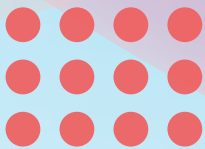


SCILIGHTS

FALL 2023



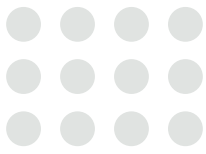
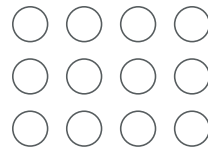


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Editors

Dr. Asma Al-Menhali (Vice Dean, COS)
Dr. Khalid Muhammad (Biology)
Dr. Alejandro Perez Paz (Chemistry)
Prof. Abdulrahman Fowler (Geosciences)
Dr. Humberto Rafeiro (Mathematical Sciences)
Prof. Mofreh Ramadan Zaghloul (Physics)
Mr. Mohamed Shahid (Dean's Office)

Dean's Message

This issue of Scilights brings to light some of our important collective achievements for Fall 2023, by which we made significant progress toward our strategic priorities.

The most remarkable achievement of the College of Science is its scientific research outcomes, where the college has topped in research productivity at the university level, namely, its faculty and students were able to publish in 2023 a total of 637 publications in Scopus journals, with an increase of more than 16% from 2022. Some papers were published in prestigious journals, with 11 papers in the top 1%, 210 papers in the top 10%, and 425 papers in top 25% journals. COS Faculty members have recently been successful in receiving many internal and external research grants totaling to AED 8,490,430. In addition, we signed MOUs with the Technology Innovation Institute – Abu Dhabi, Akita University, Japan, and the Abu Dhabi Police Department in Fall 2023.

Two significant international conferences were held during Fall 2023. The “Seventh International Conference on Engineering Geophysics (ICEG 2023)” was held under the patronage of his highness Sheikh Tahnoun bin Mohammed Al Nahyan, the Ruler’s Representative in Al Ain Region; the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) and Al Ain City Municipality (AAM), in partnership with the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG), co-organized the conference during the period of 16–19 October 2023. The Department of Biology jointly with Khalifa Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (KCGEB) and Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority (ADAFSA) organized an International Conference on Microbiome: Human, Plant and Environmental Health – application and challenges, which was held during November 6–8, 2023, at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre. Furthermore, on November 23–24, 2023, the Department of Mathematical Sciences hosted a two-day Asian Universities Alliance (AUA) academic workshop on Delay Differential Equations and their Applications to Immunology and Infectious Diseases on November 23–24, 2023 on campus.

Furthermore, our students were able to win national and regional awards, such as the 2nd CHEMATHON competitions (organized by King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, SA), COP28 Expo City Innovation competition, among other important student’s achievements.

We had the great opportunity to host the Provost of Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, one of the top universities in the world, for one week and were able to initiate scientific collaboration between the researchers of our two institutions.

Additionally, with the support of the Ministry of Education, five undergraduate students enrolled in its international student exchange program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA in Fall 2023. The College of Science worked hard to attract and retain both undergraduate and graduate students, who currently total to 1904 undergraduate and 216 graduate students. The college also graduated this semester 120 undergraduate and 18 graduate students.

I have always been proud of our students, faculty, and staff for their distinguished achievements; let us all keep working hard, enthusiastically and harmoniously to achieve our ambitious goals.

Prof. Maamar Benkraouda
Dean, College of Science



Faculty Members



The new faculty members joining the College of Science in 2023/2024.

It is our pleasure to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to you as our newest faculty member. We are thrilled to have you join our academic community, and we believe that your expertise and enthusiasm will greatly contribute to the success and growth of our institution!



Houssam Abdul Rahman
Assistant Professor

Department of Mathematical Sciences
(Joined in Fall 2023)
PhD: University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA



Ayham Zaitouny
Assistant Professor

Department of Mathematical Sciences
(Joined in Fall 2023)
PhD: The University of Western Australia



Yasir Raouf
Assistant Professor

Department of Chemistry
(Joined in Fall 2023)
PhD: University of Toronto, Canada



Mabrouk Hassan
Assistant Professor

Department of Geosciences
(Joined in Fall 2023)
PhD: University of Vienna, Austria



Mohamed Belfkir
Assistant Professor

Department of Physics
(Joined in Fall 2023)
PhD: Savoie Mont Blanc University, France



Fatima Labeed
Associate Professor

Department of Biology
(Joined in Fall 2023)
PhD: University of Surrey, England



Adnan Younis
Associate Professor

Department of Physics
(Joined in Spring 2024)
PhD: University of New South Wales, Australia



Edvin Idrisov
Assistant Professor

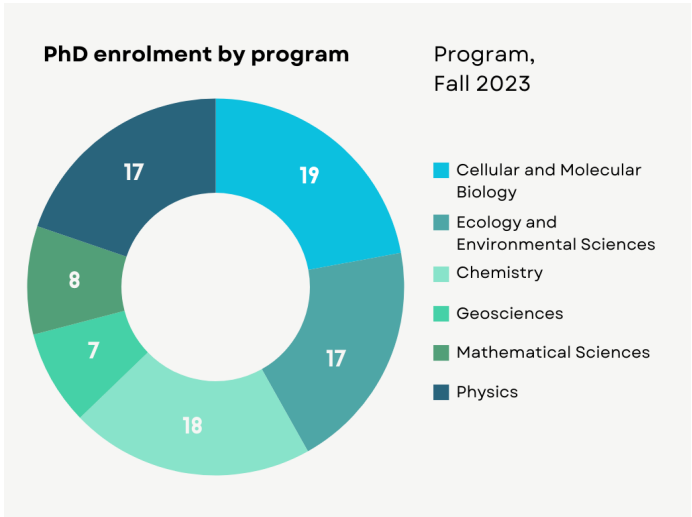
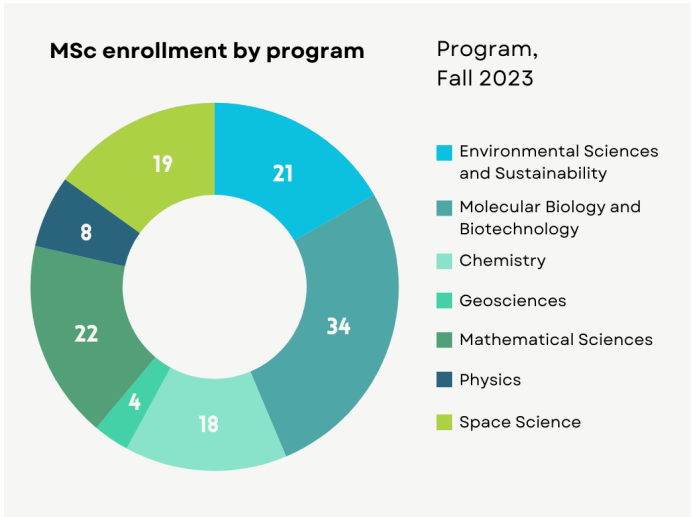
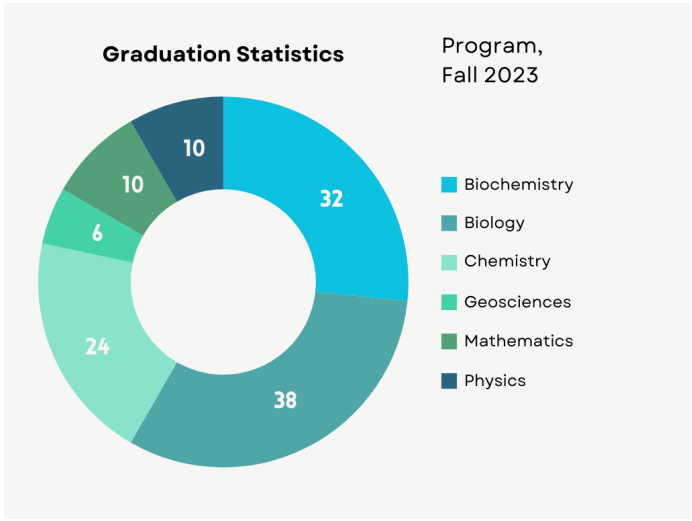
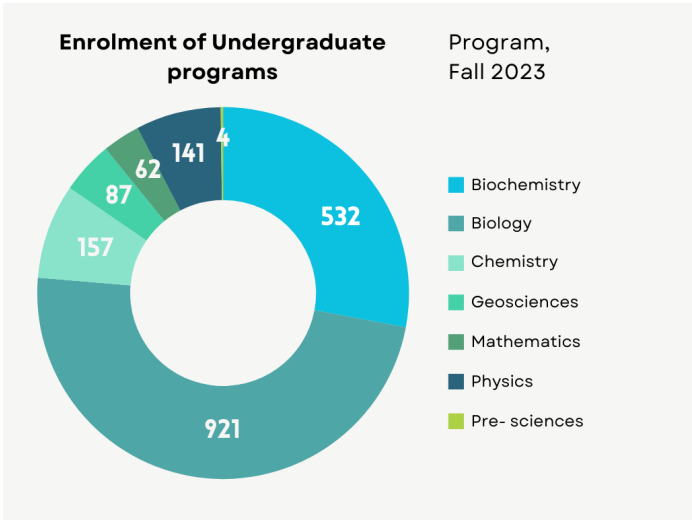
Department of Physics
(Joined in Spring 2024)
PhD: University of Geneva, Switzerland



Basem Elsafty
Associate Professor

Department of Geosciences
(Joined in Spring 2024)
PhD: University of Munich, Germany

Student Enrollment



Programs in Progress

- BSc in Mathematics of Data Science
- MSc in Forensic Science
- Concentration in Materials Science

International Students' Experience

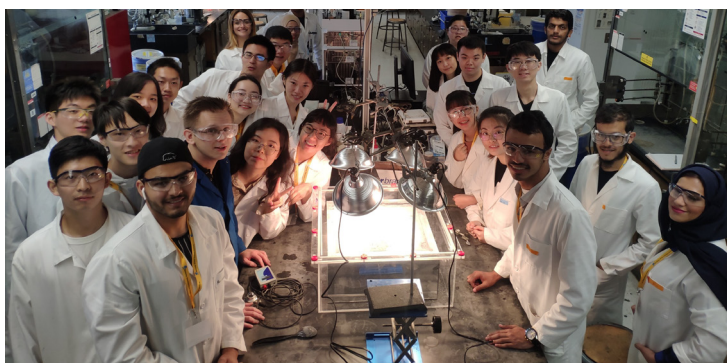


The College of Science (COS) strongly believes in the importance of preparing our students for the future during their learning journey in the university. The college has done different practical and realistic activities to achieve this; however, here, we will highlight the great efforts put into exposing our students to an international experience during their studies at COS. These opportunities include, but are not limited to, international meetings, competitions, internships, and studying abroad in exchange programs. With the help of many encouraging faculty members and a supportive college, the announcement of such activities usually circulated among students via different platforms (emails, talks, and college media channels). Such international experiences significantly impact the development of strong scientists and graduates. For example, for the first time, 10 students had the chance to do their internship last summer at the University of Oxford. Dr. Iltaf Shah, a Student International Experience and Exchange Committee member who supervised these students, said that this international activity allowed our students to access one of the world's most prestigious universities, which offers cutting-edge programs, renowned faculty, and state-of-the-art facilities. Moreover, this experience enhanced the students' confidence and language proficiency, especially when students presented their work in front of other international students and Oxford professors organizing the program.

On the other hand, Dr. Fathy and Dr. Mahboub and their students who won the University Innovation Competition at COP28 wholeheartedly agree that student involvement in the competition facilitated their personal growth. Being pushed out of their comfort zones and embracing the unknown nurtured resilience, adaptability, self-reliance, and innovation.

The college supported many international activities during the academic year around the world, including Switzerland, UK, Oman, Qatar, KSA, and Hong Kong. In addition, the college encouraged students to experience extended stays and to study abroad through the exchange program. Ms. Rana Al Ketheeri, the Unit Head and Exchange Program Coordinator at UAEU Admission Section, explained the role of her office in supporting UAEU students to explore this journey. The university usually supports students going into an exchange program in universities with which they have a memorandum of understanding with our university. The other excellent chance is to take advantage of the exchange program fully covered by the Ministry of Education. So far, the College of Science has 5 national students studying at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA, and has started building the bridge to send more students to other prestigious institutions such as the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Without a doubt, the student's international experience initiative is more than discussing science and learning about the culture and heritage of host countries. It certainly impacts students' personal growth, academic excellence, and professional development and prepares them to access the global job market; therefore, the college gave it special attention.





Meeting with New Faculty Members

The new faculty members who joined the College of Science family in the Fall of 2023 were welcomed on September 8th, 2023, by the Dean's office of the College of Science. The meeting was presided over by the Dean of the College, who provided an overview of the College to the newcomers. The presence of the Vice Dean, the Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, the Assistant Dean for Students Affairs, and the Department Chairs enriched the discussion on the orientation of the new faculty. We extend our best wishes for a smooth transition to UAEU and wish them all the success in their career. New faculty members include Dr. Houssam Abdul Rahman and Dr. Ayham Zaitouny (Department of Mathematical Sciences), Dr. Mohamed Belfkir (Department of Physics), Dr. Fatima Labeed (Department of Biology), Dr. Yasir Raouf (Department of Chemistry), and Dr. Mabrouk Hassan (Department of Geosciences).



College Advisory Board Meeting

First Advisory Board meeting for 2023–2024 was held by the College of Science on November 16th, 2023, at Mohammed bin Zayed University for Artificial Intelligence, Masdar City, Abu Dhabi. The Advisory Board Chair, Mr. Sultan Hajji, presided over the meeting, which covered a range of subjects pertaining to the College's strategy and collaborations with other organizations.



Congratulations to Dr. Abdullah Al Mandous (Member of the College of Science Advisory Board)

Dr. Abdullah Al-Mandous, President of the World Meteorological Organization and Director General of the National Center of Meteorology, was named one of the 30 most influential persons in climate change by Business Insider magazine.





Collaboration Meeting with ADNOC Higher Management

On Tuesday, October 31st, 2023, a collaboration meeting between ADNOC and the Department of Geosciences at UAEU was convened in ADNOC to discuss the cooperation agreement between ADNOC and the UAE University in the field of mineral exploration and mining.

Collaboration Meeting with Abu Dhabi Judicial Department

The College of Science met with a delegation from the Abu Dhabi Judicial Department on November 15th, 2023, to discuss future research partnership. Both sides decided to sign an MOU as a steppingstone to initiate this collaboration.



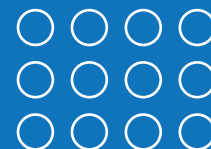
Collaboration Meeting with Saif Bin Zayed Academy

A meeting was held on September 20th, 2023 between College of Science and Shaikh Saif Bin Zayed (SBZ) Academy with the purpose of exploring support and collaboration in several key areas, including training, internships, research, facility access, curriculum feedback, financial assistance, and community engagement. This collaborative effort sought to enhance the overall quality, practical exposure, and research capabilities by capitalizing the expertise and resources of the Abu Dhabi Police and SBZ Academy, ultimately contributing to the advancement of forensic science and security in the UAE.

Collaboration Meeting with Net Zero Technologies

Prof. Maamar Benkraouda (Dean of the College of Science) and Dr. Ruwaya Alkendi (Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies) met with Sheikh Dr. Muhammad bin Muslim Al Ameri (Chairman of Net Zero Technologies) and his team on November 1st, 2023, to discuss ways of collaboration between the two parties.





Seventh International Conference on Engineering Geophysics (ICEG 2023)

Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Tahnoun bin Mohammed Al Nahyan, the Ruler's Representative in Al Ain Region; the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) and Al Ain City Municipality (AAM), in partnership with the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG), organized the seventh edition of the International Conference on Engineering Geophysics (ICEG) during the period of October 16-19, 2023. The conference was

opened by H.E. Zaki Anwar Nusseibeh, Cultural Advisor to the UAE President and Chancellor of the UAEU in the presence of dignitaries from the UAEU, Al-Ain City Municipality, ADNOC, SEG and other government agencies and industries. The ICEG 2023 was a success, with 113 abstracts, 62 invited speakers, 326 participants, 123 student participants, 75 different nations represented, and 25 industrial and educational exhibitors.

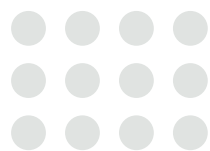


International Conference on Microbiome: Human, Plant and Environmental Health - Application and Challenges



The International Conference on "MICROBIOME: HUMAN, PLANT AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH - applications and challenges", unfolded on November 21-22, 2023 at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC), attracted a diverse gathering of over 560 attendees, representing a broad spectrum of interests and expertise. Notably, 74% of participants originated from the UAE, while the remaining 26% hailed from more than 28 other countries, including India, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Pakistan, Egypt, Italy, USA, Germany, UK, Lebanon, and beyond. This international participation underscored the paramount importance of microbiome science in planetary health, with a clear emphasis on its potential to address food security and contribute significantly to sustainability. Within the participant demographic, 30% were mainly Emirati undergraduate students, reflecting a keen interest in microbiome research among the younger generation. The remainder of the attendees comprised graduate students, researchers, scientists, healthcare professionals, environmentalists, policymakers, and industry leaders, all united in their curiosity about the recent advances in global microbiome research.

Jointly organized by the Khalifa Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (KGCEB), Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority (ADAFSA), and the Department of Biology at the United Arab Emirates University, the conference served as a pivotal platform for exploring and discussing the intricacies of the microbiome within the framework of global one-health. This collaborative effort symbolized the convergence of minds from various sectors - scientists, healthcare professionals, policymakers, and industry leaders - all eager to delve into the most recent and groundbreaking developments in microbiome research with a global and inclusive perspective. The event fostered interdisciplinary exchanges of ideas and insights, nurturing collaboration and raising awareness in the field.



2023 AUA Academic Workshop on “Delay Differential Equations and Applications to Immunology and Infectious Diseases (DDEs-AIIDs)”

On November 23–24, 2023, the Department of Mathematical Sciences hosted a two-day workshop on Delay Differential Equations and their Applications to Immunology and Infectious Diseases. This focused workshop brought together mathematicians and life science scholars from both inside and outside the Asian Universities Alliance (AUA) to meet, discuss, and exchange research on mathematical modeling with delay differential equations and their application to infectious diseases. Multidisciplinary research on infectious diseases, chronic illnesses, and cancer were discussed in this session, along with possible directions for future investigation.



Participation In Scientific & Educational Exhibitions



ADIPEC 2023

Under the guidance of the Department of Geosciences, 15 female and 5 male students took part in ADIPEC 2023 activities in Abu Dhabi from October 2–5, 2023. The students gave one oral presentation, and Geoscience Club students displayed their rock and mineral collection at the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure booth.



Second Annual GCC Exhibition for Education and Training

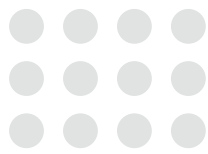
During the 2nd Annual GCC Exhibition for Education and Training, which took place at the Earth Hotel in Abu Dhabi on October 24–25, 2023, the College of Science was recognized for its exceptional participation. Our work evidenced quality inventiveness and demonstrated our dedication to knowledge advancement.



Najah Education & Training 2023

Najah Education and Training is a successful platform for higher education student recruiting in the UAE. The 17th edition of this event was held at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC) from October 29th to October 31st, 2023. Prof. Salem Ben Said and Mr. Osama Almkubel (student) represented the College of Science in Najah 2023.





College of Science Participation in COP28

In line with the goals and objectives of COP28, the Expo City Dubai organized the "Expo Live - University Innovation Program (UIP)", which offered students of UAE-based Universities an opportunity to design and present creative projects aiming at developing solutions for problems related to Climate Change. Under the patronage of the Dean College of Science (COS), 22 student COS teams submitted their projects to participate in this initiative. Each team was supervised by a COS faculty member.

Competing with over 300 teams from across the UAE, 3 of the UAEU College of Science qualified for the semi-final round which involved presenting their ideas at the Expo City in front of experts. 2 out of 3 UAEU College of Science teams qualified for the final round and were invited to pitch their projects at the COP28 event.

The College of Science was very glad to announce that both finalist teams turned out to be winners at COP28 and were awarded a grant of AED 25,000 each to develop their projects.

The UAEU COS activities related to the Expo UIP Initiative were coordinated by Dr. Aquib Moin and Dr. Abdelouahid Samadi and supported by the COS Dean, Prof. Maamar Benkraouda.



Sports & Other Activities



College of Science Sports Day

On October 24-25, 2023, the College's Social Activities Committee hosted an open sports day for students, faculty, and staff.

College of Science Culture & Entertainment Day

College of Science Culture and Entertainment Day (November 9th, 2023) was an unforgettable evening that included sporting events and cross-cultural interactions with the COS family. The event was led by Prof. Muhammad Syam, the coordinator of the social activities committee. A cultural dinner was organized in conjunction with the programs.



Honoring University College Trophy Winners

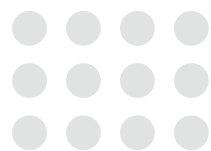
On September 21st, 2023, the Dean's Office of the College of Science recognized the students and staff who won the College Trophy competitions in 2023. Our sports teams competed well in the College Trophy contests, winning various prizes in both male and female categories, particularly in Beach Volleyball, Chess, Table Tennis, and Volleyball. The honoring event was also attended by the Dean, Vice Dean, and members of the social activities committee.



Astronomy Night Observation

On November 15th, 2023, the Department of Physics' Space Science Group hosted an unforgettable Astronomy Night Observation event at the UAE University Research Farm in Al-Foah. Aspiring astronomers were treated to a celestial spectacle as they peered through telescopes and cameras to observe the mesmerizing beauty of Saturn, Jupiter, and its moons. The Astronomy Night Observation event was a resounding success, igniting passion and curiosity for astronomy among the participating students.





Sunspot Observation: A Captivating Astronomical Event at UAE University

Sunspots, like dark markings on the Sun's face, are caused by powerful magnetic fields. These temporary spots come and go, creating unique patterns on the Sun's surface. On November 21st, 2023, students at UAE University embarked on an exciting celestial adventure, observing sunspots through telescopes and cameras. Organized by the Department of Physics' Space Science Group, this event kindled a passion for astronomy among the students, fueling their curiosity about the cosmos and inspiring them to unravel the universe's mysteries. The sunspot photographs were captured by Dr. Sreejith Karthikeyan.

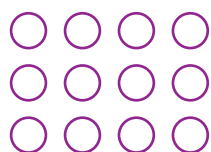


Internship Poster Exhibition

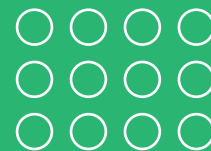
A poster exhibition day was held on December 5th, 2023, by the College of Science's Internship Unit. Students from all departments presented and exchanged their experiences with internship training programs from different institutions during Fall 2023 semester.

2-Day Training Camp for UAE National Junior Olympiad Team

The Department of Biology at College of Science successfully held a two-day training camp (10–11 Nov. 2023) for the UAE national team, which will be competing in the International Junior Science Olympiad (IJSO) in Thailand next month, in accordance with the directives of Masterminds, Ministry of Education (MoE). During the program, students had practical experience in various molecular and biochemical techniques, which helped them prepare for the IJSO practical exams.



Prominent Scientific Visits



Visit of Mr. Alessandro Cremonesi, ST Microelectronics

Mr. Alessandro Cremonesi, Executive Vice President, Chief Innovation Officer, and General Manager of System Research and Applications, ST Microelectronics, visited UAEU as a keynote speaker at the 15th International Conference on Innovations in Information Technology (IIT'23) on November 13-15, 2023. He visited the College of Science (Physics and Chemistry Labs), as well as the Labs of the College of IT. He also discussed the details of a MoU between UAEU and ST Microelectronics.



Visit of Prof. Olivier Sparagano, Dean of Royal Agriculture University, United Kingdom

Prof. Olivier Sparagano, Dean, Royal Agriculture University, United Kingdom, and Prof. Mohamed Gharbi, Ecole Nationale de Médecine Vétérinaire de Sidi Thabet, Tunisia, visited UAEU on December 5th, 2023 as keynote speakers at the symposium on "Climate Change, Ticks, and Tick-borne Diseases: A One Health Approach", jointly organized by the Department of Veterinary Medicine (CAVM) and Department of Biology (COS). The delegations paid visits to the College of Science as well as the College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine. During their visit, they discussed future potential collaborations, fostering partnerships between different departments or institutions, potentially leading to joint research projects, shared resources, or knowledge exchange in the field of tick research and related areas.



Visit of Professor Andrew Hursthous from the Environmental Chemistry at the University of West Scotland

On September 12, 2023, Professor Andrew Hursthous makes a visit to the Geosciences Department, Museum, and Labs. Prof. Andrew was invited to the Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Forum on Accelerating Action on SDG 6 (Sustainable Development Goal), hosted by the UAE University. He presented "Aiding and Addressing: How Can Universities Promote Best Practice for Clean Water and Sanitation?" Professor Andrew Hursthous emphasized that universities should not only foster meaningful discussions and establish frameworks around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), but also allocate resources to implement sustainability initiatives.

Visit of Professor Zhang Chuanjie of Tsinghua Shenzhen University, General Secretary of the Asian Universities Alliance (AUA)

Professor Maamar Benkraouda, Dean of the College of Science and Dr. Adama Diene, Head of the Department of Mathematical Sciences, both offered an honor to Professor Zhang Chuanjie of Tsinghua Shenzhen University. Professor Zhang led a delegation, as the General Secretary of the Asian Universities Alliance (AUA), that visited the college during the week of October 23rd, 2023. The meeting agenda included various initiatives, involving faculty collaboration, student activities and mobility, research funding, and more. Notably, the college has already positively contributed to some of these initiatives.



Delegation from King Saud University, KSA

The visitors from King Saud University (KSU), Prof. Ali Aldalbahy, Dean of Student Affairs and Prof. Mohamed Elnewehy, Professor of Chemistry, were both honored by Dr. Asma Al Menhali, Vice Dean of the College of Science, and Prof. Yaser Greish, Department of Chemistry on October 26th, 2023. This visit was the result of a research collaboration between UAEU and KSU funded by an AUA grant supervised by Prof. Yaser Greish from the Department of Chemistry.

Delegation from the Hunan Province Key Laboratory of China

On December 6th, 2023, a delegation from the Hunan Province Key Laboratory of China, represented by directors of the 15 Institutions supporting the laboratory, paid a visit to the United Arab Emirates University Geosciences Department and College of Science to explore international Geoscience collaboration in geochemical research in the United Arab Emirates. Topics of research interest emphasized by the delegation were applied geochemical programs addressing mineral and groundwater resource modeling; energy and fuel exploration; and environmental and climate modeling. Attendees discussed possibilities for future cooperation in these areas of research. Following the meeting, the visiting delegates were invited to view the Geoscience Museum and Geoscience Laboratories.



Visit of Professor Ling San, Deputy President and Provost, President's Chair in Mathematical Sciences at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

Professor Ling San, Deputy President and Provost, President's Chair in Mathematical Sciences at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, visited the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the College of Science from December 9th to 15th, 2023, for research collaboration with Professor Kanat Abdukhalikov. During his visit, he engaged with numerous colleagues from the department, met with the Dean of the College of Science, Professor Maamar Benkraouda, the Associate Provost for Research, Professor Ahmed Murad, and the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs & Provost, Professor Ghaleb Ali Alhadrami Albreiki. The United Arab Emirates University and Nanyang Technological University expressed their commitment to strengthening ties through student exchange, research collaboration, PhD co-supervision, and other initiatives discussed during his visit to UAEU.



Visit of Professor Jose Luis Marco-Contelles from the Institute of General Organic Chemistry (IQOG, CSIC), Spain.

Prof. Maamar Benkaouda, Dean of the College of Science, and Dr. Abdelouahid Samadi, Department of Chemistry, honored Professor Jose Luis Marco-Contelles, Professor of Chemistry from the Institute of General Organic Chemistry (IQOG, CSIC), Spain. This visit was the outcome of a scientific cooperation between UAEU and the CSIC in Madrid, Spain, which was directed by Dr. Abdelouahid Samadi of the Department of Chemistry. The College of Science (COS) has invited Prof. José Luis Marco Contelles to be a Guest Speaker for the COS Colloquium Series in the Fall of 2023. The talk title was "Contilisant, a small molecule for Alzheimer's Disease Therapy".



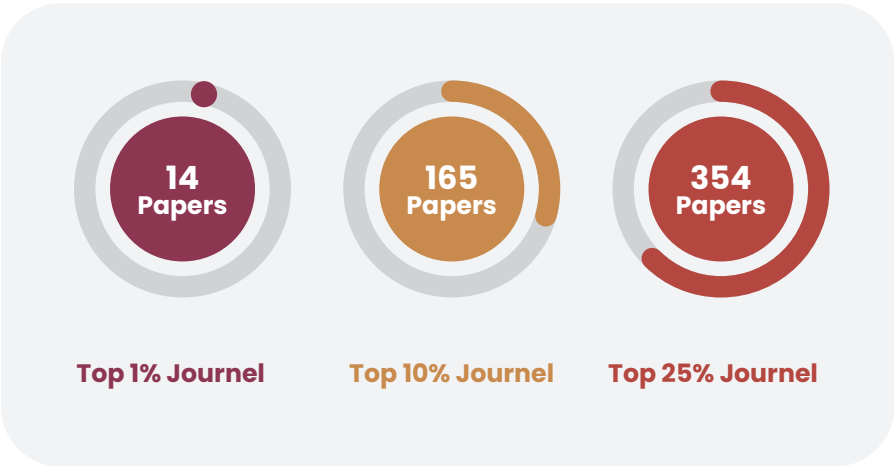
Awarded Research Grants in 2024



Awards for Publications in Top Journals (2022)



Total Publications
in 2023





Departmental Seminars (Fall 2023)

The various College of Science departments organized several scientific seminars featuring both internal and external speakers from international institutions. The number of seminars organized are as follows:

No: of Seminars	Department
4	Department of Biology
6	Department of Chemistry
1	Department of Geosciences
7	Department of Mathematical Sciences
7	Department of Physics

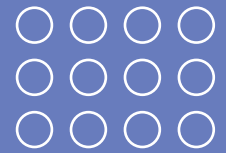


Signed MoUs

During the Fall of 2023, the College of Science was able to establish Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with:

1	The Technology Innovation Institute – TII (Abu Dhabi)
2	Akita University (Japan)
3	Dubai Police Department
4	Abu Dhabi Police Department

Faculty & Student Achievements



Future Leader Program

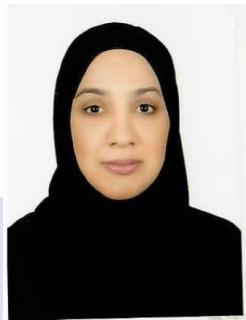
Dr. Asma AL Menhali and Dr. Adama Diene, acting as representatives of the College of Science, were active participants in the "Future Leader Program." Their dedication and contributions were acknowledged during the program's closing event.



Recent Administrative Appointments



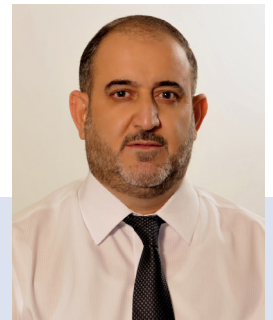
Prof. Sayed Marzouk
(Department of Chemistry)
has been appointed Director
of the Institutional
Effectiveness Office at UAE



Dr. Yusra Al Dhaheer
(Department of Biology)
was appointed as Assistant
Dean for Student Affairs



Dr. Khalid Muhammad
(Department of Biology) was
appointed to the College
Council as a representative
of Associate Professors



Prof. Saleh Thaker Mahmoud
appointed Chair of the
Department of Physics

Dean's List and Honor Students for Fall 2023

The Dean's List for Fall 2023 features the top 15 male and female students. 189 honor students maintained their Dean's List rankings by their excellent performance. The College would like to congratulate them for their academic achievement and encourages everyone to strive for excellence in academic performance.





Dean's List- Fall 2023

Male Students

- 01 Hamad Khalifa Mukhtar Ahmed Albloosh
(Chemistry)
- 02 Muneb Redwan Mukhta
(Chemistry)
- 03 Jassim Ibrahim Rashid Alqadeeb Alzaabi
(Physics)
- 04 Abdallah Rashid Mohamed Masoud Alnaamani
(Physics)
- 05 Abdallah Humaid Mohammed Al Jabri
(Physics)
- 06 Yousef Mohammad Yousef Salah
(Mathematics)
- 07 Mohammed Abdulla Saeed Obaid Aldaheri
(Mathematics)
- 08 Abdulla Mohamed Hassan Albasri Almesmari
(Biology)
- 09 Mohammad Khalid Abdulrahman Alqasemi
(Biology)
- 10 Saed Ahmed Salem Saif Alsaeedi
(Biology)
- 11 Sultan Khalfan Ali Khalifa Alqubaisi
(Biology)
- 12 Omar Samir Al Awa
(Biology)
- 13 Mohamad Zaid Bin Mohd Tarid
(Geoscience)
- 14 Ahmed Yousef Qayed Mosaad Alharb
(Geoscience)

Female Students

- 01 Sana Abdallah Salim
(Chemistry)
- 02 Leen El Srouji
(Chemistry)
- 03 Haneen A. A Abufarajallah
(Biochemistry)
- 04 Ahlam Barhumi
(Biochemistry)
- 05 Sahar Farid Allaban
(Biochemistry)
- 06 Mariam Rami Nedat Hamdan
(Biochemistry)
- 07 Dara Mohammed Ashour
(Biochemistry)
- 08 Maitha Mohamed Mohsen Mesri Alhameli
(Biochemistry)
- 09 Sara Yousef Hasan Ibrahim Alhammadi
(Biochemistry)
- 10 Shahad Khalifa Sultan Affaz Alkaabi
(Biochemistry)
- 11 Sara Esmaeel Ahmed Buqefel Alyassi
(Physics)
- 12 Alaa Mohamed Abdullah Elameen
(Biology)
- 13 Maram Sami Suliman Elemam
(Biology)
- 14 Fatima El Yadali
(Biology)
- 15 Bayan Osama Hakim
(Biology)



Chemathon 2023

The Chemistry Department of the Science College at UAE University proudly presented two teams at the 2nd CHEMATHON competition on October 5th, 2023, at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals (KFUPM). The first team, which comprised Hamad Alblooshi and Muneb Mukhtar secured the first-place position, showcasing their remarkable skills and knowledge.



Moreover, UAEU proudly announces the remarkable achievement of second team, including Ali Saif Aleissae, Mohammed Alhassani, Abdulrahman Al Teneiji, Abdullah Khalaf, and Sultan Jama, who were honored as the Best Poster Winners. Their exceptional creativity and unwavering dedication in advancing the field of chemistry were recognized, marking a testament to their excellence. This achievement highlights UAEU's commitment to nurturing talent and excellence in the realm of chemistry, cementing its position as a leader in the academic community.

H.E. Zaki Anwar Nusseibeh, the Chancellor of the UAEU honors the College of Science students who won in the second edition of the 'Chemathon' competition, organized by King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



Winners of COP28 Competitions – Expo Live University Innovation



The College of Science extends its heartiest congratulations to the winning teams as well as appreciates the efforts put in by all the teams that participated. This indeed is a moment of pride for the College. The award is in the form of a competition between all universities in UAE. Almost 360 teams participated to develop an eye-catching idea that can make a difference to UAE economy and environment.



Team 1

The "Waste to Energy" team suggests transforming the waste from approximately 40 million palm trees across the UAE into activated carbon and carbon black. These materials can be utilized in various sectors such as battery manufacturing, wastewater treatment, the rubber industry, and even in constructing supercapacitors for high-power energy storage. This innovative approach is projected to generate annual revenues exceeding 1 billion USD for the UAE. The team is comprised of Dr. Fathy Hassan (supervisor) and the students from the Department of Chemistry, Maryam Abbas Ali Altahri, Amna Mohammed Rashed Alkaabi, and Mariam Alsaadi.

Team 2

The team presented in two separate rounds their project called "Windows into the Future" to utilize food waste from crustaceans for the manufacturing of dehumidifying gels that also act as support for hydroponics on windows of residential and commercial establishments.

Team members: Dr. Abdulla Mahboob (supervisor), Aysha Al Balooshi (Space Science), Mansoor Al Nasi (Biology), Sara Al Muhairi (Physics).

Innovation in Sustainability Awareness Campaign for Health, Safety, and Environment Week



Raghad Anas Al-Tahhan



Aya Azmi Abdullah

Raghad Anas Al-Tahhan and Aya Azmi Abdullah from the Department of Chemistry won first place in the Abu Dhabi Ports' "Innovation in Sustainability" awareness campaign for Health, Safety, and Environment Week. The project title is "AI-guided development of a novel and genetically engineered strain of cyanobacteria to convert sour crude oil to high-value nanomaterials".



15th International Conference on Innovations in Information Technology (IIT'23)

This conference focused on the latest advances in Information Technology related to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and took place at UAEU on November 14-15 of 2023. A team of 3 undergraduate students (Ms. Mouna Youssef, Shouq Aljaeedi and Aamna Alshehhi) from the UAEU Chemistry Department won the first place in the poster competition with the work "Protein Hm-FTF Computational Structure Prediction, Ligand Docking & Analysis using AI-based systems" supervised by Drs. Nayla Munawar and Alejandro Perez Paz from the same Department.

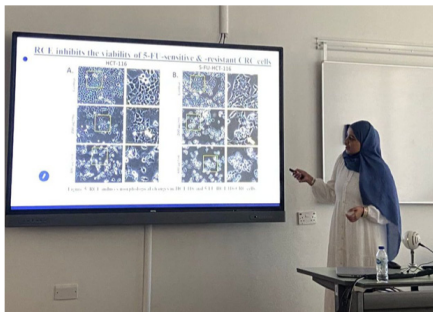
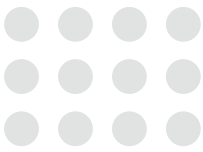
Student Exchange Program

In Fall 2023, five students from the Department of Biology participated in a Student Exchange Program with the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA (top 100 world-wide). This exchange program is funded by the Ministry of Education. The participating students are Fatima Juma Yousef Mubarak Aljneibi, Hend Rasheed Ibrahim Ali, Hajar Hamdan Mohammed Alhebsi, Bian Nasser Mohammed Al Arashi, and Shamsa Eissa Husain Ahmed Alhammadi.

International Junior Science Olympiad (2023)

Through "Masterminds," a Ministry of Education initiative promoting Olympiad participation, the Biology Department organized two training camps for the national team. In November 2023, Dr. Mayank Gururani and his team conducted training camps for the UAE national team and prepared them for the IJSO 2023 Biology experimental exams. Six bright young minds from various schools in the UAE were selected after rigorous national qualifying rounds to represent the UAE at IJSO 2023. This event was a great success for the students as they won two bronze medals for the nation.





Master and PhD Thesis Defenses

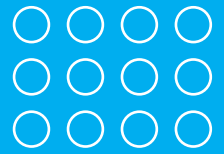
In Fall 2023, a total of four PhD dissertations & fourteen MSc thesis were successfully defended.



College of Science News Team

The College of Science News Team has achieved notable success by thoroughly documenting over 20 significant events during the fall of 2023. Their coverage spanned a variety of subjects, including college activities, conferences, official visits, and external school events. The proficient team delivered succinct and compelling reports, solidifying the College of Science's esteemed presence in the media landscape.

Coming Events



UAE-Italy Bilateral Conference-2024: Advanced Materials for the 21st Century

October 28, 2024

AUA Academic Conference on Graph Theory, Combinatorics and Applications (GTCA 2024)

November 18-20, 2024

International Conference GULF4

Sustainable Management of the Arabian Gulf Ecosystem Health Under
Climate Change: Regional Experiences and Global Practices

November 26-28, 2024

Contact Information

Thank you for reading the College of Science's newsletter (Scilights).
If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact
cos.office@uaeu.ac.ae

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