



e-Newsletter

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"Syria, the cradle of civilization and the gateway to history."

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Syrian American to Head New Saudi University



Professor Fawaz Ulabi, Vice President at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, was selected as founding Provost for the new King Abdullah University of Science & Technology that will open in 2009. The university has received \$10bn for its endowment from Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah, which would make it the sixth biggest university endowment in the world. However, people familiar with the endowment negotiations say they have been told the fund could grow to as much as \$25bn, which would make it the world's second biggest university endowment after Harvard's \$35bn nest egg. To read more about the subject please click [here](#).

Ed Deeb Awarded Ellis Island Medal of Honor



Our own Edward Deeb, Syrian American and native Detroit, president and CEO of the Michigan Food and Beverage Association, and the Michigan Business and Professional Association, headquartered in Warren, MI, was awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, at ceremonies on Ellis Island in New York City on May 10th. The Ellis Island Medal of Honor is awarded annually to a group of distinguished Americans who exemplify a life dedicated to community service. The honorees are cited for sharing their personal and professional gifts for the benefit of humanity, and preserve and celebrate the history, traditions and values of their ancestry groups.

Microsoft MVP Award to a Syrian Engineer



Monzer Osama AL Shaikh from Syria is among the very first in the Middle East and the Arab world to receive Microsoft Most Valuable Professional award for this year. His website [Great Plains Arabia](#) provides a forum for freely disseminating technical news and discussing new software ideas in Arabic language. Microsoft Most Valuable Professionals (MVPs) are exceptional technical community leaders from around the world who are awarded for voluntarily sharing their high quality, real world expertise in offline and online technical communities. Microsoft MVPs are a highly select group of experts that represents the technical community's best and brightest, and they share a deep commitment to community and a willingness to help others.

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