

# Foreword

## Preparing graduates with holistic skills for a complex and interconnected world

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The world of work and the society in general are becoming more and more complex and interlinked, requiring our young graduates to have multi-layered skills and competencies and a well-honed ability to integrate these skills to solve every day problems.

As the leading provider of post-secondary education in the rapidly-developing United Arab Emirates, the Higher Colleges of Technology is dedicated to the preparation of our graduates to succeed in this dynamic new world order.

Towards this end, and in keeping with international best practice, the HCT uses an outcomes orientation in curriculum design. While each single course is designed to develop a number of learning outcomes specific to the subject, course delivery is planned to encourage and support the development of a number of broad 'graduate outcomes' that are common across all HCT programs.

It is consequently a great pleasure to introduce this publication - the first in a planned series - where faculty from across the HCT system write about various ways in which they have integrated a focus on a range of graduate outcomes into their teaching.

As outlined in HCT's Learning Model (2006), the educational experiences our students undertake are designed to ensure that as graduates, they will have the necessary meta competencies including the linguistic ability to function effectively in an international environment, the technical skills to operate in an increasingly complex technological world, the intellectual capacity to adapt to constant change, and the leadership potential to make the fullest possible contribution to the development of the community for the good of all its people.

This publication is a testament to some of the innovative approaches dedicated and professional educators at HCT are using to help our students aspire to and attain these competencies.