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The University of Manchester
Manchester Business School

Think
Alumni



Manchester Business School
Middle East Centre
Alumni Book 2016

Original Thinking Applied

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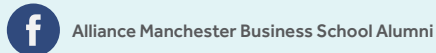
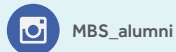
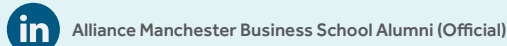
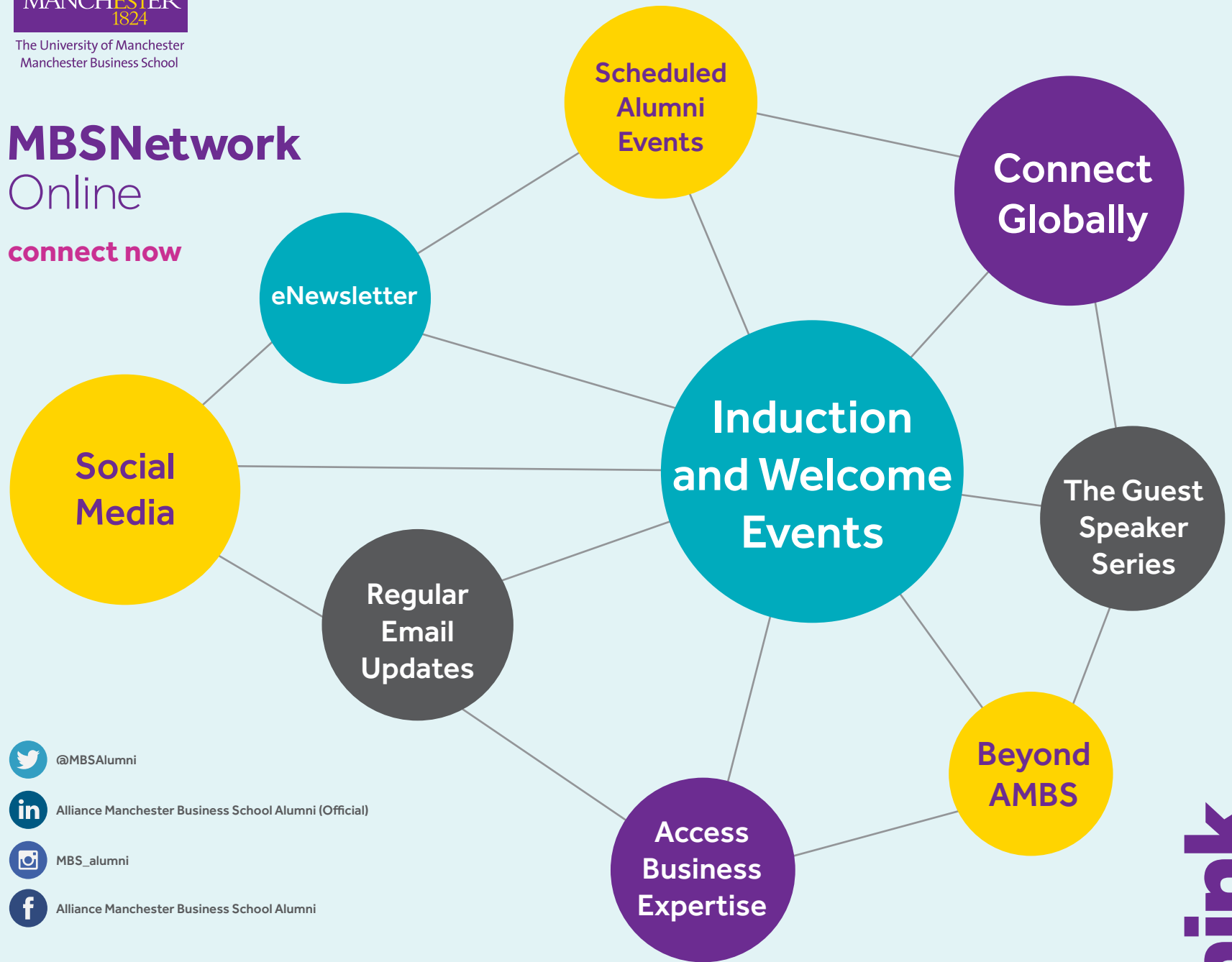
Get in touch

www.mbs.ac.uk/alumni
alumni@office@mbs.ac.uk
+44(0)161 275 6485



MBSNetwork Online

connect now



To register visit
mbs.ac.uk/alumni

Think Alumni

Following the celebration of the 50th anniversary of MBS in 2015, it's now our turn to mark another major milestone, with the 10th anniversary of the Middle East Centre, which opened in Dubai Knowledge Park in 2006.

From our first cohort of around 20 Global MBA students in 2006, we have grown to become the largest and fastest growing centre in MBS' international network. Today, we support more than 2,000 Global MBA students of over 95 nationalities, across the region. We have also graduated close to 1,000 students.

But it's not all about the numbers – the relationships we have with our students and the personal transformations that we witness inspire us and make what we do so worthwhile.

Since becoming the first top global business school to open a physical presence in the region, we have enjoyed many highlights as we teach, research, collaborate and support the community.

And we continue to attract talented and experienced business people on to the MBA programme, even in today's slower growth economy.

But of course, we cannot stand still.

We have just launched our re-designed 2-year Global MBA programme. Later this year we will launch a new range of executive education courses and other programmes from the University of Manchester.

Our collaborations with international professional bodies, UAE organisations and global companies continue to grow and develop and help enrich the student experience.

The Middle East Centre will continue to grow and develop as we increasingly support the wider university in the region.

We will actively celebrate the 10th anniversary through the rest of the year but we wanted to start the celebrations with you, here this evening – at our annual gathering. It gives us the opportunity to thank you for your support and contribution and for allowing us the privilege of helping you on your



chosen career path.

The Middle East Alumni Group has played a major role in the development of the MBS community in the region and, with our new committee and chair soon to be in place, we look forward to further developments.

We are very proud of all our students and alumni and on behalf of MBS and the Middle East team, and as the proud founding director of the centre, I would like to thank every one of you for your support over the last 10 years and look forward to the next decade.

Enjoy your wonderful gala dinner evening.

Randa Bessiso
Director, Middle East



Lisa Samberg
Head of Alumni Relations

Alumni Relations continues to work hard to ensure that you are able to benefit from the vast alumni network you are a part of, and utilise our services to the full.

The popularity of our LinkedIn group continues to grow - membership now stands at approximately 13,000. The topical discussions continue to attract more of our experienced alumni to join, and we are seeing more and more register each day from across the globe.

We would like to encourage those of you who wish to become involved with the Middle East Group (Dubai) to get in touch as we always welcome new ideas and alumni who bring new energy to the group.

I would like to encourage you to stay involved with the School, and would be delighted to hear from you should you wish to offer your services as a mentor, speaker or ambassador in the region.

Please feel free to get in touch with me at any time should you have any questions.

Have a great evening.

You are an integral part of our growing alumni community of over 50,000 alumni from 169 countries.

To benefit from being part of the alumni community, make sure we have your contact details, email us at alumni@office@mbs.ac.uk

You can network across a developed global business community, attend our international events, join our social media networks and enjoy our monthly eNewsletter - bringing you the latest news and research from the School, events and benefits and services.

To register, go to: www.mbs.ac.uk/alumni

Alumni Relations
Manchester Business School
Dover Street Building
Dover Street
Manchester
M13 9PL
Web: www.mbs.ac.uk/alumni
Email: alumni@office@mbs.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0)161 275 6485

Alumni

The value exchange: why hundreds of alumni remain involved with the School each year

The knowledge and skills that set you up in your career continue to prove invaluable throughout your professional journey. To enhance the student experience, we encourage alumni to impart the knowledge they have acquired with current classes, to further our shared vision of a world-class business school.

Each year, more of you choose to devote your support to getting involved in a range of student-centric initiatives.

MENTORING

Volunteering as a mentor can help boost your own career by providing opportunities to communicate your professional expertise as well as offering others the benefit of your experience.

The University of Manchester Gold Mentoring scheme has developed into one of the largest Higher Education employability mentoring schemes in the UK. Highly praised by both recruiters and students, the programme provides excellent opportunities for students to meet with professionals from a wide range of sectors and industries.

GLOBAL GRADUATES PROGRAMME

Each year a select number of students are invited to meet with alumni working in a number of locations around the world. These meetings are designed to give students insight into global business practices.

SPEAKING AT EVENTS

Speakers and contributors with relevant experience in industry, are crucial to the development of current students and the success of online and face-to-face events.

SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCES AT ADMISSION TIME

There are many opportunities for you to help identify prospective students and participate in the recruitment process.

Whether representing MBS at local fairs, interviewing potential candidates or responding to inquiries from prospective students about your experience, your involvement can help influence the final decision making process.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS THROUGH INTERNSHIPS, PROJECTS AND RECRUITMENT

During your time at the School you experienced first-hand the quality of knowledge imparted from alumni to students - now it's your turn.

ASSISTING WITH PROJECTS

By participating in MBS projects, you will have access to our talented students, many of whom have work experience in global firms. Their course supervisors can help you to design and steer a world-class project that will offer long-lasting benefits.

INTERNSHIPS

Students carry out a bespoke project during the internship, linked to their degree which offers great value to your organisation.

RECRUITMENT

Whether as part of a recruitment programme or arising from business requirements, job opportunities are promoted to our various student groups including, undergraduate, masters, MBA and research, by our Postgraduate Careers Service and the University Careers Service.

Advertising is completely free of charge, making it one of the most cost-effective recruitment methods.

"The feeling of returning as an alumnus to speak at one of the oldest international business schools, takes some beating. The experience is challenging in the preparation, enjoyable in the delivery, and gives you a shot of intellectual oxygen."

Paul Ballington (Global MBA 2010)

For further information, please contact:

alumnioffice@mbs.ac.uk

Awardees & Ambassadors



Bandar Al Musallam

Finance Pathway
Class of 2011

Mark Graham

Finance Acc. Pathway
Class of 2016

Bradley Manser

Projects Pathway
Class of 2015

Omar Al Halawani

Engineering Pathway
Expected Graduation Class of 2018

Hardeep Singh

Global Pathway
Class of 2016

Ramesh Settypalli

Global Pathway
Expected Graduation Class of 2017

Ibrahim Idriss

Global Pathway
Class of 2015

Sadia Aman

Global Pathway
Class of 2014

Khalid Alflasi

Global Pathway
Expected Graduation Class of 2017

Wasseem Suleiman

Global Pathway
Class of 2014



Distinguished MBS Ambassadors (for contribution over 10 years)

Amin El-Kholy

Finance Pathway
Class of 2013

Mohamed Roshdy Abdelkader

Engineering Pathway
Class of 2013



TRANSFORMING LIVES...

At Manchester Business School, our mission is to give everyone the opportunity to transform their lives and, in doing so, help them transform the organisations they work for and the wider communities in which they live.

Every MBS student has a unique and individual story of transformation – a story of personal, professional and life journeys; we invited Alumni to share their personal transformations with us.

These are some of their stories...



Anna Staber
Class of December 2016

Born and educated in Austria, I worked over 4.5 years in the UK and 5 years in Kuwait. With over 10 years' experience in oil and gas, I started the MBA program as a Senior Petro Technical Engineer and moved up the ranks to the position as Head of Petro Technical IT where I was in charge of building up a new department. Towards the end of the programme, I have had the chance to join Google as a sales engineer for the German speaking region. My new position enabled me to relocate back to Europe after being in Kuwait for 5 years.

The Global MBA gave me the experience and exposure to understand how business is done globally across different regions like China, Middle East & Americas. It gave me great insights into other cultures. Now, I am more open and accepting towards others. Personal relations at work are the most important, especially if you want to do business with people from various countries.

My MBA journey was a truly global experience!



Muhammad Ayub
Class of December 2015

My career was initiated during the golden days of the Internet boom; I mastered & excelled at emerging technologies & leveraged them to the fullest. Yet 3 years back, I found myself staring at the question "Now what?" I needed to expand my horizon and thus I started my MBA with Manchester Business School.

With my Manchester MBA, I took on work challenges with enthusiasm and started applying my knowledge to my work. I led and managed a project of deploying the First Convergent Billing System in GCC from inception till delivery, and it was a major success. The accomplishment was highly appreciated by The VIVA Management and celebrated it by awarding me with a due recognition. Additionally; I was invited to participate in the Middle East Asia and North BES Summit Dubai 2016 as panel speaker to share digital transformation experience to a regional audience.

My MBA experience imparted a critical insight into techno functional management which played a pivotal role in this. In the end, it would never have been possible without Manchester Business School which gave me self-confidence to carry out these exigent projects.



Emma Evans
Class of July 2015

I started studying for my MBA while working as Training and Development Manager for a large organization in Abu Dhabi. During the course of my MBA I had all my 3 children, two of which are twins- which proved to be quite a challenge! It was a constant juggling situation between work, study and young family commitments, however, I thrived off the interaction and learning gained from the MBA.

I will remember that period of my life as a challenging, but highly rewarding time. After graduation in July 2015 I was offered a role as Head of Human Capital at Transguard Group LLC.

Personally, I enjoy playing sport to unwind and spending quality time with my children doing fun activities. My work-life balance is key!



Ahmed Shawky
Class of July 2016

I joined MBS MBA program when I was an internal audit and risk manager for one of the oil and gas companies. In 2014, during the second year of my MBA, PwC offered me a senior role to build up and lead a team for a new service line across the Middle East. In 2015, after 12 months from joining PwC my team was awarded "Team delivering exceptional value across the PwC Middle East". Today, after my graduation, Qatar Foundation approached me to lead the internal audit function for one of its strategic initiatives in the region. The MBA journey was a Fantastic transformative Journey. It opened my eyes for wider business knowledge, leadership skills and fantastic network.



Dilshad Husain
Class of July 2013

I am a goal oriented person. My dream was to do an MBA from a top school (Checked), now my goal is to become a VP at UTC within 5 years. Manchester Business School Global MBA has really taught me how to think strategically and helped catapult my career.

I am director for global and strategic accounts. The President of UTC (United Technology Corporation) technologies offered me an opportunity to move from UAE to US and take up Global responsibility. My MBA really prepared me to tackle this change, to be customer oriented and strategic thinker. I learned from world class professors who taught me to understand and look at business problems from all perspectives, which has really helped me in my professional Life.



Khalid Al Dhabbi
Class of December 2016

In late 2011, my multi-million-dollar company which I grew to become the market leader in Yemen, crumbled overnight. A year later, at the age 40, I joined MBS MBA program to get the right qualification to start over in the corporate world. The Manchester MBA facilitated joining Yabsat as a manager, the seventh largest satellite operator out of Abu Dhabi. Applying my knowledge from the MBA to my work proved to be an amplifying positive loop between the MBA program and the corporate world. Eventually in 2016, this led to my appointment as Vice President of Sales for TRIO Connect LLC which is a JV between Arabsat, EMC (Emerging Markets Communications) the largest VSAT satellite communication private provider in the world. The moral of the story is "Who said you can't teach an old executive new tricks."

My experience at MBS can be summarized in three words: "Teamwork, Persistence and Change".

Middle East Graduation Ceremony November 2015

The University of Manchester graduation ceremony for the Middle East was a splendid occasion at the Sofitel Dubai the Palm, held under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Nahyan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, UAE Minister of Culture Youth & Community Development. The congregation ceremony was presided over by the Dean of Manchester Business School, Professor Fiona Devine, who conferred Manchester MBA degrees on 79 graduates.



Annual Alumni and Student Dinner September 2015, The H Hotel



MBS Ambassador Awards



Inaugural MBS Career Fair, Dubai Knowledge Park

The event was attended by over 120 MBS students and alumni and 25 recruiters from 14 different companies. The recruiters were from Mott MacDonald, Nokia, Nestle, Crowe Horwath, Deloitte, PwC, Menacorp Finance, Mackenzie Jones, Manpower, Hays, Intigral, Hilti, Ernst and Young, and Dubai World Trade Center.



Panel Discussion of Top Recruiters



Middle East Alumni Association

The Middle East Alumni Association is extremely important and key to the continued development of a strong alumni network in the UAE and beyond. The aim of the group is to provide networking opportunities through alumni events and to create and raise awareness of the benefits of the MBS MBA programmes and to stay involved with the alumni network.



MBS Extends Professional Partnership Network in the Middle East



Partnership with CIMA (Chartered Institute of Management Accountants)

Geetu Ahuja, Head of GCC, CIMA;
Keith Luck, immediate past President of CIMA;



Partnership with PMI (Project Management Institute)

Reyadh Ayesh
Past Chapter President

The Business Year - Panel Discussion



Abdullah Al Awar - CEO, Dubai Islamic Economy Development Centre
Jamal Bin Ghalaita - CEO, Emirates Islamic
Badr Buhannad - Chief Audit and Risk Officer at Dubai International Financial Centre
Leland Rice - Managing Editor, The Business Year

Women in Business Breakfast Event

Featuring prominent women business leaders in the GCC who shared their inspiring success stories, their life journeys, challenges, the highs and the lows, and answered questions from the audience at this exclusive breakfast event. The audience consisted of women from various industries and roles. We had 60 people attend and the feedback from the audience and the speakers was positive. The session was open to students, alumni, and friends of MBS.

Panel speakers included: Nisreen Shocair-President of the Virgin Megastores ME; Dr. Nada Jammoul Messaikheh is the Associate Vice Provost for Administration at New York University Abu Dhabi; Bhavani Suresh, MBA, CEO of Nbiz Infosol; Dareen Khayyat-Zoughbi, MBA- CEO of Nadereen. Our moderator was Geetu Ahuja-Head of CIMA MENA.



Research on Creativity and Innovation in the GCC led by Dr Mark Batey

MBS Middle East Centre launched the first in-depth research into the drivers and barriers to creativity and innovation in the GCC. The research programme is being led by Dr Mark Batey, creativity specialist at MBS and one of the world's leading researchers into creativity in the workplace.



MENA Business Outlook Event

The discussion was led by Trevor McFarlane, CEO of EMIR, took place on March 29th at the Capital Club in DIFC. We had 66 attendees and great interaction throughout the speaker presentation. The audience was senior level professional from different industries. The session was open to corporate partners, friends of MBS, and MBS students and alumni.



First Emirati MBA Alumni - Faisal Al Saeed



CEO Panel Discussion - Dubai Capital Club



Message from the Middle East Centre Team:

To all our students and alumni,

Once a year we gather together to celebrate our shared experiences and close working ties as members of the global MBS community, as well as our own community in the Middle East.

This special occasion celebrating our 10 years in the Middle East gives us the chance to say a sincere 'thank you' to every one of you – every student and alumnus – for allowing us to support your learning experience and the privilege of playing a small role in your personal and professional transformation.

Your commitment, energy, motivation and success inspire us every day – because every MBS student and alumnus has an inspiring personal story to tell.

Thanks from the MBS Middle East team.



**Manchester Business School
The University of Manchester
Middle East Centre**

Office F-16, Block 2B, Dubai Knowledge Park
Email: alumnime@mbs-worldwide.ae
Tel: +971 (0)4 446 8664

www.mbs-uae.ac.ae

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