

# THE

**UAEU** كلية الدراسات العليا  
College of Graduate Studies

جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة  
United Arab Emirates University

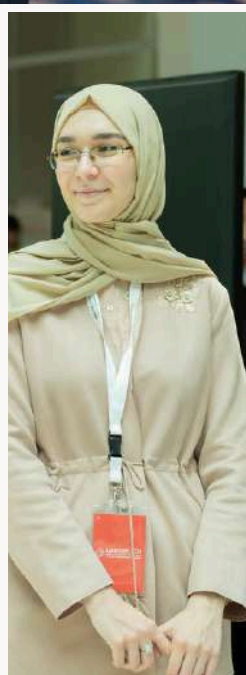
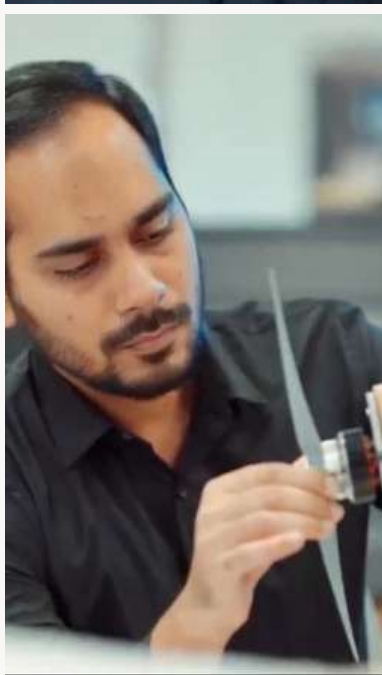


# GRADUATE TIMES

## 2023-2024

## ISSUE 06

Graduate students' experiences and social lives reflected to you by  
the College of Graduate Studies (CGS)



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# Message from the Dean

Welcome to the AY 2023-2024 issue of The Graduate Times – the Official Newsletter of the College of Graduate Studies (CGS) at UAEU. As you may know, we offer a broad array of accredited educational programs, including 41 Master's and 26 Doctorate degrees, which enroll over 1600 graduate students. We also offer Dual Master Degree Program in Education with The Education University of Hong Kong and Dual PhD Degree collaborations in all STEM fields with two institutions (KU Leuven in Belgium and McGill University in Canada). Additionally, UAEU offers a joint program Master of Science in Human Nutrition with the University College London (UCL) in UK. Graduate students enrolled within our 9 academic colleges contribute to the academic and research mission of UAEU. It is therefore essential to create an environment in which every graduate student will grow and thrive.



CGS collaborates closely with all academic colleges and various units in the university to support the academic success, professional development, and personal wellbeing of our graduate students. CGS collaborates closely with all academic colleges and various units in the university to support the academic success, professional development, and personal wellbeing of our graduate students. Furthermore, CGS collaborates with international institutions to establish partnerships on joint and dual degree programs and to facilitate international experience for graduate students. During AY 2023-2024 one student graduated from the Dual PhD collaboration in Chemical Engineering with KU-Leuven (Belgium). A number of students are currently enrolled in such Dual PhD Degree collaborations with KU Leuven and McGill University (Canada). Dual Master's program in Education with the Education University of Hong Kong starts its first cohort in Fall 2024. New partnerships are under development with The University of Groningen (The Netherlands), Monash University (Australia), University of Alberta (Canada) and University of Liverpool (UK). New programs approved in 2023-2024 included Master of Genetic Counseling in the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, PhD Program in Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering, and Ph.D. Program in Geographic Information Science in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Additionally, the dual PhD degree collaborations with KU Leuven (Belgium) and McGill University (Canada) have been extended to all STEM fields.

Upcoming new programs under approval include 4 new Masters programs and 8 PhD programs. These include MSc in Machine Learning and Data Science, Master of Education in Gifted and Talented (in affiliation with College of William & Mary), Master of Arts in History of the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf Region, Master of Arts in Specialized Translation and Interpreting, PhD in Water Resources, PhD in Engineering Management, PhD in Humanities and Social Sciences, PhD in Space Science and Technology, and Dual PhD collaborations with Groningen University (Netherlands), Monash University (Australia), University of Alberta (Canada) and University of Liverpool (UK).

Through various events and extracurricular, social and professional development activities, CGS provides graduate students with the opportunity to interact with their peers. During the 2023-2024, UAEU held UAE Graduate Students Research Conference (UAE GSRC 2024) which received over 1000 attendees with about 790 paper presentations out of 1147 papers submitted. The UAE GSRC 2024 provided a platform for graduate students from diverse disciplines to present their research, exchange ideas, and engage with fellow scholars and professionals from universities across the UAE and beyond. Moreover, the PhD Teaching Academy, which is developed in collaboration with the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) provides training for doctorate students to become future faculty members.

I invite you to explore this newsletter to learn more about our graduate programs and the rich experience of our graduate students and their achievements. Thank you for your interest in College of Graduate Studies at UAEU.

**Professor Ali Al-Marzouqi**

Dean, College of Graduate Studies

## Manisha Kothari

PhD in Water Resources, COE

### US PATENT

#### A Method of Capturing Carbon Dioxide using Carbide Slag

Patent grant date: 4 June 2024



## Amanpreet Behl

PhD in Cellular & Molecular Biology,  
COS

### INDIA PATENT

#### Decontamination Apparatus

Patent Grant Date: 19 March 2024



# Students Awards

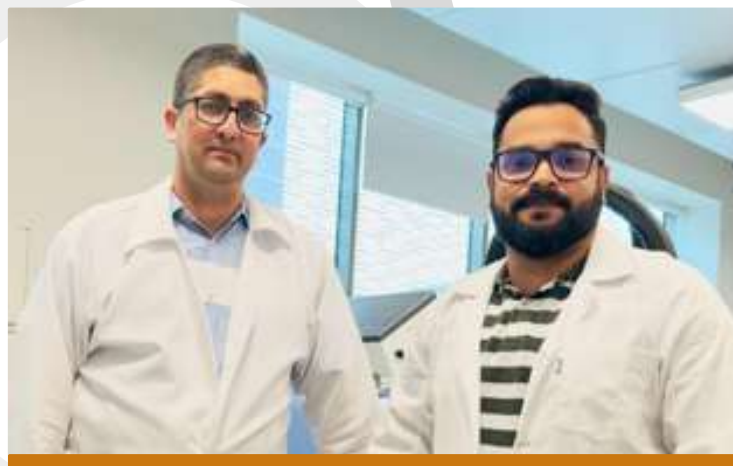
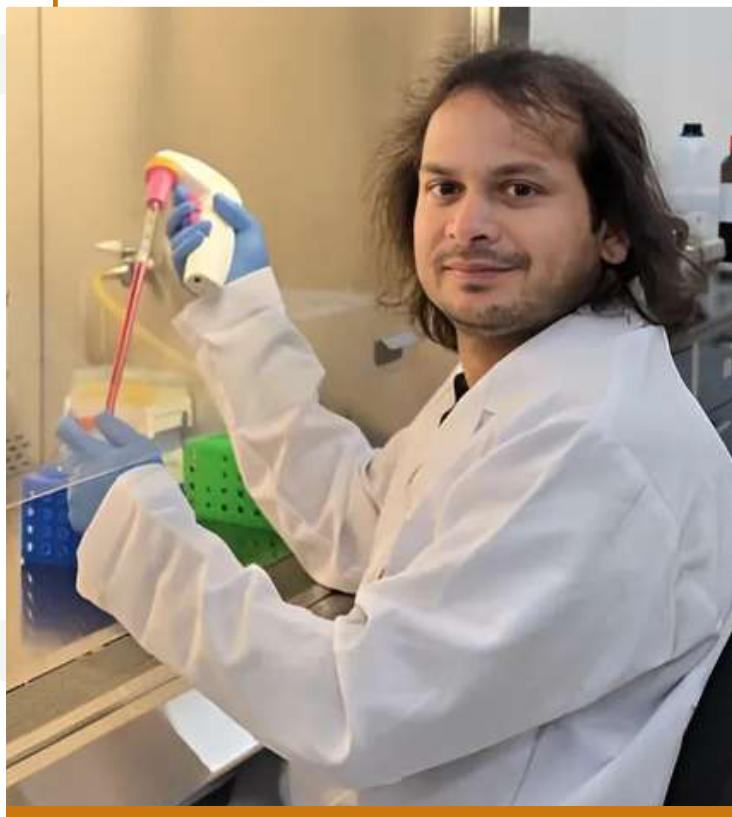


## Suresha Prabhu

PhD in Biomedical Sciences, CMHS

### Publication in the Top 1% Journal as the First Author

- **Paper Title:** MMTV RNA packaging requires an extended long-range interaction for productive Gag binding to packaging signals
- **Journal Name:** PLOS Biology
- **PhD Supervisor:** Prof. Tahir Rizvi, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, College of Medicine and Health Sciences.



## Labeeb Ali

PhD in Chemical Engineering, COE

### Publication on Top 1% Journal as 1st author

**Paper Title:** Catalytic upgrading of bio-oil from halophyte seeds into transportation fuels  
**Journal:** Journal of bioresources and bioproducts  
**Supervisor:** Prof. Mohamednoor Altarawneh  
**Publication Date:** Nov 2023

### Chancellor Innovation Award

Won the Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Category at UAEU, June, 2024

## Jad Bawab

PhD in Civil Engineering, COE

- **Publication in Top 1% Journal as 1st author** (Scopus 2023), "Accelerated carbonation curing of concrete incorporating calcium carbide residue", under the supervision of Dr. Hilal El-Hassan in **Journal of Building Engineering** on 10-04-2024
- **Publication in Top 1% Journal as 1st author** (Scopus 2023), "Effect of Mix design parameters on the properties of cementitious composites incorporating volcanic ash and dune sand", under the supervision of Dr. Hilal El-Hassan, in **Journal Developments in the Built Environment** on 07-11-2023
- **Publication in Top 4% Journal as 1st author** (Scopus 2023), "Synergetic impact of volcanic ash and calcium carbide residue on the properties and microstructure of cementitious composites", under the supervision of Dr. Hilal El-Hassan. **Journal: Construction and Building Materials** on 10-07-2024
- **Publication in Top 4% Journal as 1st author** (Scopus 2023), "Effect of different activation techniques on the engineering properties of cement-free binder containing volcanic ash and calcium carbide residue", under the supervision of Dr. Amr El-Dieb Construction and Building Materials on 11-10-2023
- **Best Paper Award at ICCSTE 2024**, "Activation of Cementless Binder Based on Volcanic" ash and Calcium Carbide Residue, under the supervision of Dr. Amr El-Dieb, Ottawa, Canada, 3 June 2024
- **Winner of 1st Place for Best Poster Presentation Award** at UAE GSRC 2024, "Flexural Strength Optimization of Blended Mortar by Taguchi Method", UAEU, UAE, 20 April 2024







## Nicolas Monje Mejia

MS in Architectural Engineering, COE

### Winner 1st Place, Sharjah Sustainability Award

12 Cycle at Sharjah in May 2024

## Asmaa Al Hamayda

PhD in Chemical Engineering, COE

**Best Presentation Award** at ByPalma 3rd World Conference on Byproducts of Palms. Work presented under supervision of Prof. Basim Abu-jdayil and Prof. Mutamed Ayyash at **Riyadh, KSA** on 7th December 2023

**2nd Place Sharjah Sustainability Award** 12th Cycle / 2024 Domain: Research in Sustainability for Post-Graduate. Research done under supervision of Prof. Basim Abu-jdayil and Prof. Mutamed Ayyash Sharjah, UAE 29th May 2024



## Justine Sylviane Lucie Sarrau

PhD in Geography and GIS, CHSS

### 1st Prize at ESGRS Challenge

Earth Observation Edition, Dubai, UAE, 10 Nov 2023



## Nada Shahin

PhD, CIT

### Publication in Top 1% Journal "Artificial Intelligence Review" as First Author

**Paper Title:** From rule-based models to deep learning transformers architectures for natural language processing and sign language translation systems: survey, taxonomy and performance evaluation

**Supervisor:** Dr. Leila Ismail, Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering, CIT

**Journal Name:** Artificial Intelligence Review

## Fatima Nagoor Pichai

PhD Alumna, CMHS

Postdoctoral Fellow, Gladstone Institute of Virology, University of California San Francisco (UCSF), USA.

### Publication on Top Journal "Science" as First Author

**Paper Title:** Engineered deletions of HIV replicate conditionally to reduce disease in nonhuman primates

**Supervisor:** Prof. Tahir Rizvi, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, CMHS

**Journal Name:** Science



## Nehal Al Madany

Master of Business Analytics, CBE

### Publication on Top 1% Journal as 1st author

**Paper Title:** Forecasting cryptocurrency returns using classical statistical and deep learning techniques

**Supervisor:** Prof. Omar Hujran, CBE

**Journal Name:** International Journal of Information Management Data Insights

**Publication Date:** 23 May 2024





## Joud Hewalla

PhD in Civil Engineering, COE

**Publication on Top 1% Journal (Scopus 2023 ) as First author**

**Paper Title:** Durability assessment of geopolymeric and cementitious composites for screed applications”

**Journal:** Journal of Building Engineering

**Supervisor:** Dr. Hilal El-Hassan

**Publication Date:** 13 March 2024

## Youssef Elmezayen

PhD in Civil Engineering, COE

**Publication in Top 1% Journal (Scopus 2023)  
First Author**

**Paper Title:** Carbon Fabric-Reinforced Cementitious Mortar Composites for Rehabilitation of Continuous Concrete Beams with Corroded Reinforcement of Various Severity

**Supervisor:** Dr. Tamer Maaddawy, COE

**Journal Name:** Developments in the Built Environment

**Publication Date:** 15 June, 2024



## Mohammed Khattab

PhD in Biomedical Sciences, CMHS

**1st Place, Best Oral and Poster presentation  
Award**

International Conference 5th Abu Dhabi International Vascular Conference at Sofitel Hotel, Abu Dhabi on 13 and 14 October, 2023





## Muhusina Ismail

PhD in Information Systems & Security, CIT

### Best Paper Award

International Conference on Future Access Enablers of Ubiquitous and Intelligent Infrastructures (pp. 99-116). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland, 2023 at **Bratislava, Slovakia** on October 25, 2023

## Manal Irshaid

Master of Medical Sciences, CMHS

### 1st place for the oral research abstract presentation

12th International Pediatric Conference in Abu Dhabi on 10-12 November, 2023



## Subha Chandran

PhD in Biomedical Sciences, COS

### UAE Innovation Award for poster presentation

College of Science, Biology department, Al Ain 05-09 February 2024







## Dr. Sabeera Haris

PhD Alumna, Water Resources, COE

### Best Student Presentation Award

10th International Conference on Engineering for Waste and Biomass Varolization for paper title "Valorization of date fruit pomace to polylactic acid, a biodegradable plastic and bioadsorbent material" Presented at the **WasteEng2024 Conference, Sendai, Japan** Aug 20-23, 2024

## Lana Jamal Daoud

PhD in Biomedical Sciences, CMHS

### 1st place prize for poster presentation (PhD category)

3rd annual ESCM conference at MBRU on Nov 3-5, 2023



## Saleh Alda'ajeh

PhD Student, CIT

### 2nd Prize Winner

Won the 2nd Prize at the Applied Research Competition organized by NYUAD on November 11, 2023





## Jennifer Osamede Airouyuwa

PhD in Food Science, CAVM

**Publication in Top 5% Journal in Scopus index as First author.**

**Paper Title:** Sustainable green extraction of anthocyanins and carotenoids using deep eutectic solvents (DES): A review of recent developments

**Journal Name:** Food Chemistry

**Publication Date:** 1 August 2024

## Maryam AlMallahi

PhD in Mechanical Engineering, COE

**Published 4 papers in International Journal of Thermofluids (Top 5%), August 2023 – July 2024**

Published a paper titled “Enhancing evaporation using proposed biomass-derived insulation with holistic decision-making” in **Applied Thermal Engineering (Top 5%)**



## Mohamed Shafi

PhD in Civil Engineering, COE

**Publication in Top 2% Journal as First Author (Scopus 2023)**

**Paper Title:** Debromination of novel brominated flame retardants using Zn-based additives: A viable thermochemical approach in the mitigation of toxic effects during e-waste recycling

**Journal:** Environmental Pollution

**Supervisor:** Dr. Mohammednoor Al Tarawneh

**Publication Date:** February 23, 2024







## Manisha Sukhraj Kothari

PhD in Water Resources, COE

### 2nd prize, Best Poster Presenter award

Air & Waste Management Association's 117th Annual Conference & Exhibition, 2024. **Calgary, Canada**, 26 June 2024

## Meera Mohammed Al Ameri

Master of Medical Sciences – Medical Microbiology and Immunology, CMHS

### Best Poster Presentation Award

CMHS Research Day 2024, Al Ain, 20 February 2024



## Rahila Abdul Kalam

PhD in Mathematics Education, CEDU

Won the **2nd place** at "**THE CONNECT 4 COMPETITION 2024**" organized by Emirates Schools Establishment for mathematics teachers at Abu Dhabi under the supervision of Dr. Jogymol Alex, 15th March 2024

## Noora Jasem Al-Ali

Master of Medical Science, CMHS

**Best poster presentation award** in 7th Annual Al-Ain Research Day, June 2023

**Runner-up award** in the poster Presentation at the 3rd International Annual Conference of the Emirates Society of Clinical Microbiology (ESCM) in Dubai, October 2023

**Best poster presentation award** in international conference, Microbiome: Human, Plant, and Environmental Health - Applications and Challenges, Abu Dhabi, November 2023.



## Youssef Shalaby

PhD Biomedical Sciences, CMHS

Received a cash prize and Certificate of Award at the 12th International Pediatric Conference, ranking in the top three presenters. Presentation topic, "Ceramide-Based Risk Assessment in Children: Insights into Cardiometabolic Disease Prediction", Abu Dhabi, UAE. November 10-12, 2023

## Heba Mostafa Ahmed Ali Khater

PhD, CIT

**Best Paper Award** at the 15th International Conference on Innovations in Information Technology (IIT 2023) in Al Ain, November 2023

**Best Presentation Award** at 5th International Conference on Big-data Service and Intelligent Computation (BDSIC 2023), Singapore (online) on 23 Oct 2023.





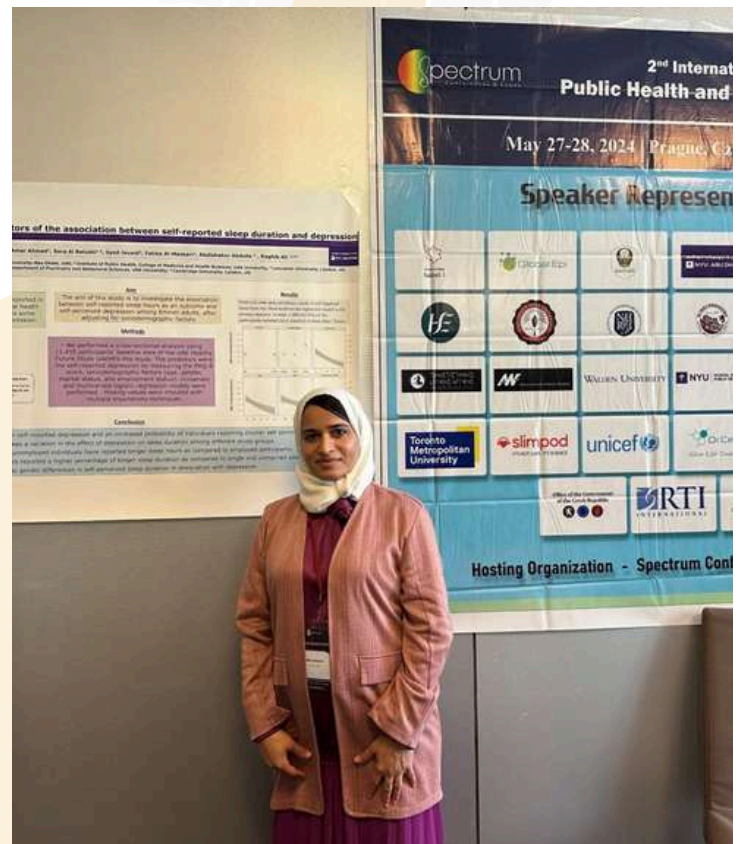
# International Experience



## Mitha Al Balushi

PhD in Public Health, CMHS

- Attended **Harvard 5 days course** - Advanced statistical methods at **Boston, USA**, from 29th July to 2nd August 2024
- **Presented poster** titled "sociodemographic factors of the association between self-reported sleep duration and depression" during the international summit of public health and preventive medicine **Prague, Czech**, 28-29 May 2024







## Aysha Rubayea Salem Khamis Alshamsi

Master of Clinical Psychology, CMHS

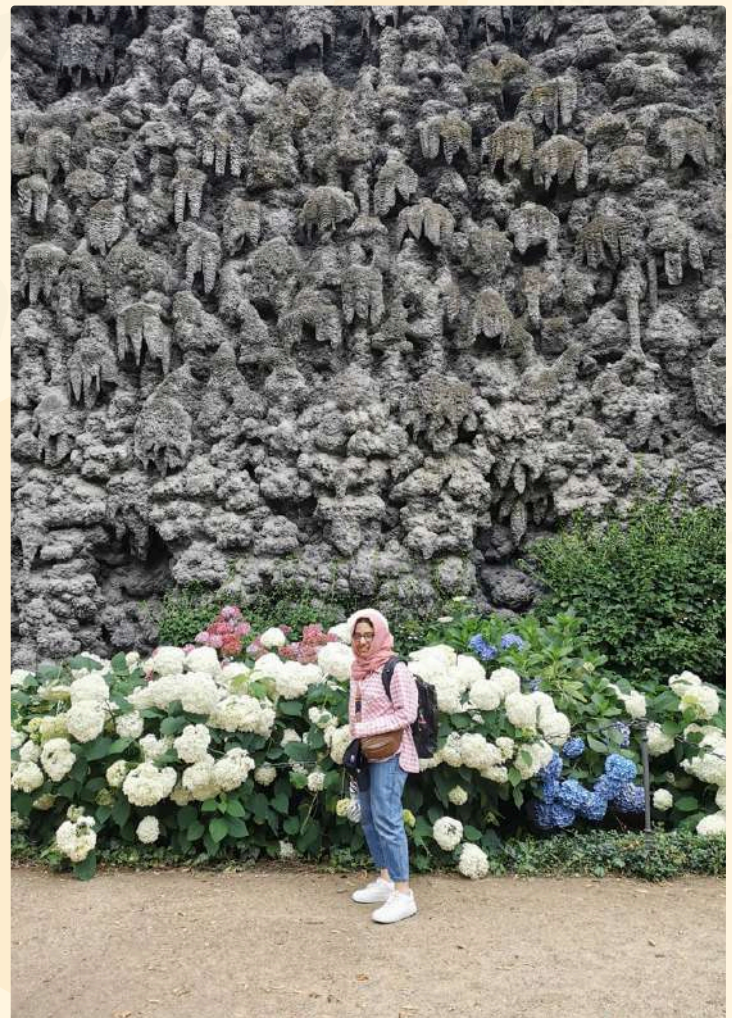
- Participation in **World Youth Festival 2024**  
**Sochi, Russia**, Feb 29 – Mar 7, 2024



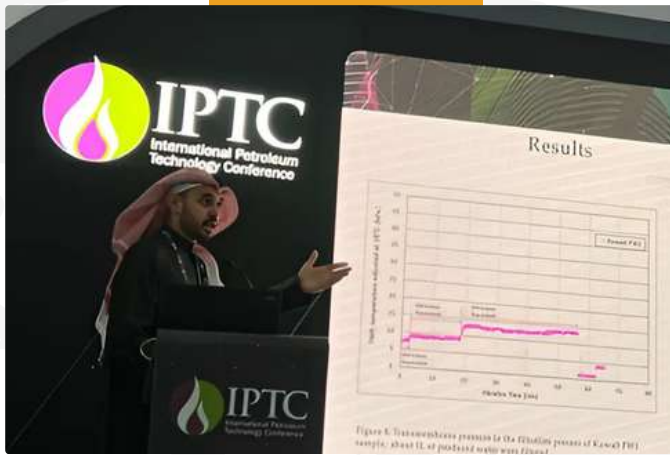
## Fareeha Jamal

PhD in Mathematics, COS

- Attended **Czech Summer School on Discrete Mathematics 2024** at Charles University  
**Prague, Czech Republic**, July 1-5, 2024



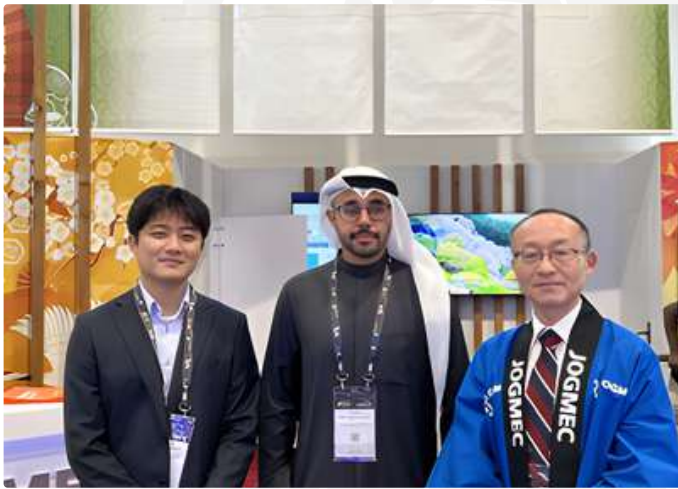




## Feras Mohammad Al Salem

PhD in Ecology and Environmental Sciences, COS

- Participation at the **International Petroleum Technology Conference IPTC 2024** in **Dhahran - Saudi Arabia**, where we presented two research papers February 12- 14, 2024



## Eman Mohamed Abdelwahab

PhD in in Leadership & Policy Studies in Education, CEDU

- Presented a Research Article in the **University College of London - London, UK** at the **12th European Conference on Language Learning (ECLL2024)** on 13th July 2024. The presented paper title is "Challenges Encountered by English Language Teachers in Same-Ability Classrooms: Evidence from UAE High Schools".







## Eleana Charalambous

PhD in Special Education , COE

Did a month at the Frederick University in Cyprus as student exchange with the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility in **Nicosia and Limassol, Cyprus**, from 15 March 2024-10 April 2024



## Justine Sylviane Lucie Sarrau

PhD in Geography and GIS, CHSS

- Attended Research **Conference EGU23** at **Vienna, Austria**, from 23 till 28 April 2023







## Amanpreet Behl

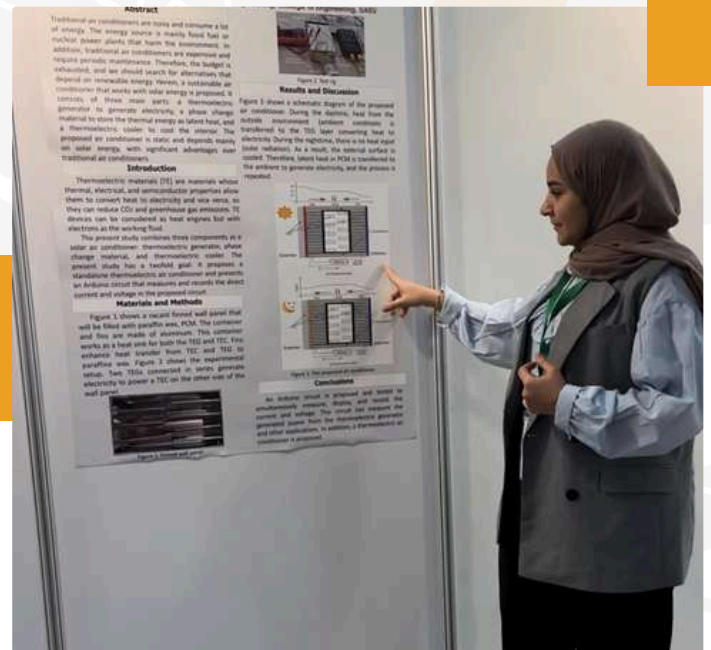
PhD in Cellular and Molecular Sciences, COS

- Worked in collaboration with **NUWAT Environment Research and Education** for my PhD work in Bahrain. Worked on DNA extraction on site and conducted a field work in Bahrain. Scuba diving with my collaborator in **Bahrain. Kingdom of Bahrain**, 5th -31st May 2024

## Maryam Nooman AlMallahi

PhD in Mechanical Engineering, COE

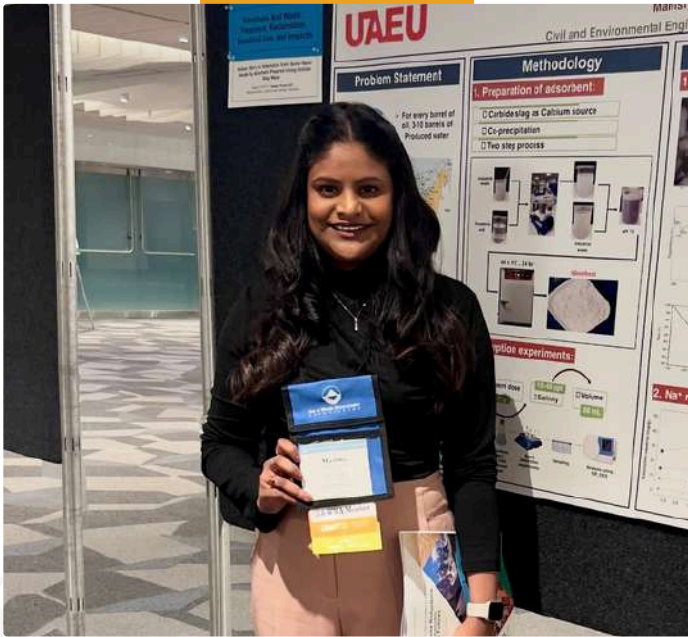
- **Presented a conference paper** online. Renewable Energy: Generation and Application **ICREGA'24** April 21-24 2024 held in **Saudi Arabia**, Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University - Khobar



## Joud Hewalla

PhD in Civil Engineering, COE

- Attended the Fifth **European and Mediterranean Structural Engineering and Construction Conference** Vilnius, **Lithuania** (Online), from May 13 - May 18, 2024
- Attended the 9th International Conference on Civil Structural and Transportation Engineering (**ICCSTE 2024**) **Toronto, Canada** (Online), from June 13- June 15, 2024



## Manisha Sukhraj Kothari

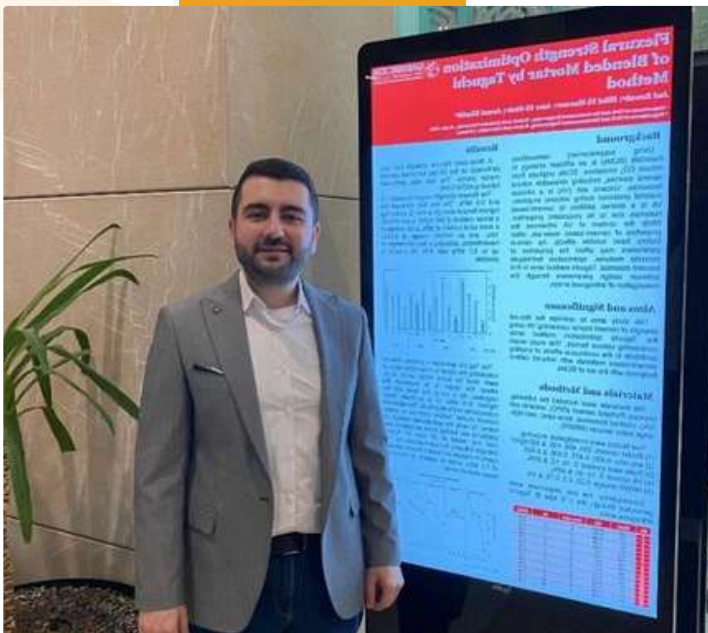
PhD, Water Resources, COE

- Panel and poster presentation, Air & Waste Management Association's 117th Annual Conference & Exhibition, June 2024, Canada. **Calgary, Canada, 24-27 June 2024**

## Nada Shahin

PhD, CIT

- Attended Research Conference: **The 10th International Symposium on Networks, Computers and Communications (ISNCC'23) in Doha, Qatar**, from October 23 to 26, 2023



## Jad Bawab

PhD in Civil Engineering, COE

- ICCM 2024**, "optimizing the mixture proportions of cementitious composites incorporating volcanic ash", under the supervision of Dr. Hilal El-Hassan **Toulouse, France (online)**, 23-26 June 2024



## Muhammad Uba Abdulazeez

PhD in Mechanical Engineering, COE

- Visiting PhD Student in Biotechnology and Bioengineering Program at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) **Lausanne, Switzerland** June 23, 2023 – June 20, 2024
- Visiting Researcher at the Laboratory of Movement Analysis and Measurement (LMAM) at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) **Lausanne, Switzerland**, October 1 – December 31 2023
- Presented two posters at the 67th Annual Conference of The Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine, **Indiana, USA**, 3 - 6 October 2023



## Aya Abdelraouf Mousa Touny

PhD in Biomedical Science, CMHS

- **Poster presentation** at the American Physiological Society Conference, American Physiology Summit (#APS2024) **Long Beach, USA**, from 4 – 7 April, 2024

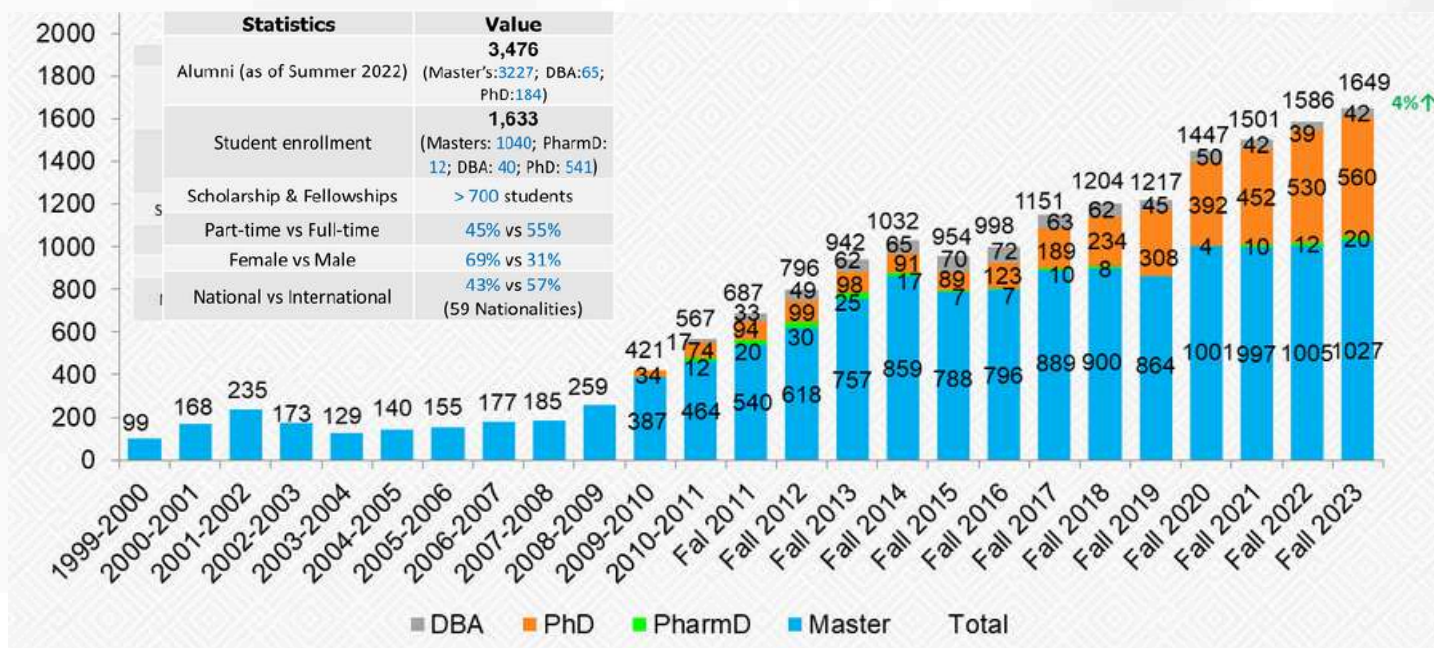
## Rouwida ElKhalil

PhD in Public Health, CMHS

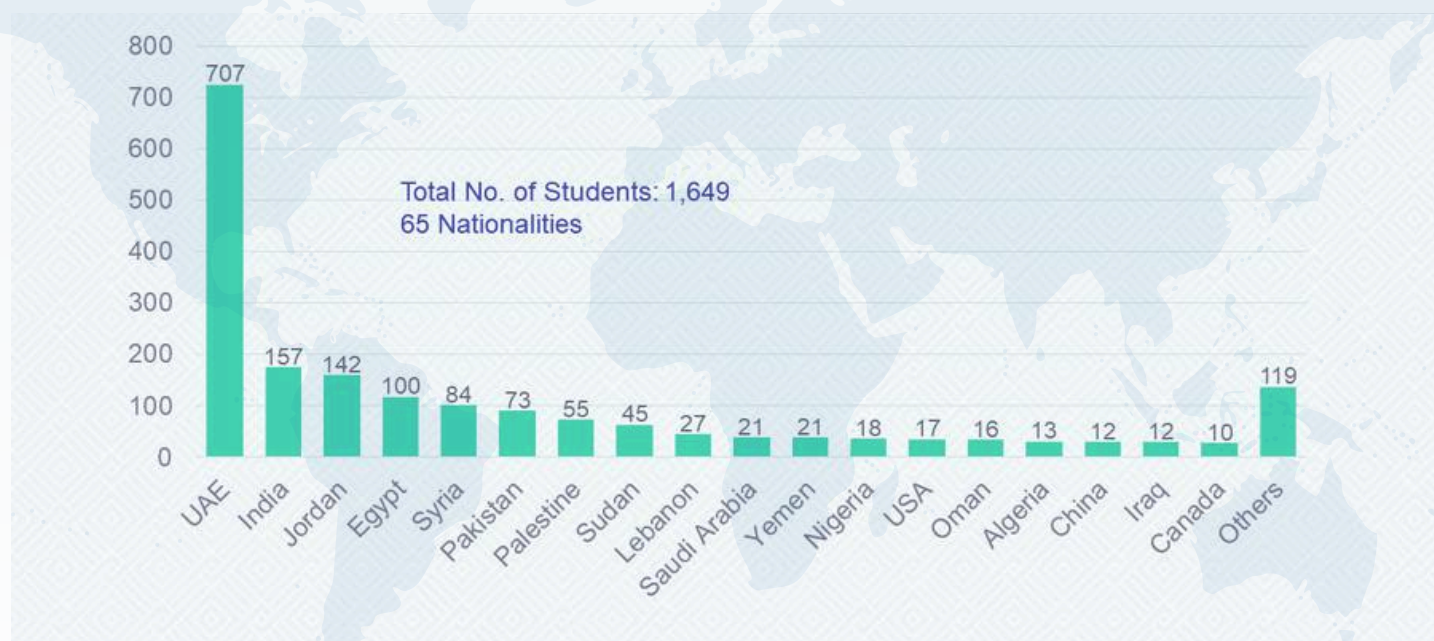
- Attended **Institute for Healthcare Advancement (IHA) 23rd Annual Health Literacy Conference, USA**, virtually from 14 – 16 May 2024.
- Attended 2nd Global Summit on **Health Literacy by the International Health Literacy Association (IHLA) at Rotterdam, The Netherlands**, from 18-20 September 2024.

# FACTS AND FIGURES

## Student Enrollment in Graduate Programs



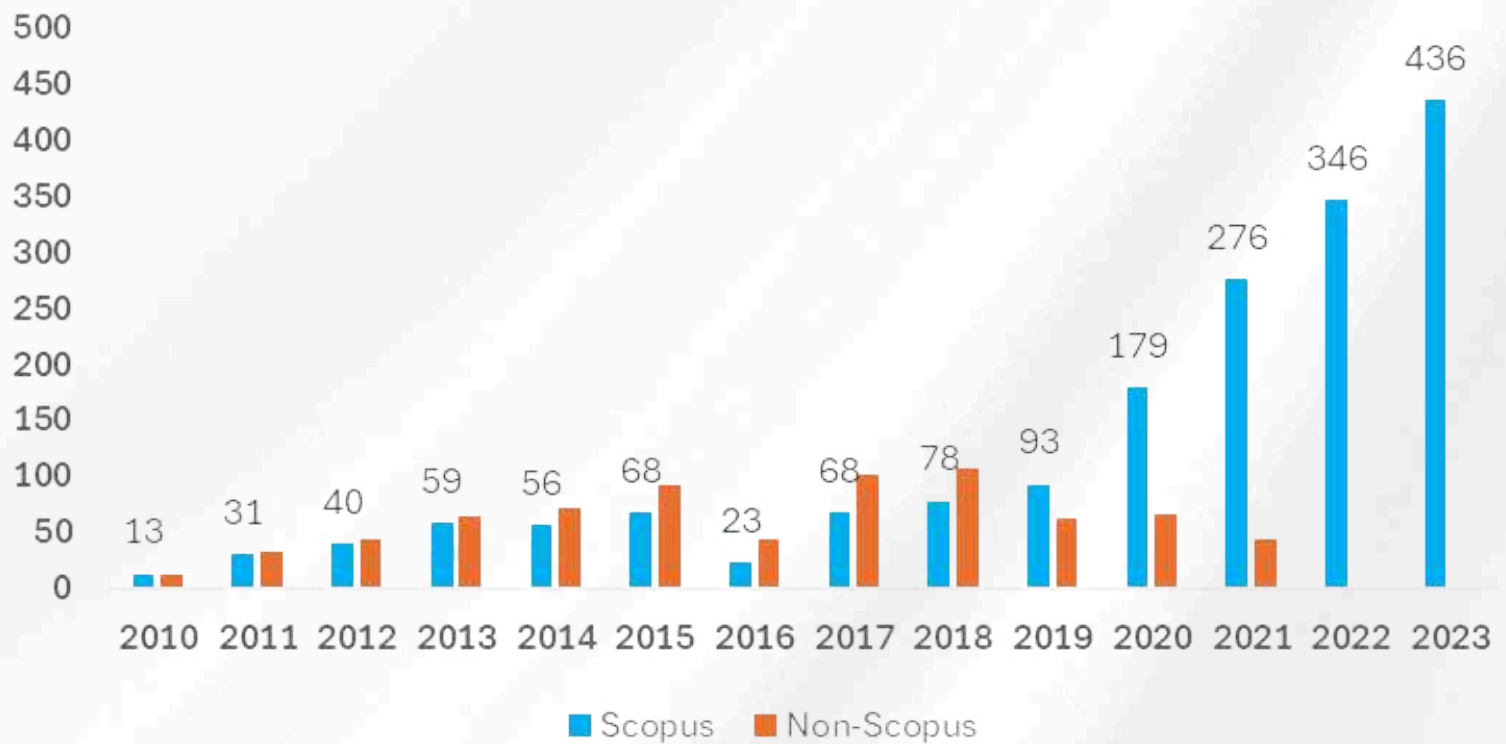
## Graduate Student Diversity - Fall 2023





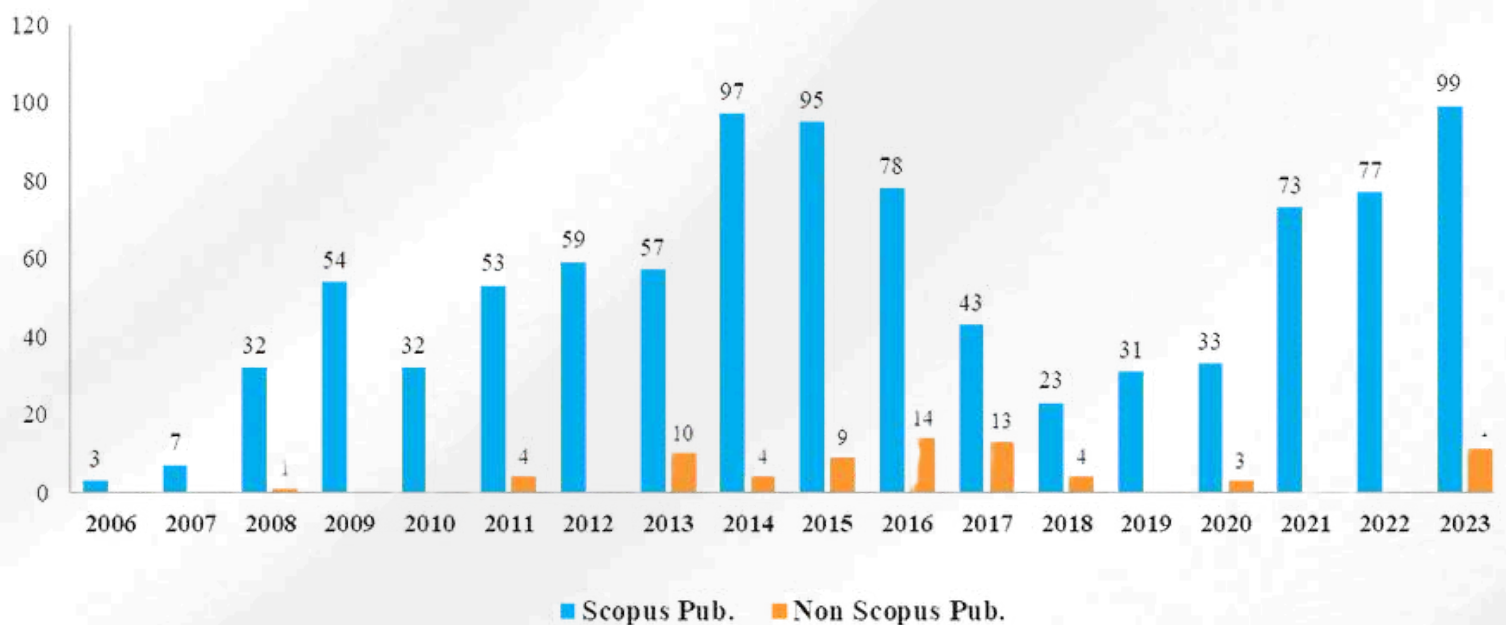
## Publications by PhD Students

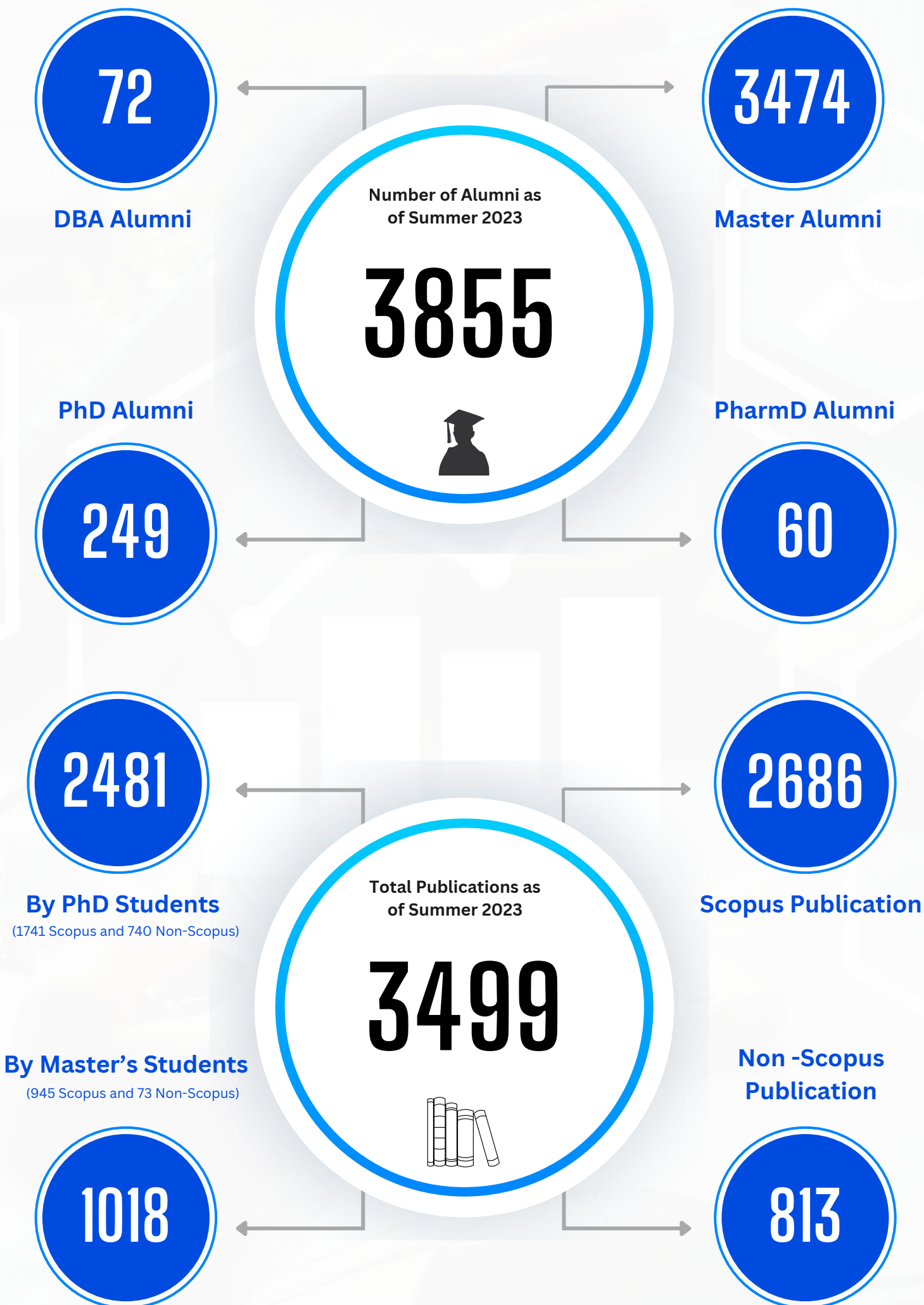
PhD Publications per Year 2014-2023



## Publications by Master Students

Master's Publications per Year 2006-2023







# UAE NATIONAL DAY 2023

The UAE University's College of Graduate Studies embarked on a joyous journey to celebrate the cherished UAE National Day. The festivities, brimming with cultural richness and patriotic fervor, unfolded in a tapestry of vibrant events, commemorating the proud heritage and visionary spirit of the United Arab Emirates.

In a heartwarming tribute to UAE culture, young children took center stage, embodying the essence of Emirati traditions through captivating role-plays. Dressed in traditional attire, they showcased the cherished customs and values that define the nation's identity, captivating the audience with their endearing performances.

Amidst the jubilant atmosphere, an insightful Question and Answer session offered a platform for participants to delve deeper into the rich tapestry of Emirati history, culture, and achievements. Enthusiastic participants exchanged knowledge and anecdotes, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of the UAE's remarkable journey.

Recognizing the invaluable contributions of faculty members, certificates of appreciation were bestowed upon those who led diverse workshop sessions, igniting intellectual discourse and scholarly pursuits across various disciplines. Their dedication and expertise continue to inspire and shape the academic landscape of UAE University.

The festivities culminated in a delightful feast, where attendees savored the authenticity and richness of UAE cuisine. From savory dishes to delectable sweets, every bite resonated with the flavors of tradition, fostering a sense of camaraderie and community amidst the joyful celebration.











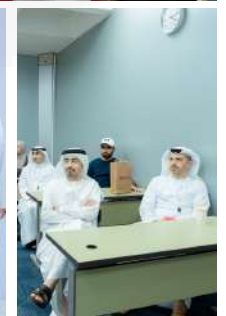
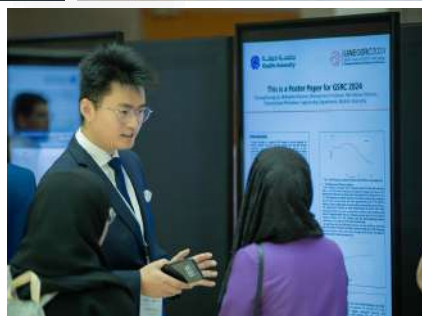
## THE 9TH ANNUAL UAE GRADUATE STUDENTS RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The 9th UAE Graduate Students Research Conference, held on Saturday, April 20th, 2024, in the esteemed Great Hall of the Crescent Building and IT Building, was a testament to the dedication and passion driving the pursuit of knowledge and excellence. The Graduate Students Research Conference culminated with a resounding call to action, emphasizing the pivotal role of graduate students in advancing scientific and academic discourse. Throughout the event, attendees were treated to a wealth of knowledge and expertise from leading voices in academia and industry.

Prof. Ahmed Murad moderated an insightful panel discussion about the role of graduate education in building a competitive and sustainable economy, which was one of the highlights of the conference. Esteemed speakers including H.E. Dr. Mohammad Al Mualla, Prof. Ghaleb Albreiki, and Dr. Abdelqader Abusafieh shared invaluable insights, shedding light on the intersection of graduate education and economic development.

Further enriching the discourse, Prof. Suzanne Ortega, President of the Council of Graduate Schools, USA, delivered a compelling address titled "Graduate Education for a Sustainable Future," underscoring the imperative of nurturing talent for long-term societal and environmental sustainability.

Dr. Arif Sultan Al Hammadi, Chair of the UAE GSRC 2024 Steering Committee, reaffirmed the commitment to empowering and preparing graduate students amidst the UAE's remarkable progress. By fostering robust connections across academia, industry, government, and international partners, the conference aimed to catalyze collaborative efforts that will drive innovation and shape the future of research not only within the UAE but also on a global scale.









# UAE GRADUATE STUDENTS RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2024 AWARD WINNERS

## Ameer Alakkal

PhD in Biomedical Sc., CMHS

**1st Place winner, Best Oral Presentation Award**, in Medicine Track, Paper title "Sanguinarine, a Benzophenanthridine Alkaloid Induces H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-Dependent Activation of Apoptosis and Ferroptosis in Human cancer

## Henry Alexander

PhD, CIT

**2nd Place winner, Best Oral Presentation Award**, in IT Track, Paper title "A Novel Data Fusion Framework to Enhance Contextual Awareness in Autonomous Vehicles for Accurate Decision Making".

## Elen Abuowda

MS in Civil Engineering, COE

**3rd Place winner, Best Oral Presentation Award**, in Engineering Track, Paper title "Effect of Recycled Fine Aggregates on the Performance of Geopolymer Masonry Mortar".

## Fajr AlKouz

PhD in Language & Literacy Education, CEDU

**2nd Place winner, Best Oral Presentation Award**, in Education Track, Paper title "Investigating Parental Roles in Developing Children's Emergent Literacy in English, their Second Language, through Storybook Reading in a Sample of Kuwaiti Homes".

## Nesreen Alkhofash

PhD in Biomedical Sc., CMHS

**1st Place winner, Best Poster Presentation Award**, in Medicine Track, Paper title "The cellular trafficking and targeting of angiotensin converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) and neutral amino acid transporter (B0AT1): Implications for corona viruses' pathogenesis and therapy", UAE Graduate Students Research Conference

## Mariam Albreiki

MS in Horticulture, CAVM

**2nd Place winner, Best Poster Presentation Award**, in Paper title "Impact of root pruning on the growth of hydroponic plants, and opportunities for harvesting hydroponic plant roots as food", UAE Graduate Students Research Conference 2024 (UAEGSRC 2024)

# DESERT SAFARI



## TRIP



In a journey of exploration, the UAEU's College of Graduate Studies led graduate students through a desert safari adventure, igniting excitement with camel rides across rolling dunes. Adrenaline peaked as participants navigated rugged terrain, dune-bashing in powerful 4x4s. As night descended, the desert came alive with camel night show, showcasing traditional dance against a starlit sky. Amidst the tranquil ambience, a lavish buffet beckoned, offering savory delights under the open sky. The evening ascended with a cultural extravaganza, featuring vibrant performances celebrating Bedouin heritage. This Odyssey through the desert left incredible memories, weaving tales of adventure and culture immersion.





“  
The trip was well organized. The group and the atmosphere was amazing.  
”

“  
Amazing trip, and I hope there will be more events like this.  
”

“  
Wonderful trip; everything is meticulously organized.  
”

“  
It was a wonderful experience to go on the trip. I enjoyed all the activities  
”



# SPORT ACTIVITIES



The sports activities at UAE University have been vibrant and full of energy, showcasing the diverse talents of our graduate students. From the dynamic intensity of basketball games to the focused precision of table tennis matches, students at UAEU have displayed their competitive spirits across various sports. The recent table tennis tournament brought together participants who stood proudly after a thrilling series of matches. Similarly, the gym has become a hub for fitness enthusiasts, where dedicated athletes receive guidance from trainers, pushing their limits during intense workouts. Additionally, community events like cycling rides and runs saw enthusiastic participation, with students coming together to celebrate fitness and camaraderie.





**Intense focus as two players compete in table tennis**



**Participants proudly stand together after a thrilling tournament.**



**A group of students engage in a casual game of pool.**



**Martial art practitioners proudly display the UAE flag**



**A gym-goer receives guidance from a trainer during a bench press.**



**Athletes hone their skills in an indoor basketball practice session.**



**Fitness enthusiasts participate in a diverse team workout at the gym.**



**Intense battle for control near the hoop in a basketball game.**



**Athlete attempts a bench press under the watchful eye of a coach**





# TRIP TO YAS WATERWORLD

A trip to Yas Waterworld in Abu Dhabi was hosted by the College of Graduate Studies for the graduate students on Saturday 9th of September 2023. A water park to enjoy

our bodies during the summer season. Variety of water games were so exciting to try all. There were more than 10 thrilling games including, Yas Flowboarding which is a surfing simulator that allows us to ride artificial waves on a bodyboard or stand-up flowboard.



It's a thrilling experience for those looking to try out some surfing. 2nd game was the Liwa Loop which is a looping waterslide that provides an adrenaline rush as you speed down a near-vertical drop and through a loop. Bandit Bomber: This is the world's first suspended water roller coaster. It takes you on a high-speed adventure through the park and even allows you to shoot water at those below. Dawwama: This is one of the largest tornado waterslides in the world. It's an exhilarating ride that takes you on a thrilling journey through twists, turns, and drops. Last one was Sebag which is a traditional Emirati pearl-diving experience that combines storytelling and an exciting pearl diving journey. Of course there were many more splashing games. Finally, it was a great day to spend refreshing our bodies before the beginning of the semester.

**Mouaz Chkhachirou**

MS in Civil Engineering, COE





It was a very amazing trip I wish if you could repeat it again from time to time. I really enjoyed the trip with the CGS students and had so much fun. I liked how everything was planned perfectly and everyone respected the time and the schedule. Hope to join another fun trips like this in the future.

I liked the trip, and I enjoyed it with my friends. I hope it's possible to make another trip again, and If it is possible to organize also a trip on women's day

Hi I'm Mohammed Alkhateri 202002839 The trip was amazing I loved the park it was such a fun day, full of laugh and joy and I hope to be in the next trips

The best day of my life, I enjoyed a lot!!! Nice organization! Excellent plan, more students should join, let's try to explore also other water parks!

# Graduate Student Stories

## Mohammed H. H. Alzard

Ph.D., College of Engineering

Ah, the illustrious pursuit of a Ph.D. A journey filled with late nights, countless cups of coffee, and an unwavering dedication to unraveling the mysteries of academia. Yet, snuggled within this whirlwind of research and scholarly endeavors lies a gem often overlooked: the indispensable need for breaks. For the fearless Ph.D. student scaling the academic mountain, breaks are not mere intervals but the oxygen that sustains their visionary soul.

Picture this: you are immersed in untangling the secrets of quantum mechanics or poring over hundreds of concrete cubes in the lab. Your brain and body are on overdrive, firing synapses like shooting stars. But, it is human nature to need a breather. Breaks are not signs of weakness; they are your brain's way of saying, "Hey, let's reboot and recharge!"

Taking a break allows your mind to wander, recalibrate, and return refreshed, which in turn leads to boosting your productivity and creativity. Pushing yourself non-stop leads to burnout faster than a candlewick in a storm, and breaks are like the fire extinguisher you use to prevent that academic blaze. Did you know that breaks aid memory retention and comprehension? It does according to science, and we can not argue with science. Your brain needs time to process and solidify the information it's been fed.

So, what are you waiting for? Go ahead and integrate some breaks into your schedule. Reward yourself with a 5-minute break every now and then, and step into the great outdoors. The change in scenery and a breath of fresh air work wonders for mental clarity. Also, never forget to take a moment to be present and BREATHE.

Simple breathing exercises can do wonders for clearing mental clutter. Finally, steal some time and embrace a hobby! Whether it is painting, playing an instrument, or mastering the art of baking, hobbies inject joy and balance into your life.

Speaking of hobbies, the unsung heroes of the Ph.D. journey, they are not distractions; they are lifelines. Engaging in a hobby is similar to giving your brain a playful pat on the back. It helps strike that delicate equilibrium between work and play. Hobbies act as stress relief valves when equations and theories start dancing menacingly in your head. Also, they help you rekindle passion. Remember when your eyes lit up at the thought of your hobby? That passion is contagious and can spill over into your academic work, infusing it with newfound enthusiasm. I remember having my best ideas when I stepped away from my screen, switched off my brain, and started doodling, though I am not really good at it. And by the way, hobbies are some kind of 'Time Management Sorcery'. Counterintuitive as it sounds, engaging in a hobby teaches time management. Balancing thesis chapters with guitar chords or painting strokes sharpens your juggling skills.

In the tumultuous journey toward a Ph.D., taking breaks is not a mere indulgence; it is a strategic tool the savvy scholar wields. So, dear doctoral comrades, remember to step away from the screen, pick up that paintbrush, or go for that walk. Your brain will thank you, your work will flourish, and you will emerge as a resilient, well-rounded academic warrior.







## Nisha Thorakkattu Madathil

PhD in Informatics and Computing, CIT

These paintings were an important part of my entire PhD journey, especially during the tough times. Creating them provided me with a break and helped me manage the challenges I faced along the way. The colors and scenes in the paintings reflect the emotions I experienced during different phases. Painting helped me stay balanced and focused, making the difficult moments of the journey a bit easier to handle







## Rener De Jesus

PhD in Cellular and Molecular Biology, COS

Rener is a dedicated PhD candidate in Cellular and Molecular Biology at United Arab Emirates University, focusing on one of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time: the impact of microplastics on ecosystems and the potential for microbial solutions in plastic biodegradation. His research specifically investigates the ecotoxicological effects of microplastics and explores the possibilities of microbial consortia as a means for effective plastic breakdown. With an academic foundation in Biology (BSc) and Microbiology (MSc), complemented by nearly seven years of professional experience in food manufacturing, Rener brings a wealth of knowledge and a unique, interdisciplinary perspective to his work.

One of the pillars of his research are the interactions between microplastics and bioluminescent bacteria, which serve as indicators of environmental health. By analyzing how these microscopic plastics influence bacterial behavior, including bioluminescence (the ability to produce light), he hopes to shed light on the often-hidden effects of plastic pollution at the cellular and molecular levels.

Beyond the laboratory, his life is a blend of exploration and culture. He spends much of his free time exploring the country's diverse sites, from the stunning architectural marvels of the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque and the Burj Khalifa to the cultural immersion offered by the Louvre Abu Dhabi and the Global Village. His interests also extend to nature and conservation, which he fulfills through visits to places like The Green Plant, an indoor rainforest that mirrors ecosystem interactions.

He exemplifies the ideal of a globally minded, environmentally conscious researcher. His work contributes to the broader goals of sustainable development and environmental protection, addressing not only the direct effects of pollutants but also the potential for biological interventions. As he advances in his fields, Rener envisions continuing his path in research and mentorship, driving awareness and fostering solutions for some of the most pressing ecological issues.



## Nida Abdul Jabbar

Master of Professional Accounting, CBE

As a master's student in professional accounting, my journey has been both challenging and incredibly rewarding. With a background in finance, I am fascinated by how accounting bridges data and strategy to drive impactful business decisions. Recently, I discovered a new passion for teaching, inspired by my own professors. This experience has motivated me to one day become a professor and help others navigate complex subjects with clarity and purpose.

At the same time, I'm eager to conquer the corporate world, constantly on the lookout for opportunities to apply my skills and gain industry experience. Outside of academics, I enjoy reading, exploring new places, and writing. In the future, I hope to make a meaningful impact both as a professional and, eventually, as an educator.





## Huda Omar

MSc in Environmental Science and Sustainability, COS

I'm a master's student in Environmental Science and Sustainability, deeply passionate about nature and all its intricate details. I find myself most drawn to the sky—it's my favorite canvas. In my free time, I love to draw, often recreating the details that captivate me, especially in portraits of people. For me, art is a way to capture and share the beauty I see in the world.

My philosophy in life centers on living in the present. Success isn't about reaching the top or accumulating wealth; it's about simple, genuine moments: Did you smile today? Did you truly live in the moment? Did you make someone happy, or did you enjoy time with people you love? In a world that often feels rushed, finding peace and joy in small moments is what matters most to me."





## Introduction to Research Skills

Prof. Taoufik Ksiksi  
College of Science



## Effective Time Management

Dr. Hussien Hegab  
College of Engineering



## ChatGPT for Researchers

Dr. Jose Berengueres  
College of Information and Technology



## How to Write a Successful Thesis - Top Tips!

John Slocombe  
Writing Center, University College



## Statistical Data Analysis with SPSS in Research

Dr. Kaushik Sivaramakrishnan  
College of Engineering



## Introduction to Python

Demetrios Hadjigeorgiou  
Technology Center, University College



## Workshop on MATLAB

Nada Mirza  
Technology Center, University College



## Writing an Appealing Resume or CV - How to Market Your Skills

Tony Myers  
Writing Center, University College



Workshop Leader

**MR. KHALID BILAL PASHAR**

Workshop Details

**Sunday, February 11th, 2024**

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Virtual Workshop on MS team



Workshop Leader

**Dr. Zakaria Boulanouar**  
Department of Economics and Finance  
College of Business and Economics &  
National Water and Energy Center

Workshop Details

**Wednesday**  
**April 3, 2024**

**11:00 am - 12:30 pm**

**F3 Building Room 106**  
(Hybrid Session)







## How to Get An Academic Book Published

Tony Myers

Writing Center, University College



## Automatic Citation Tools using Zotero & Mendeley

Abdel Rahman Atef Ahmed Aly, PhD Student

College of Science



## Enhance your Research with EndNote Online: A Reference Management Software Program

Khalid Bilal Pasha

Library



## Thesis/Dissertation Formatting and Guideline

Abdel Rahman Atef Ahmed Aly, PhD Student

College of Science



## How to Write an Effective Literature Review?

John Slocombe

Writing Center, University College



## Writing research statements for an academic job application

Dr. Sahar Mohsin

College of Medicine and Health Science



## Learning automatic referencing with Zotero

Abdel Rahman Atef Ahmed Aly, PhD Student

College of Science



## External Grant Writing

Prof. Mohammednoor Al Tarawneh

College of Engineering



## Supercharge Your Research: Practical Tips for Leveraging AI

Dr. Ali Ismail Awad

College of Information Technology



## Graduate Student Mentoring: Essentials of Effective Supervision for Ensuring Student Success

**Panel Discussion** - Dr. Samir Safi, Prof. Ali Shehadeh, Prof. Zaheeruddin Mohammed, Dr. Ahmed Elsayed, and Dr. Tatiana Karabchuk

Spring 2024



### Open Meeting with All Graduate Students

Friday, 29 March, 2024  
11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Venue: F3 - Room 136 (Hybrid Session)



### A ROADMAP TO SUCCESSFUL RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

WORKSHOP BY

**Dr. Ali Ismail Awad**

Department of Information Systems and Security,  
College of Information Technology

**MARCH | 6<sup>th</sup> | 2024**



### WRITING RESEARCH STATEMENTS FOR AN ACADEMIC JOB APPLICATION



FRIDAY,  
16 FEBRUARY, 2024  
10:00AM - 11:30AM  
Online on MS Team

Workshop By:

**DR. SAHAR MOHSIN**

Department of Anatomy  
College of Medicine and Health Sciences



## A Roadmap to Successful Research Dissemination

Dr. Ali Ismail Awad

College of Information Technology



## Statistical analysis guides and data analysis techniques

Dr. Samir Safi

College of Business and Economics



## Thesis Writing: Research design, Data collection, Analytics and Results discussion

Dr. Tatiana Karabchuk

College of Humanities & Social Sciences



## How to Succeed in Graduate School and Beyond!

Dr. Zakaria Boulanouar

College of Business and Economics



## Thesis/Dissertation Formatting and UAEU Guidelines (in Arabic)

Abdel Rahman Atef Ahmed Aly, PhD Student

College of Science



## Quantitative, Qualitative, and Mixed Methods: Revisiting the Continuum Spaces in Epistemology, Theoretical Framework, and Methodology

Dr. Negmeldin Omer Alsheikh

College of Education



## Graduate Student Supervision: Insights, Experiences & Practices

**Panel Discussion** - Dr. Hilal El-Hassan, Prof. Emad Elnajjar, Dr.

Mohamed Hamouda, Dr. Ashraf Aly Hassan



## Maximizing your research profile & communicating your research to the public

Dr. Muhammad Tahir

College of Engineering



## Mastering Academic Publishing: A Comprehensive Workshop for Postgraduates on Writing Your First Professional Paper

Dr. Mutamed Ayyas

College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine

## THESIS WRITING:

Research design, Data collection, Analytics and Results discussion



Workshop By

**DR. TATIANA KARABCHUK**

Department of Government and Society,  
College of Humanities & Social Sciences



12 March, 2024  
11 am - 2:30 pm



F3 Building, Room 106  
(Hybrid Workshop)



## GRADUATE STUDENT MENTORING

Essentials of Effective Supervision for Ensuring Student Success

Mentoring graduate students at the doctoral or master's level represents a substantial academic duty. Supervisors, as well as students, have certain expectations, obligations, and responsibilities.

Panel Discussion



Dr. Samir Safi  
Statistics & Business Analytics, CBE  
Moderator



Prof. Ali Shehadeh  
Curriculum & Instruction, CEDI



Prof. Zaheruddin  
Private Law, COL



Dr. Ahmed Elsayed  
Economics & Finance, CBE



Dr. Tatiana Karabchuk  
Government & Society, CHSS

February 29, 2024 1:00 - 2:00 PM F3 Building, Cinema Room 110 (Hybrid Session)



## EXTERNAL GRANT WRITING

Workshop By

**Professor Mohammednoor Al Tarawneh**

Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, COE

Workshop Details

Friday, 23 February 2024, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Online







**Dr. Humaid Al Darmaki**

Judge, Abu Dhabi Judicial  
Department

Ph.D. COL



**Dr. Maha Al Mansoori**

Section Manager, Rabdan  
Academy

Ph.D. CEDU



**Dr. Kanishka Athalage**

Global HR Business Partner /  
Leader, Cigna Healthcare

DBA. CBE



**Dr. Stephan Bruns**

Resident Lecturer, Turks & Caicos  
Islands

Ph.D. COS



**Dr. Wadha Alfalasi**

Academic Specialist,  
UAEU

Ph.D. COS



**Dr. Abdulhameed AlWahedi**

Head of Legal Consultancy Section,  
Securities and Commodities Authority

Ph.D. COL



**Dr. Salma Almansouri**

Marketing Head Section Manager.  
Al Ain City Municipality

DBA. CBE



**Dr. Mohanad Aboudayah**

Manager, National Innovation  
Ecosystem Activation

DBA. CBE



**Dr. Mariam AlHammedi**

Head of Learning and  
Development

DBA. CBE



**Dr. Abdul Mannan Zafar**

Researcher, Technology Innovation  
Institute

Ph.D. COE



**Dr. Hira Shakoor**

Post Doctoral Research Associate,  
Washington State University, USA

Ph.D. CHMS



**Dr. Badriya AlSadrani**

Adjunct Faculty,  
UAEU

Ph.D. CEDU



**Dr. Md Zishan Akhter**

Researcher, Technology Innovation  
Institute

Ph.D. COE



**Dr. Wafa AlWahedi**

Graduate Registrar and Adjunct  
Faculty, Zayed University

DBA. CBE



**Dr. Hebaallah Hashiesh**

Lecturer, College of Pharmacy,  
Helwan University, Egypt

Ph.D. CMHS



**Dr. Mubarak Al Khaili**

Legal Advisor,  
ADNOC

Ph.D. COL





**Dr. Muhammad Khan**

Adjunct Faculty  
UAEU

Ph.D. CIT



**Dr. Neena Panicker**

Research Assistant  
UAEU

Ph.D. CMHS



**Dr. Mohammed Alzard**

Research Associate  
UAEU

Ph.D. COE



**Dr. Fadwa Babikir**

Medical Research Specialist,  
CMHS, UAEU

PhD. CMHS



**Dr. Sanad Purayil**

Post Doctoral Researcher  
UAEU

Ph.D. COE



**Dr. Najwa Al Bouzieh**

Research Assistant  
UAEU

Ph.D. COS



**Dr. Bushra Gull**

Research Associate  
UAEU

Ph.D. CMHS



**Dr. Shahruxh Zia Ul Haq**

Research Assistant  
UAEU

Ph.D. COE



**Dr. Sabeera Haris**

Postdoc  
UAEU

Ph.D. COE



**Dr. Khalid ElHaj**

Postdoc  
UAEU

Ph.D. COS



**Dr. Hamdah Jibar**

Teacher, Emirate Schools  
Establishment

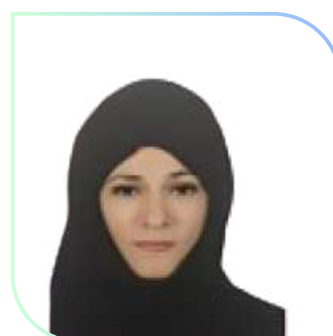
Ph.D. CEDU



**Dr. Abdul Soopy**

Researcher,  
UAEU

Ph.D. COS



**Dr. Ghada Alkilani**

Instructor, Emirate Schools  
Establishment

Ph.D. CEDU



**Dr. Alramzana Navaz**

Post Doc Researcher, Zayed  
University

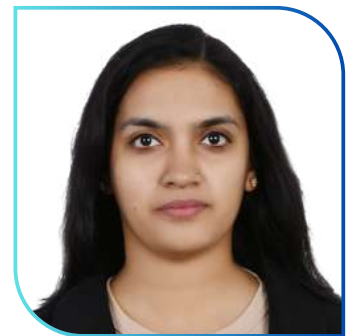
Ph.D. COE



**Dr. Fayas Purayil**

Research Associate, KCGEB  
UAEU

Ph.D. CAVM



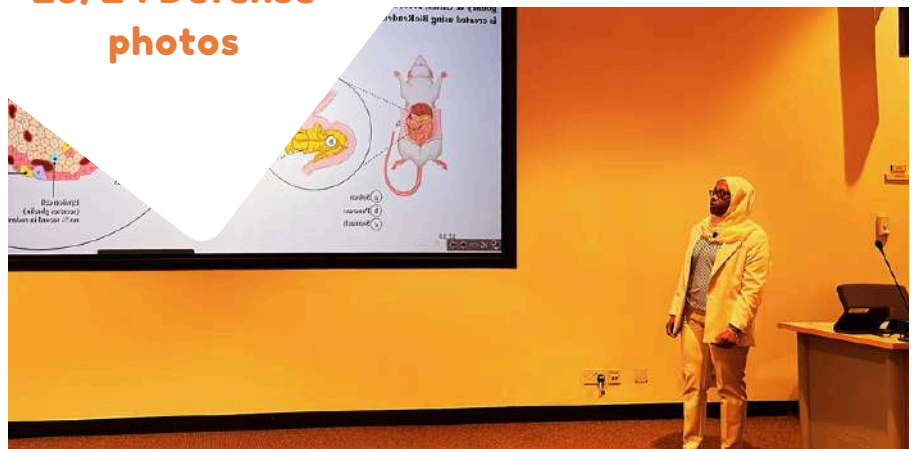
**Dr. Babitha Philip**

Research Associate  
UAEU

Ph.D. COE











## Business and Economics

- ◆ Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- ◆ Master of Professional Accounting (MPA)
- ◆ Master in Business Analytics
- ◆ Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)



## Agriculture & Veterinary Medicine

- ◆ Master of Science in Remote Sensing & Geographic Information System
- ◆ Master of Social Work
- ◆ Master of Governance and Public Policy
- ◆ Master of Arts in Arabic Language Literature
- ◆ Master of Arts in English
- ◆ Master of Arts in Communication
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: Arabic Language
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: Arabic Literature and Criticism
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: English Language
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: English Literature and Criticism
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: Mass Communication
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: Geography and GIS



## Education

- ◆ Master of Education
- ◆ Master of Educational Innovation
- ◆ Ph.D. in Language and Literacy Education
- ◆ Ph.D. in Mathematics Education
- ◆ Ph.D. in Science Education
- ◆ Ph.D. in Leadership and Policy Studies in Education
- ◆ Ph.D. in Special Education



## Engineering

- ◆ Master of Science in Architectural Engineering
- ◆ Master of Science in Civil Engineering
- ◆ Master of Science in Electrical Engineering
- ◆ Master of Engineering Management
- ◆ Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering
- ◆ Master of Science in Chemical Engineering
- ◆ Master of Science in Petroleum Engineering
- ◆ Master of Science in Water Resource
- ◆ Ph.D. in Architectural Engineering
- ◆ Ph.D. in Civil Engineering
- ◆ Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering
- ◆ Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering
- ◆ Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering





## Medical and Health Sciences

- ◆ Master of Medical Sciences
  - Pharmacology and Toxicology
  - Microbiology and Immunology
  - Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- ◆ MSc in Clinical Psychology
- ◆ MSc in Human Nutrition
- ◆ Master of Public Health (MPH)
- ◆ Master of Genetic Counseling
- ◆ Master of Science in Genomic Medicine
- ◆ Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)
- ◆ Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences
- ◆ Ph.D. in Public Health
- ◆ Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences



## Humanities and Social Sciences

- ◆ MSc in Remote Sensing & GIS
- ◆ Master of Social Work
- ◆ Master of Governance and Public Policy
- ◆ Master of Arts in Arabic Language Literature
- ◆ Master of Arts in English
- ◆ Master of Arts in Communication
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: Arabic Language
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: Arabic Literature and Criticism
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: English Language
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: English Literature and Criticism
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: Mass Communication
- ◆ Ph.D. Concentration: Geography and GIS



## Science

- ◆ Master of Science in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
- ◆ MSc in Chemistry
- ◆ MSc in Geosciences
- ◆ MSc in Environmental Sciences
- ◆ MSc in Mathematics
- ◆ MSc in Physics
- ◆ MSc in Space Science
- ◆ Ph.D. in Cellular and Molecular Biology
- ◆ Ph.D. in Ecology and Environmental Science
- ◆ Ph.D. in Chemistry
- ◆ Ph.D. in Geosciences
- ◆ Ph.D. in Mathematics
- ◆ Ph.D. in Physics



## Information Technology

- ◆ MSc in Information Security
- ◆ MSc in Software Engineering
- ◆ MSc in IT Management
- ◆ MSc in Internet of Things
- ◆ Ph.D. in Informatics and Computing



## Law

- ◆ Master of Private Law
- ◆ Master of Public Law
- ◆ Ph.D. in Law



# FINANCIAL SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

Chancellor's Fellowship for Graduate Students at UAEU

Graduate Research Assistantship (All Nationalities)

Graduate Teaching Assistantship (All Nationalities)

Graduate Administrative Assistantship (All Nationalities)

Full-Ride Scholarship from Master to PhD for UAE Nationals (UAEU Alumni only)

PhD Scholarship (All Nationalities)

PhD Fellowship (All Nationalities)

TDRA - The ICT Fund Scholarship Program

The Hamdan bin Rashid Scholarship Program at UAEU (Master of Educational Innovation)

Scholarship for MSc Space Science under the Arab Space Pioneers Program

PhD Studentship at the Department of Chemical & Petroleum Engineering

PhD Studentship at the Department of Biology

PhD Positions in Genetics and Genomics (UAEU Genomics Laboratory)

PhD Studentship by the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology

PhD Studentship at the Department of Architectural Engineering

PhD Studentship by the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

PhD Studentship in Structural Earthquake Engineering

PhD Position in Neuroscience at the College of Medicine and Health Sciences





# Graduate Student Hub



“Come to F3 – Room 112, We provide support and advice to all Graduate Students!”

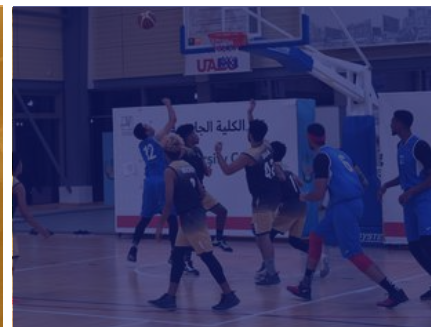
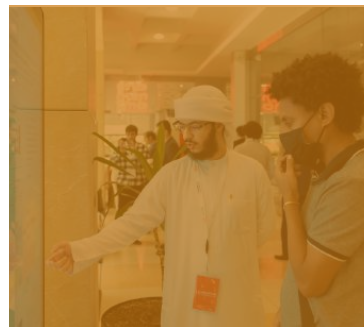
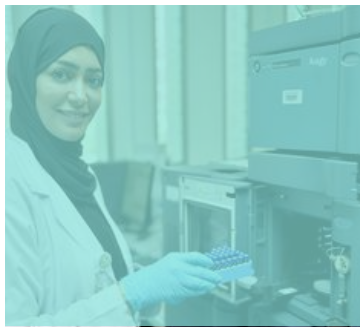
## This space is for Graduate Students:

- A quiet workspace that includes desks with computing facilities for studying.
- A comfortable area to relax between classes or have coffee and chat with friends.
- Printing, scanning, and binding services available.
- Gaming (PlayStation, Board Games & Cards).
- Meeting table to hold meetings.



# 2023/24

## ISSUE 06



We welcome your queries and encourage you to contact us using the information below:

United Arab Emirates University  
College of Graduate Studies  
Building F3, First Floor, Rooms 102 - 106  
Al Ain, UAE  
P.O. Box 15551  
Phone: +971 3713 4048  
WhatsApp: +971 3713 4478  
Email: [cgs@uaeu.ac.ae](mailto:cgs@uaeu.ac.ae)



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