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Press release
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HEC Paris' Class of 2016 celebrates Graduation at Hamad Bin Khalifa University

Dean of HEC Paris Announces New Dean in Qatar during Ceremony, Thanking Prof. Laoucine Kerbache for his Tenure in Doha

The Class of 2016 from HEC Paris, one of the world's top three providers of Executive Education programs, has been honored during the graduation ceremony in Qatar at the Hamad Bin Khalifa University. During the ceremony, held on October 6, Dean of HEC Paris, Professor Peter Todd, announced the new Dean of the Qatar campus, thanking Professor Laoucine Kerbache for his tenure over the past four years.

This year's batch of graduates included 45 Executive MBA (EMBA) and 49 Specialized Master in Strategic Business Unit Management (SBUM) participants of HEC Paris in Qatar. The class comprised 40 Qataris in the SBUM program and 23 Qataris in the EMBA program – a true reflection of the growing popularity among Qataris for the programs offered by HEC Paris in Qatar. Also notably, the two programs attracted 31 non-Qataris representing 16 different nationalities, which is indicative of the multinational appeal of the programs. In this year's class, 34 graduates were women.

One of the most prominent members of the Class of 2016 is Her Excellency Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani – Vice Chairperson and CEO of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), who added: "We should never stop learning in our journey towards developing not only our own careers, but also the success of the company which we work for. The skills and knowledge I have gained from my time at HEC Paris has already assisted in my ambitions and goals and I look forward to sharing this with my peers."

Commenting on their success during the ceremony, Prof. Kerbache said: "On behalf of HEC Paris in Qatar, I would like to congratulate the graduates of our Class of 2016. Since inception in 2011, HEC Paris in Qatar has graduated 331 participants of whom 195 are Executive MBA participants and 136 are from the Specialized Master in Strategic Business Unit Management. These numbers show our tremendous achievements since we joined Qatar Foundation in June 2010 as the first European partner in Education City. Our presence in Qatar is to bring the finest in Executive Education to the region, in order to contribute to the talent development needs of individuals and organizations."

Professor Peter Todd, Dean of HEC Paris, commented: “This year marks the graduation of Qatar’s fifth class of HEC Paris Executive MBA participants and the third class of our HEC Paris Specialized Master in Strategic Business Unit Management. With these two Executive Education programs, HEC Paris is proud to contribute to the development of human potential in support of Qatar’s National Vision.

I wish to extend my congratulations to the Class of 2016. As I wish you ever more success in your professional careers, I am confident that you will contribute to value creation in your organizations and equally to a prosperous and healthy society. All the best and welcome as alumni to the HEC Paris global learning community.”

Assuming the position of Dean and CEO of HEC Paris in Qatar starting in November, Associate Professor Nils Plambeck will replace Prof. Kerbache, who will be stepping down from his role after four years. Working with HEC Paris since 2004, Nils Plambeck holds a Doctorate in Economic and Social Sciences from the University of Hamburg and a Diploma in Business Administration (Diplom Kaufmann) with a focus on Strategy and Sociology.

About HEC

Specialising in education and management research, HEC Paris offers a complete and unique range of programmes for the leaders of tomorrow: the French Grande Ecole programme, specialised Master’s degrees, MSc, MBA, Executive MBA and TRIUM Global Executive MBA and PhD courses, as well as a wide range of programmes for managers and executives. Established in 1881 by the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry, HEC Paris is a founding member of the Paris Saclay Campus and numbers a permanent faculty of 110 professors with more than 4,000 students and 8,500 managers and executives on its training programmes every year. HEC Paris was ranked as the number 2 business school in the general classification of European business schools published by the Financial Times in December 2015.

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Qatar Foundation

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development is a private, non-profit organization that serves the people of Qatar by supporting and operating programs in three core mission areas: education, science and research, and community development. The Foundation strives to nurture the future leaders of Qatar. By example and by sharing its experience, the Foundation also contributes to human development nationally, regionally, and internationally. In all of its activities, the Foundation promotes a culture of excellence in Qatar and furthers its role in supporting an innovative and open society that aspires to develop sustainable human capacity, social, and economic prosperity for a knowledge-based economy. <http://www.qf.org.qa/>

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