

**Kingdom of Saudi Arabia spokesperson, Farad Nazer, addresses Drake University students**

**To:** KSA email Grassley and Ernst Feb 10 2021 (716066755) 6 members (Reply To tripp@offhillstrategies.com) **Email ID:** 338926779

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**Subject:** Kingdom of Saudi Arabia spokesperson, Fahad Nazer, addresses Drake University students **Encoding:** 7 bit

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**Attachments:** 1.14.21 Drake University - Event Summary.docx

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Dear %%FirstName\*\*default value%%,

I am reaching out today to let you know an undergraduate course at Drake University recently hosted Fahad Nazer, official spokesperson for the Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, as a guest speaker for a live, virtual guest lecture event on Thursday, January 14, 2021.

As you are aware, Drake University in Des Moines is one of the premier universities in the Midwest and is well known for hosting numerous prominent politicians, thought leaders, and business leaders. Nazer was tremendously grateful to be able to speak with Drake's students, answer their questions about the Kingdom, and share his thoughts on the world's continued fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

The class Nazer addressed had been studying responses to COVID-19 in various countries around the globe. Nazer spoke in-depth about Saudi Arabia's initial COVID-19 response and the Kingdom's next steps in combating the virus and distributing the vaccine. He touched on Saudi Arabia's work with other countries around the globe combatting the virus during the G20, the importance of Vision 2030, and the impact of COVID-19 has had on global oil markets.

I have attached and copied below a brief overview of the event. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tripp Baird

Off Hill Strategies

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## Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia Event Summary

### *Drake University Guest Lecture with Fahad Nazer*

Hosted by Dr. Mary McCarthy at Drake University for her course POLS 109:  
Coronavirus Governmental Responses Across the World

January 14, 2021

Virtual Zoom Event

Fahad Nazer, the official spokesperson for the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, virtually addressed a class of political science students at Drake University on Thursday, January 14, 2021. This event was hosted live via a virtual Zoom lecture with students and faculty from Drake University.

After being introduced by Dr. Mary McCarthy, an associate professor in the Political Science Department at Drake University and instructor for the course, Nazer focused his remarks primarily on Saudi Arabia's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The course, POLS 109: Coronavirus Governmental Responses Across the World, focuses on the various COVID-19 responses from countries around the globe. Nazer was able to provide those virtually attending a perspective and background on how Saudi Arabia is combatting COVID-19 and discuss lessons the Kingdom has utilized in assisting other countries around the world with their responses.

After his remarks to the class Nazer participated in a question-and-answer session, moderated by Dr. McCarthy, with the attending students. During this session Nazer answered questions on a range of topics regarding Saudi Arabia's initial COVID-19 response, how Saudi Arabia plans to distribute the vaccine, and the specific steps the Kingdom took to protect the Saudi populace. Nazer additionally discussed Saudi Arabia's efforts working with other countries in the Middle East and around the world to develop a global coronavirus response as part of last fall's G20 virtual summit.

Additional topics discussed included:

- The precautions and efforts taken by the Kingdom to ensure religious pilgrimages, like the Hajj, could occur safely.
- Saudi Arabia's efforts, despite the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, in diversifying its economy under Vision 2030 and the private sector's role in Vision 2030.
- The lessons and infrastructure Saudi Arabia developed after their MERS outbreak in 2012 and how the country has used this expertise and resources to combat COVID-19.
- Saudi Arabia's policy to provide COVID-19 care and vaccination free of charge to anyone in the Kingdom.

The event concluded with Nazer thanking Drake University, Dr. McCarthy, and the students who participated in the lecture. He further shared his belief about how important webinars, like this one, are in developing the next generation of leaders and global citizens.

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