



We want to hear from you and encourage you to share this newsletter with your faculty and spark conversations with relevant departments for more information.

- KFUPM jumped 79 places to reach 101st in the **QS World University Ranking** for 2025. The university is currently ranked 180th for 2024. The annual ranking organization compares 1,500+ universities and 15,700 academic programs across the globe.
- Two KFUPM delegations represented the university recently as part of the **International Student Visits Program**. The trip to Japan included visits to the Saudi Embassy and Cultural Mission in Japan, various universities, institutes, factories, and research centers, while the group visiting China toured the Saudi Embassy and Peking University, experienced self-driving cars, and learned about Chinese civilization on a visit to the Forbidden City.
- In line with the university's strategic initiative to cultivate globally aware, independent, and leadership-oriented students, **KFUPM Explorers** undertook trips to Germany, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, South Korea, Italy, and the United Kingdom. Students planned their own journeys with support from the university.
- Team UAS2030 took first place in the **2024 Student Unmanned Aerial Systems Competition** in St. Mary's County Regional Airport, Maryland, USA. They competed against nearly 70 university drone teams from top-notch universities such as UC Berkeley, Cornell, Michigan/Ann Arbor, McGill, Penn State, UCLA, UC San Diego, and others. In addition to Technical Design and Flight Readiness Review Presentation, the teams performed tasks such as: autonomous flight; obstacle avoidance; object detection, classification, localization; and, air delivery.
- The Interdisciplinary Research Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (IRC-SES) organized the "**Renewable Energy Technical Incubator (RETI) and National Industrial Development and Logistics Program (NIDL) Joint Forum,**" held at the Dhahran Techno Valley (DTVC) to showcase progress for the RETI initiative. The RETI team's three-year progress forum highlighted significant milestones and achievements across multifaceted programs, including the 50K Competition, Proof of Concept (POC), Graduate Research Program, Undergraduate Research Program, and exclusive workshops and training sessions for students across the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.