS Middle East Centre supports more than 1,500 part-time MBA students in the region, many residing in the UAE, and has a community of around 2,000 alumni in the region. The School offers the part-time Manchester Global MBA programme with the option of four learning pathways to working professionals who meet the entry criteria. The MBS MBA programmes are triple accredited and are consistently ranked amongst the world's top ranked programmes.

Randa Bessiso, Director - Middle East, Manchester Business School said: "The first University of Manchester graduation ceremony in the Middle East is a testament to the success achieved by MBS since the centre opened in Dubai in 2006. Dubai Knowledge Village has proved to be the perfect host and location at the regional hub of training and development. This is a special milestone for MBS and for all our MBA graduates and their families, and we are especially honoured and delighted that His Excellency Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan has generously granted his patronage and personal support to this occasion."

About Manchester Business School

Manchester Business School is the UK's largest campus-based business and management school. It provides a comprehensive range of undergraduate, postgraduate and custom-made executive programmes, for organisations from both the private and public sectors. Manchester Business School holds triple MBA accreditation – AMBA, EQUIS, AACSB. All successful MBA students are awarded a degree by the University of Manchester and no distinction is made between the different learning formats – all have reached the same high standard expected of a Manchester MBA.

Issued on behalf of MBS Middle East by WPR.

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