



جامعتنا... تبني وطننا  
**OUR KSU**



# Newsletter



## KSU's Transformation Journey Toward Excellence and Innovation



King Saud University is embarking on a transformative journey toward excellence and innovation, driven by an ambitious vision to enhance its global standing. This transformation is not merely an academic evolution but a comprehensive movement led by all of us. We are committed to enabling Our KSU community, fostering a culture of creativity and collaboration, and ensuring that success is built on engagement and collective participation. Together, we will shape a bright academic future and solidify our university's position as a global beacon of knowledge.



Acting University President

**Prof. Abdullah Alsaman**



## Celebrating Our KSU Transformation Progress and Eid Greetings

### Dear KSU Members,

As we approach the Eid Al Fitr Al Mubarak break, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on the remarkable strides we have made in our KSU transformation journey. This period has been filled with challenges and successes, and it is crucial to acknowledge the collective effort that has propelled us forward.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your unwavering commitment and passion. Your support has been instrumental in navigating this transformative process, and I am proud of what we have accomplished together.

In this edition of our newsletter, you will find an overview of our progress, key initiatives, and highlights from the past quarter.

I hope that during the Eid break, celebrate with your loved ones and rejuvenate. Your hard work deserves acknowledgment, and I wish you all a joyous holiday. Looking forward to reconnecting in April, ready to continue journey together.

Eid Mubarak!

Warm regards,

Chief Transformation Officer

**Andrea Longhi**

TOGETHER, WE ARE  
THE PIONEERS  
OF KSU'S FUTURE.

## Transforming King Saud University: A Journey to Global Excellence

We are embarking on the transformative journey of 'Our KSU' to elevate King Saud University into a leading global academic and innovation powerhouse, in alignment with His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Crown Prince and Prime Minister's Vision 2030. 'Our KSU' belongs to all of us — students, faculty, staff, and the broader community — and our ambition is clear and inspiring: to become a leading, global academic institution. This aspiration is not just a goal, but a commitment to excellence that will significantly contribute to shaping the future of our city, our Kingdom, and beyond.

## OUR KSU Transformation Drivers

Our KSU transformation, is built on five key drivers



A Beacon of  
Academic  
Excellence and  
Innovation

With the endorsement of HRH - Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, we're committed to becoming an academic and innovation powerhouse. We aim to contribute significantly to Riyadh's evolution as a global hub of learning and intellectual pursuit.



Elevating  
KSU to  
Global  
Eminence

We're reimagining our strategy to propel KSU into the ranks of world-class institutions. Building on our rich history, we're setting new benchmarks in education, research, and innovation.



You  
at the Heart  
of Our  
Transformation

Our transformation puts our students, faculty, and staff at the heart of every decision. We're creating an environment where everyone is valued, empowered, and inspired to excel.



Frontline-Led  
Transformation

Through our 'Leading from the Front' program, we're empowering our community to drive change. We celebrate innovation, support bold ideas, and learn from every experience.



Achieving  
Impact  
through  
Synergy

We're fostering a culture of collaboration and instilling a performance-driven mindset. By breaking down silos and focusing on results, we aim to provide everyone with the tools and support needed for success.

# OUR KSU Transformation Phases

The transformation consists of three main phases:

## PHASE 0

### IGNITE



Q1 2025- Q1 2026

Launching the transformation and laying the foundation by empowering our Frontliners to take action.

- Launching Our KSU transformation.
- Sharing KSU's ambitions.
- Building a solid foundation for change.
- Empower our entire community – students, faculty, and staff – to provide feedback and take action through the 'Leading from the Front' program.

## PHASE 1

### FUEL & TAKE OFF



Q1 2026- Q4 2026

Announcing and activating KSU's strategy.

- Unveiling our new strategy and roadmap.
- Setting ambitious goals and milestones that will redefine educational operation .
- Outline how different groups will be impacted by the changes.
- Demonstrating how our community will play a crucial role in this exciting new chapter.

## PHASE 2

### ACCELERATE



Q4 2026- H 1 2027

Implement changes aligned to KSU's transformation roadmap to allow us to achieve excellence

- Implementing changes aligned with our strategic vision.
- Embracing a culture of continuous improvement and innovation.
- Fostering news ways of working and growing together.
- Ensuring the long-term success and sustainability of the transformation.



## OUR KSU Projects and Programs

Our KSU transformation will be made up of a series of projects and programs, these will evolve and change as the transformation progresses.

### 01 KSU Strategy

Crafting and implementing our visionary strategy to propel us towards global eminence.

### 02 Leading from the Front

Empowering and equipping our Frontline to lead the transformation and drive immediate, impactful improvements. Click here for more details.

### 03 Corporatization

Building excellence and simplifying the corporate governance structure and processes across KSU.

### 04 Culture Investment

Building a vibrant, connected KSU community and positive culture that cultivates and nurtures growth enabling our ambitions.



# OUR KSU IN Q1 2025

## KSU is transforming, and your voice is shaping the journey!

In Q1 2025, we took significant strides in our transformation efforts—engaging with you, launching key initiatives, and driving innovation. From the overwhelming participation in our survey-Your Voice. 'Our Priority' to the success of our first Townhall and Hackathon Exhibition, the enthusiasm and commitment from students, faculty, and staff have been truly inspiring. Here's a snapshot of our progress and the collective impact we're making together.



### Townhall #1 Launched

We launched Townhall #1: Igniting Our Purpose. You can watch the highlight video [HERE](#)



### 18 Frontliners Onboarded

We successfully onboarded 18 Frontliners to the 'Leading from the Front' program. These individuals are now at the helm of our first three pilot projects, driving innovation and excellence across KSU.



### 15,000+ Voices Heard

We received your overwhelming response to our "Your Voice. Our Priority." survey, with over 15,000 valuable contributions from students, faculty, and staff. We have heard and are considering your suggestions for improvement, and we will soon be sharing our plans to address them.



### 2,000+ Transformation Ambassadors

We launched the Transformation Ambassadors and witnessed the enthusiasm of the 2,000+ individuals who joined this change community.



### 9 Focus Groups 100+ Participants

We have conducted 9 focus groups with a total of over 100 participants, including students, administrative staff and faculty, to delve deeper into the insights gathered from the survey.



### 1,000+ Attendees at Hackathon Exhibition

We supported the development and saw the incredible launch of the Transformation Hackathon Exhibition with 1000+ attendees, allowing our KSU community to learn more about the Transformation Hackathon in April, in collaboration with the Deanship of Student Affairs – Student Partnership Program.



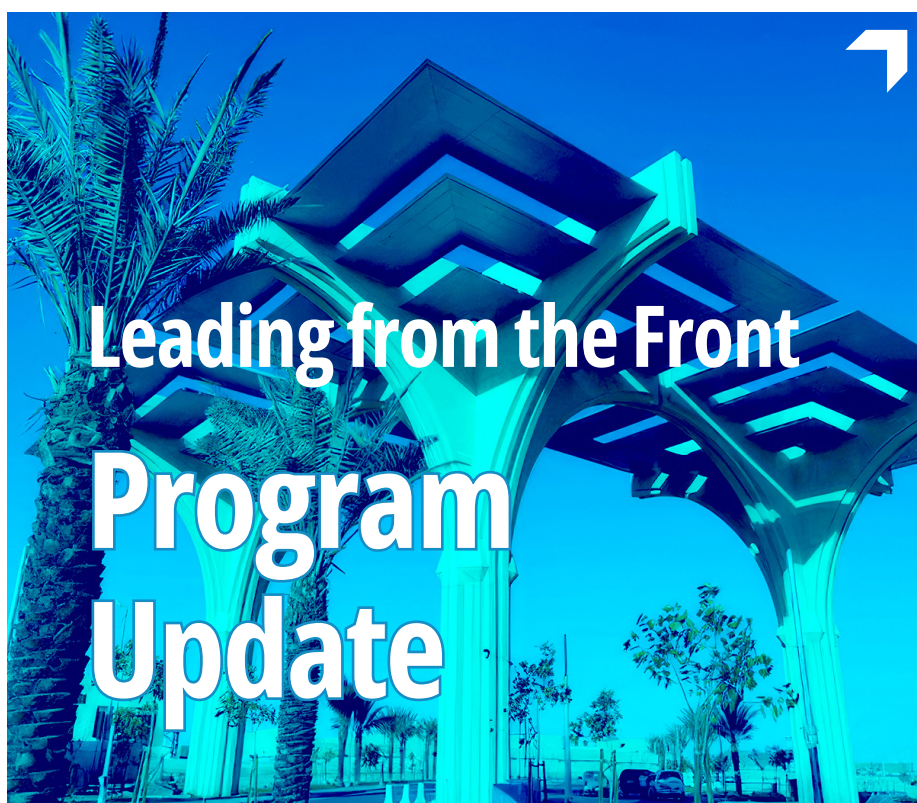
### 1000+ Applications for Frontliners

We experienced tremendous interest in our Frontliner roles for faculty and staff, with more than 1,000 applications received - a testament to your enthusiasm for driving change and delivering impactful improvement projects.



### Community Engagement is Thriving

We have felt the palpable enthusiasm and engagement demonstrated by the KSU community with the transformation so far, from surveys and college drop-ins to focus groups. We assure you; every voice is being considered.



# Leading from the Front Program Update

'Leading from the Front' is one of the first programs we have launched as part of 'Our KSU' transformation. This frontline-led program aims to empower faculty, staff, and students to drive immediate, positive changes across KSU.

## Program Objectives:

1. Empower everyone to lead change.
2. Harness collective brilliance and expertise.
3. Drive continuous improvement .

## Why have we established this program?

### • Action Starts Now

While we're planning for the future, we believe in making improvements today. There's no need to wait for our new strategy to start enhancing our university experience.

### • Quick Improvements Matter

We recognize that even small changes can have a significant impact. These incremental improvements help us move forward and create momentum.

### • Everyone Plays a Part

Our strength lies in our community. We're committed to supporting students, faculty, and administrative staff in their efforts to help KSU grow and improve together. Engagement is the lifeblood of this transformation journey. Every voice, every idea, and every action contributes to building a more dynamic and better KSU for everyone.

## How can you get involved?

### • Make your voice heard

We are committed to listening to your feedback to help us identify areas for improvement through three key methods:

#### 1. 'Your Voice. Our Priority' Survey:

##### Student survey

<https://forms.office.com/r/LtmMTyNziF>

##### Administrative staff and faculty survey

<https://forms.office.com/r/QJafpHXz9>

- If you haven't done so already, please take a moment to complete the survey by 1<sup>st</sup> May. Your feedback will help us shape KSU's future.
- College Drop-ins: We have already visited 20 colleges, including Al-Muzamiyyah and the Female Campus. After Eid, we will be visiting 4 more colleges, so please join us when we come to your college.

#### 2. Sign-up to participate in the KSU Transformation Hackathon

The KSU Transformation Hackathon is a multi-day event in April in partnership with the Deanship of

Student Affairs – Student Partnership Program. During this event, the brilliant minds and passionate hearts of our students, faculty, administrative staff and alumni will come together to design and pitch creative ways to make King Saud University a beacon of innovation, recognized worldwide.

To register click here:

<https://hackathon.ksu.edu.sa/hackathon/>

### 3. Become a Transformation

#### Ambassador

Join our Transformation Ambassadors team and help shape the future of KSU.

#### As a Transformation Ambassador, you'll:

- Get exclusive early insights into 'Our KSU' and 'Leading from the Front'.
- Provide valuable feedback on activities and communications.
- Participate in skill-building training sessions
- Expand your professional network.
- Earn a certification upon program completion.

#### Your Role as a Transformation Ambassador

- Share your unique viewpoints.
- Provide constructive feedback.
- Volunteer to contribute to building a brighter future for KSU.

How to register? Click Here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/Thjvn5frTy>

### 4. Apply to be a Frontliner in our next enlistment wave

In January 2025, we invited all KSU Faculty and Administrative staff to join the 'Leading from the Front' program. We received over 1,000 applications. We have since successfully onboarded our first Frontliners to lead our first three pilot projects. We will be inviting more Frontliners to join later this year, so keep an eye out for more information.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## FAQs

### When will our new strategy launch?

It is expected to be launched in the first quarter of 2026. Our strategy will serve as a roadmap for academic excellence and global recognition. We are aligning our aspirations with our national vision and priorities, and integrating global best practices in higher . We are committed to shaping a distinctive path that prioritizes long-term interests and the success of KSU.

### What is the role of the Transformation Management Office?

The Transformation Management Office (TMO) is tasked with delivering and providing recommendations for all transformation projects and programs to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. While the TMO itself does not have decision-making authority, it plays a crucial role in guiding the transformation efforts. The TMO is overseen by Andrea Longhi, the Chief Transformation Officer, and the transformation is sponsored by the Board of Directors.

### How will the transformation impact employment contracts, and which entity is responsible for workforce policies?

The University's Board of Directors and its Nominations and Remunerations Committee are responsible for defining workforce policies. Future workforce planning and contract structures will be determined based on the University's new strategic direction. We will communicate further details on this matter as they emerge.

### Who can I contact for more information?

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at:

- Our KSU: [ourksu@ksu.edu.sa](mailto:ourksu@ksu.edu.sa)
- Frontliners: [frontliners@ksu.edu.sa](mailto:frontliners@ksu.edu.sa)
- You can find all relevant links at: <https://linktr.ee/ourksu>



# Q1 2025 - PHOTO GALLERY

