

EDUKEX 09



Reputed to be the largest foreign education exhibition in Saudi Arabia, this was the third EDUKEX held in cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education from 24th Jan and closed on 1st Feb 2009.

More than 7000 students visited the exhibition in the three cities and more than 60 universities and colleges offered thousands of courses were actively seeking Saudi young men and women to join more than 13,000 part-time and full-time Saudi students already in the UK, it was the biggest educational event in the middle east.

Sponsored by the British Council, the official opening of EDUKEX 09 took place at the Al-Yamamah University in Riyadh and was opened by Sir William Patey, British Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, The British Consul-General Kate Rudd & Mr Mustafa Sabri the General Secretary at the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Mr. Zareb Al-Qahtani the deputy Governor Eastern Province at the Chamber of Commerce.



The UK has several distinct advantages in the field of higher education, the academic path from undergraduate to doctoral level can realistically be travelled in seven years and the graduate can enter the job market with a qualification that is recognized across the world.

Daniel Entwistle from University of Essex said " This year I felt that the students that visited EDUKEX were well prepared and often brought a complete set of application documents. Overall, awareness of UK higher education and application procedures has increased quickly in KSA".

The British Council organized briefing sessions for the UK delegates. Saudi guest speakers updated them on trends in the market. Topics covered included the strategic plan for Saudi higher education, vocational and higher education. The university representatives made presentations to students on various subjects including studying and living in Scotland & in the UK, master degree and preparing for research degrees.



Saudi students found that residence in the UK gave them an opportunity to enhance their English language skills as part of their stay.

The UK has a long tradition of language teaching, amply equipped with language schools and courses and, of course, there is no better way to achieve facility with a language than by living in a culture where it is used all day every day."

The British Council does not restrict itself to just education but also to encouraging interaction among people of different cultures and traditions.