



Executive Summary

Renewal of Institutional Licensure Al-Wasl University (Formerly, College of Islamic and Arabic Studies) Dubai

February 13 to 14, 2013

An External Review Team (hereafter ERT) formed by the Commission for Academic Accreditation visited Al-Wasl University (AWU), formerly College of Islamic and Arabic Studies, from 13-14 February 2013 to evaluate its Self-Study (hereafter the *Self-Study*) for Renewal of Institutional Licensure.

AWU was established in 1986 by its founder, His Excellency Juma Al-Majed, and the study began in 1987. AWU obtained a license from the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research on February 10, 2002, which was renewed on May 1, 2007. AWU is concerned with Islamic studies and Arabic language and literature. It offers two bachelor's programs, a Bachelor's in Islamic Studies and a Bachelor's in Arabic Language and Literature. AWU offered its first postgraduate program in the academic year 1995/1996, namely the Master in Islamic Law, with a concentration in Islamic Jurisprudence. In 1997, the title of the program was modified to Master in Islamic Sharia, with a concentration in Islamic Jurisprudence and its Fundamentals. In the academic year 2002/2003, AWU started to offer Master in Arabic Language with concentrations in Language and Grammar and Literature and Criticism. In the academic year 2004/2005, AWU introduced two PhD program, the PhD in Islamic Sharia, specializing in Jurisprudence and its Fundamentals, and the PhD in Arabic language and literature with specializations in Language and Grammar and Literature and Criticism. Postgraduate programs at AWU are restricted to female students.

As of 2012/2013, there are 2732 students enrolled at the undergraduate programs at AWU (2286 female and 446 male), 62 female students enrolled in the two master's programs and 53 female students enrolled in the two doctoral programs for a total of 115 postgraduate students. To date, AWU has graduated 8723 students from undergraduate programs (6600 female and 2123 male) in addition to 66 and 51 female students from the Islamic Sharia and the Arabic Language and Literature master programs, respectively. PhD graduates by the end of the academic year 2012/2013 were 5 female students, one in Language and Grammar and four in Jurisprudence.

AWU offers a role model of a non-profit organization for what loyal businessmen can contribute to human development, which is worthy of praise and appreciation.

The ERT makes its recommendations in a spirit of constructive engagement, with the aim of ensuring that the Standards are met, and to aid AWU in its desired objective to renew its licensure and achieves its ambitious mission.