

# UAEU Annual Report 2023-2024



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United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) - the first and foremost comprehensive national university in the United Arab Emirates. Founded in 1976 by the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, UAEU aspires to become a comprehensive, research-intensive university and currently enrolls approximately 17,500+ Emirati and international students.



The university's mission includes preparing graduates for future leadership roles. We aim to produce graduates who will be leaders and pioneers in their respective fields.

# Welcome from the Chancellor

UAEU is the oldest and most fully comprehensive university in the UAE. It is the nation's flagship institution of higher education and serves as the 'University of the Future'. It is an agile and adaptable institution, which lends it the capacity to respond to national needs in the context of an ever-changing and often challenging world.



**H.E. ZAKI ANWAR NUSSEIBEH**  
CHANCELLOR,  
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES UNIVERSITY



**UAEU provides educational opportunities of the highest standard to students who come from the UAE and across the world. We play a leading role in advancing scientific knowledge, developing applied advanced technology, and building the UAE's creative, innovative, and sustainable society and economy. Our vision is to become part of the world's family of research-intensive universities, universities whose research has a productive impact on global well-being and infuses the student curriculum and campus experience.**

UAEU has a growing international reputation. This attracts faculty from across the world who form a vibrant and diverse community that celebrates and benefits from the virtues of mutual coexistence. Our scholars serve the UAE's national vision and priorities, aligning their work with the Principles of the Next Fifty, the UAEU Centennial Plan 2071, the UAE Strategy for Advanced Innovation, and Abu Dhabi's Future Research and Development Priorities. Our partnerships with significant national institutions and businesses, with renowned international universities and research institutes, and our links to important global organizations ensure that the impact of our work helps achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

This year marked the implementation of UAEU's 2023-2026 strategic plan. This plan will invigorate students' educational and campus experiences and

improve their employability upon graduation. In the next five years, UAEU will invest in its research facilities to foster scholarly innovation.

This year's Annual Report provides a focused insight into our work. It gives examples of our student's achievements and our continuous efforts to improve the standard and currency of our educational programs. It presents notable research outcomes, and how these are supported by our campus and administrative infrastructure.

I extend my gratitude to the entire UAEU community for their dedication, hard work, and success.

# Welcome from the Vice Chancellor

The United Arab Emirates University strives to provide the best distinguished educational environment in accordance with global standards and to offer accredited academic programs in all undergraduate and postgraduate courses. This is in line with the rapid changes in society and the labor market's need for national cadres capable of bearing responsibility and supporting national initiatives. In light of these requirements, the university continues to develop its scientific and research outputs by making the necessary changes to meet global excellence standards and best scientific and research practices.

Over the years, the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) has consistently delivered on its mission to produce highly skilled graduates who play pivotal roles in government and emerging industries. Guided by the UAE Government's strategic vision, UAEU continually evaluates and refines its goals and initiatives to ensure alignment with national priorities. The achievements outlined in this report highlight our unwavering commitment to these objectives.

The academic year 2023-2024 was a milestone for UAEU, marked by resilience, innovation, and excellence in the face of global challenges. Together, we developed cutting-edge technologies, reimagined teaching and learning, and pioneered new research avenues, solidifying our position as a leader in higher education. This progress would not have been possible without the dedication of our faculty, staff, students, and partners. Their collective efforts have propelled UAEU to new heights, enhancing its reputation

both nationally and internationally. The UAEU's transformation into a research-intensive institution remains a cornerstone of our strategy. We are investing heavily in research infrastructure, increasing funding for groundbreaking projects, and attracting top-tier faculty and graduate students, particularly PhD candidates. By fostering innovation and refining research policies, UAEU is paving the way for impactful discoveries that will benefit both the university and the nation.

As we celebrate these achievements, we remain steadfast in our commitment to shaping the future of education. With an eye toward the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, we are poised to make a lasting impact on the lives we serve. UAEU is more than a university; it is a beacon of progress, innovation, and excellence. Together, we will continue to inspire change and drive meaningful contributions to the UAE and the world.



**"Shaping the Future:  
UAEU's Journey  
of Excellence and  
Innovation"**

**PROF. AHMED ALRAEESI**  
Acting Vice Chancellor,  
United Arab Emirates University

# The University at a Glance



## Institutional Purpose

The United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) was founded in 1976 by the UAE's founding father, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. As a federally funded public institution, UAEU graduated its first cohort of students in 1981 and now proudly boasts 79,372 alumni. These graduates hold influential roles across industries, commerce, and government, both within the UAE and internationally.

Over the years, UAEU has developed into a comprehensive university, excelling in both teaching and research. Operating in a dynamic and highly competitive higher education sector, UAEU stands out as the nation's flagship institution, despite being one among more than 100 universities in the UAE. Its mission is to deliver a world-class education that equips graduates to contribute meaningfully to the UAE's global ambitions.

Aligned with the UAE Centennial 2071 plan and national objectives, UAEU integrates its research efforts with the nation's development goals. The university's educational and research programs aim to drive transformative outcomes while staying rooted in the UAE's cultural values and heritage. In collaboration with industry partners, UAEU addresses emerging challenges through innovative solutions. Industry leaders contribute to curriculum development, and students gain practical experience through internships, ensuring they graduate with skills that align with market demands.

UAEU's nine research centers focus on areas critical to the UAE and the region, including space science, health, water, environmental sustainability, biotechnology, traffic safety, public

policy, happiness, and energy. Additionally, the university's Science and Innovation Park serves as a hub for entrepreneurship and leadership, fostering the UAE's transition to a knowledge-driven economy.

According to QS university rankings, UAEU ranks first globally for the international diversity of its faculty and continues to attract an increasing number of international students. This multicultural environment enriches the campus experience for all. Emirati citizens, children of Emirati mothers, and children of university employees attend UAEU tuition-free. Students from all seven Emirates benefit from a vibrant campus life, which offers a wide range of academic, athletic, residential, and extracurricular opportunities.

# Our History Timeline

**ESTABLISHMENT**  
1982 -The first student cohort graduated



1976

1986

The Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences is established to improve medical services in the UAE

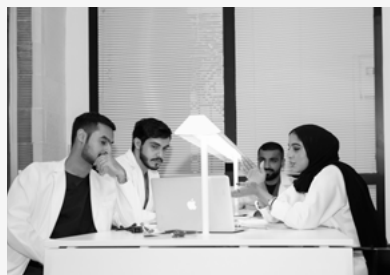


The first Master's Degree Program is established in the Faculty of Science

1991

1998

UAEU established the Continuing Education Center as another means of serving the community



Established the Research Affairs Unit to manage and promote scientific research



2000

2003

First Research Center on Transportation established





**The Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences receives the Hamdan Award for Best Medical College in the Arab World**



**2007**

**2009**

**The first Ph.D program is established**



**UAEU received institutional accreditation from the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research**

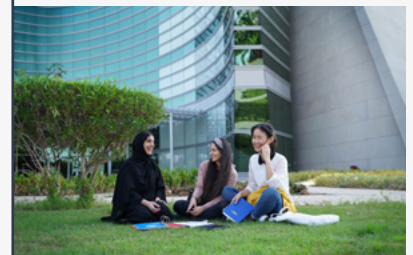


**2014**

**2016**



**UAEU receives international institutional accreditation from the WASC (Senior College and University Commission WSCUC)**



**Ranked among the top 300 universities globally according to QS rankings**

**2020**

**2023**

**UAEU was included, for the first time, in the Shanghai Global Ranking**



# Our Primary Stakeholders

## Students

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UAEU's 16,096 students are the central focus of its work. Postgraduates make up 11% of the student population. The university continues to invigorate its suite of Master's and Doctoral programs with flexible pathways and innovative curricula to attract and enable an ever-greater number. At the same time, UAEU is opening its doors to a greater number of international students and is expanding international opportunities for UAEU students through a growing number of exchange programs and cross-cultural activities.

Undergraduate students are required to complete an internship. This experience enables them to apply their academic knowledge in a workplace environment. The on-campus residential life enables students to learn life lessons and pursue interests in addition to their academic studies.

## Faculty

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UAEU has 932 faculty members from 74 countries. Of these 73% have PhDs, 16% are UAE nationals, and 27% are female. UAEU is a world leader in the diversity of its faculty, which represents seventy-four nationalities. Faculty members are at the heart of the university's collegial system of academic governance. They lead College and Departmental planning, curriculum design and approval, and faculty hiring, performance review, and promotion systems. UAEU offers faculty members many opportunities to enhance their performance in teaching through the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

## Government and Regulatory Bodies

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UAEU holds institutional licensure by the UAE's Commission for Academic Accreditation with the highest level of confidence. UAEU is one of only a few international universities accredited by the US Western Senior College and University Commission. The university enjoys international accreditation from several international disciplinary and professional agencies such as ABET and AACSB. UAEU will continue to seek out further academic quality assurance partnerships. UAEU works closely with several governmental ministries and agencies on matters of employment, curriculum, scientific research, long-term employment plans, educational plans, and research agencies of the UAE.



## Partner Organizations

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Collaborative relationships with external organizations are essential to the achievement of UAEU's educational and research mission.

Therefore, the university creates and nurtures many partnerships with public and private organizations both within the UAE and internationally. Through these partnerships, UAEU secures an enhanced research portfolio, joint research projects, increased research funding, exchange of research students, joint publications, collaboration in conferences and seminars, and enriched academic programs.

## Community

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UAEU seeks to engage and provide value to our local and national communities. The community is represented on college advisory boards, and in faculty evaluation and promotion processes. The university awards research funding to proposals that prioritize matters of importance to the community. UAEU and student volunteers support and contribute to national events and exhibitions. UAEU's Community Service and Outreach Project exists to improve the university's understanding of community needs, to provide different activities and services, and to monitor and assess impact and satisfaction. UAEU's Continuing Education Center offers programs that meet the continuing professional development needs of different sectors of the community, and thus transfer knowledge and skills to individuals and industrial partners. The University Outreach Department hosts events within and outside the campus, to involve the community in UAEU's activities. It shares university news, achievements, and events by newsletter and press releases.

# The University



## Our Colleges

- |  |  |                                    |  |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>1</b> COLLEGE OF<br>BUSINESS AND<br>ECONOMICS         | <b>2</b> COLLEGE OF<br>EDUCATION                 | <b>3</b> COLLEGE OF<br>ENGINEERING | <b>4</b> COLLEGE OF<br>AGRICULTURE<br>AND VETERINARY<br>MEDICINE |
| <b>5</b> COLLEGE OF<br>HUMANITIES AND<br>SOCIAL SCIENCES | <b>6</b> COLLEGE OF<br>INFORMATION<br>TECHNOLOGY | <b>7</b> COLLEGE OF<br>SCIENCE     | <b>8</b> COLLEGE OF<br>MEDICINE AND<br>HEALTH SCIENCES           |
| <b>9</b> COLLEGE OF<br>LAW                               | <b>10</b> COLLEGE OF GRADUATE<br>STUDIES         |                                    |  |



## Our Research Centers

ZAYED BIN SULTAN AL  
NAHYAN CENTER FOR  
HEALTH SCIENCES

1

FATIMA BINT MUBARAK  
MOTHERHOOD AND  
CHILDHOOD RESEARCH  
CENTER

2

MOUZA BINT SUHAIL CENTER  
FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

3

NATIONAL SPACE SCIENCE  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER

4

CENTER FOR  
PUBLIC POLICY AND  
LEADERSHIP

5

NATIONAL WATER AND  
ENERGY CENTER

6

EMIRATES CENTER  
FOR HAPPINESS  
RESEARCH

7

EMIRATES CENTER FOR  
MOBILITY RESEARCH

8

BIG DATA ANALYTICS  
CENTER

9

EMIRATES CENTRE FOR  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
RESEARCH

10

HUMAN CAPITAL RESEARCH  
CENTER

11



## Our Campus

1 MAIN  
CAMPUS

2 FALAJ HAZZAH  
CAMPUS

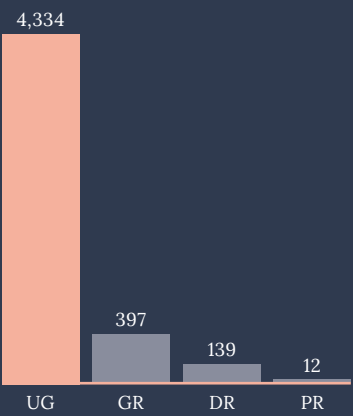
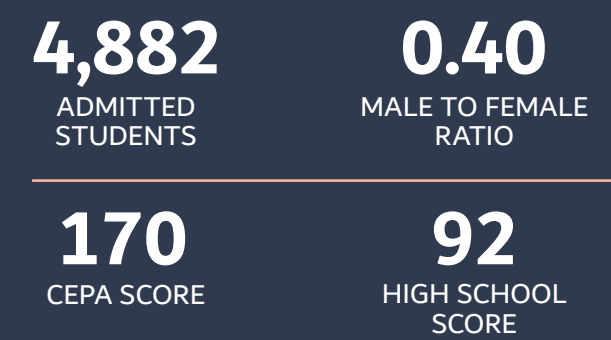
3 TAWAM MEDICAL  
CAMPUS

4 AL FOAH  
FARMS

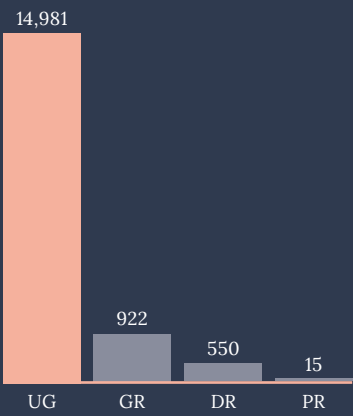
5 ABU DHABI  
BRANCH

# Academic Data at a Glance

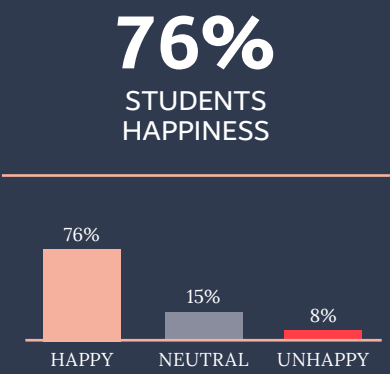
## ADMISSION



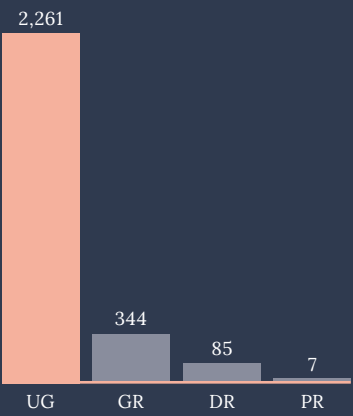
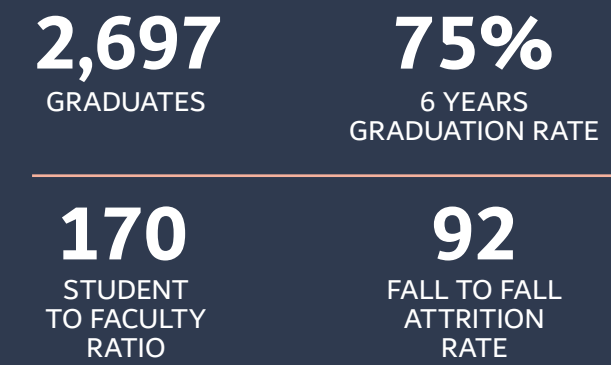
## ENROLLMENT



## SATISFACTION



## STUDENT SUCCESS

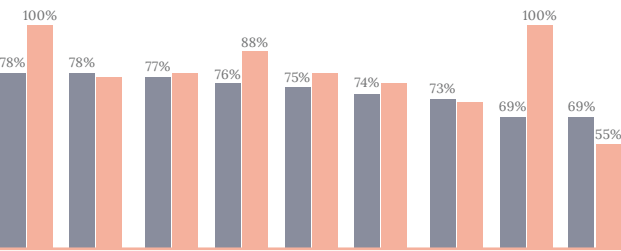


NATIONAL VS NON-NATIONAL GRADUATION RATE

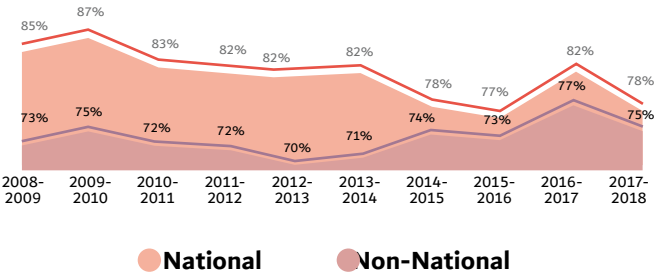
75%  
National

78%  
Non-National

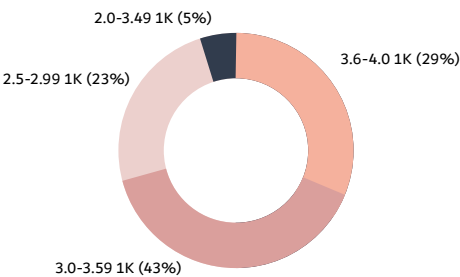
GRADUATION RATE BY COLLEGE, PROGRAM



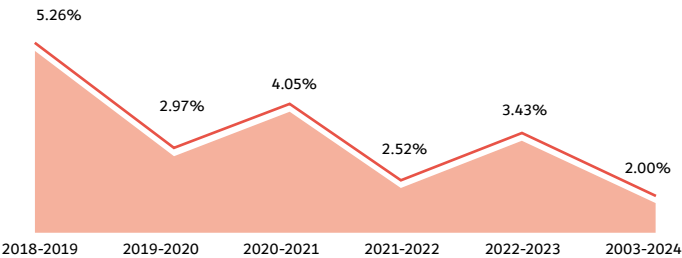
GRADUATION RATE BY YEAR



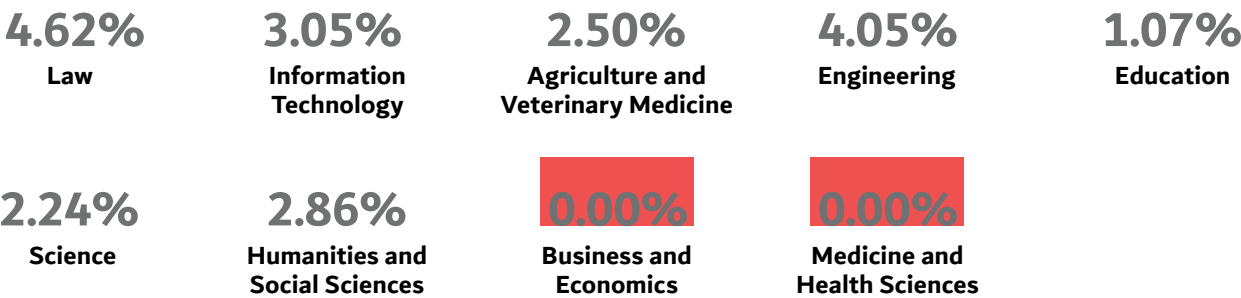
GRADUATES BY GPA GROUP



ATTRITION BY YEAR



ATTRITION BY COLLEGE



## FACULTY

9,94

FACULTY  
MEMBERS

17%

NATIONAL  
FACULTY

0.5

FACULTY TO  
STAFF RATIO

7%

TURNOVER  
RATE

74

NATIONALITIES

## TEACHING

18

STUDENT TO  
FACULTY RATIO

10.8

AVERAGE  
TEACHING LOAD

3.4

PUBLICATIONS  
PER FACULTY

## PROGRAMS



65

● UG ● PG

## Accreditation

73.8% of accreditation-eligible undergraduate programs are internationally accredited.

All UAEU programs are accredited by WASC and CAA. All individual programs are also accredited by relevant subject bodies:



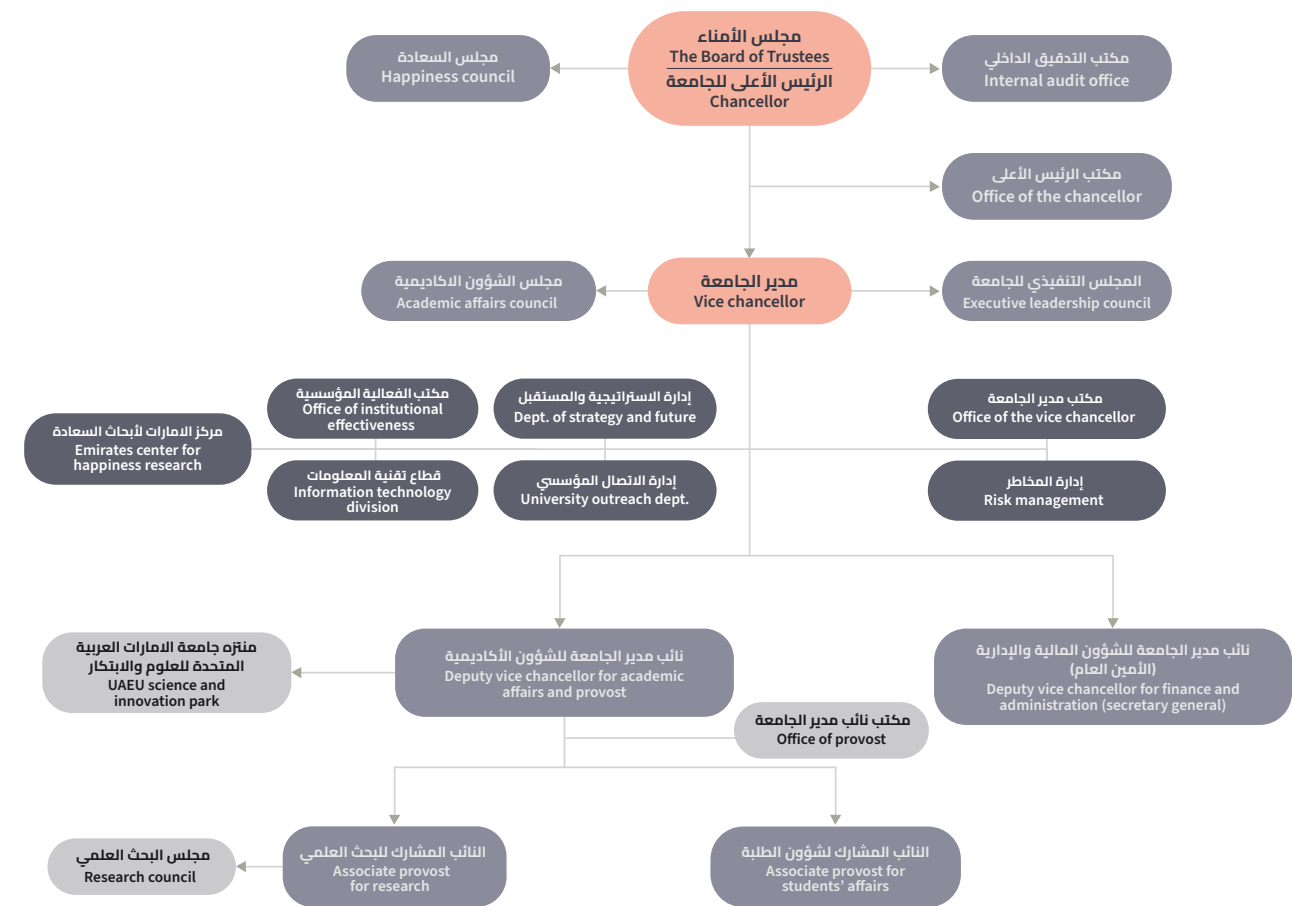




- WASC/Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC). With equity at its core-success for all students -WSCUC pursues excellence through rigorous accreditation standards applied flexibly, empowering all its member institutions to achieve their missions.
- The Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) is the UAE Federal Government Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education. Working collaboratively with relevant international and local authorities in the Emirates, the CAA has a key leadership role in securing and developing the quality of higher education in the UAE.
- Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) – all programs in the College of Engineering except for Aerospace Engineering, BSC. In Information Technology and 3 programs in the College of Science
- Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) – all programs in the College of Business and Economics
- Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) – BSC. In Chemistry program
- Canadian Society of Chemistry (CSC) – BSC. In Chemistry & BSC. In Biochemistry Programs
- Royal Society of Biology (RSB) – Biology programs
- Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) – all programs in the College of Education
- Association for Nutrition (AFN) - Nutritional Science program
- World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) – Medicine
- Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) –Dietetics programs
- Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) – Horticulture, Marine Fisheries and Animal Science, Agricultural Resource Management
- Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) – Food Science program
- Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES) – Geography program
- Australian Community Workers Association (ACWA)

# Governance

UAEU’s governance structure complies with government policy, Federal law, and the governance standards of our accrediting bodies, WASC and CAA.



# The University Board of Trustees

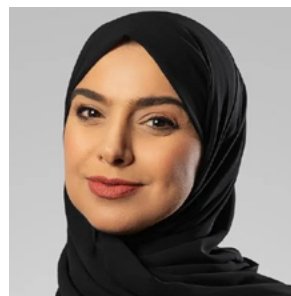
Governance is spearheaded by the University's Board of Trustees. Comprised of eminent figures across industry, academia, and government, both nationally and internationally, the University Board of Trustees meets periodically throughout the academic year, led by its Chair, the UAEU Chancellor.

The University Board of Trustees is responsible for setting UAEU's strategy and ensuring this and its mission is being achieved. The Board of Trustees exercises appropriate oversight over UAEU's policies and ongoing operations.

## UNIVERSITY BOARD MEMBERS



**H.E. Zaki Anwar Nusseibeh**  
Chancellor, United Arab Emirates University,  
Cultural Adviser to the President of the UAE



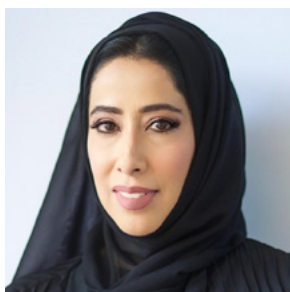
**H.E. Dr. Amna bint Abdullah Al Dhahak Al Shamsi**  
Minister of Climate Change and Environment



**H.E. Tayba Al Hashemi**  
CEO, ADNOC Off Shore



**H.E. Saeed Al-Bahri Salem Al-Ameri**  
Director General, the Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority



**H.E. Mona Al-Marri**  
Vice President and Managing Director, Dubai Media Council



**H.E. Tareq bin Hendi**  
Non-Executive Chairman, Edelman Middle East



**Rt Hon Professor Lord Ajay Kakkar PC**  
Chairman, King Health Partners Academic Health  
Science Centre and Emeritus Professor of Surgery,  
University College London and Director, Thrombosis  
Research Institute, London



**H.E. Aisha Abdulla Miran**  
Director General, Knowledge and Human  
Development Authority (Dubai)



**H.E. Major General Khalid  
Abdulla Al Buainain Al Mazroeu**  
Chairman, Baynunah Group of Companies



**H.E. Mohamed Haji Alkhoori**  
Director General,  
Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan Foundation



**H.E. Prof. Reyadh Almhehaideb Al Tamimi**  
Institute of Applied Technology, Board of  
Trustees Member



**Mr. Hamad Al Ameri**  
Representative from the Supreme  
Council for National Security



**Ms. Fatima Ahmed Al Hallami**  
Senior Negotiator & Team Lead in  
Inclusion and Empowerment  
Office of the UAE Special Envoy for  
Climate Change, Board of Trustees  
Member



# Advisors to the University Board of Trustees

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**Dr. Marwan Al Kaabi**  
CEO, Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City



**Dr. Baron Peter Piot**  
Director, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine



**Prof. Kyung Soo-Kim**  
Senior Vice President for Planning and Budget, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology

# The University Board of Trustees Committees

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The Academic and Student Affairs Committee provides oversight of UAEU's overall academic performance and makes strategic recommendations to the Board of Trustees in this regard. The Committee's focus is on fostering a culture of academic excellence to improve UAEU's academic regional and global reputation.

The Audit and Risk Committee provides the effective monitoring and assessment of the internal and external audit of UAEU's actions. It ensures the adequacy and integrity of financial reports and financial statements and UAEU's risk management policies and procedures.

The Finance, Administration, and Investment Affairs Committee reviews financial, human resources, and investment policies, and monitors performance in the key areas of the Committee's responsibilities.

# Oversight of Institutional Performance and Academic Quality Assurance

The Vice-Chancellor oversees three key units responsible for ensuring UAEU's operational efficiency and maintaining high academic standards: the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE), the Strategy and Future Department (SFD), and the Risk Management Office (RMO).



The OIE manages academic and institutional performance. Its Academic Quality Assurance Section handles the accreditation of academic programs and evaluates learning outcomes. Meanwhile, the Institutional Research Section gathers, analyzes, and reports data to support evidence-based assessments of UAEU's administrative, service, and academic functions. By producing accurate and timely reports, the OIE fulfills UAEU's obligations to governmental bodies, accreditation organizations, and strategic partners, ensuring the university's strong external representation.

The SFD is responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring the University's Strategic Planning Framework. It ensures alignment with

governmental priorities and addresses the shifting dynamics of the higher education landscape. Through inclusive and collaborative planning, the SFD fosters a shared vision for UAEU's future, strengthens stakeholder engagement, and ties strategic objectives to measurable performance indicators. Additionally, the department evaluates potential risks that could hinder the successful execution of the university's strategic goals.

The RMO focuses on ensuring that risk management processes adhere to established policies and procedures. It supervises internal reviews within administrative units, safeguarding compliance and enhancing operational accountability.

## Vision and Strategy

### UAEU's Strategic Plan 2023-2026

Globally, trends such as the changing employment landscape and evolving learners' demands are changing the future of higher education. Local and global changes are affecting UAEU and raising the need to have a refreshed and agile strategy, outcomes, and projects that are aligned with the national priorities, global trends, and ones that address the current challenges and future aspirations of UAEU.

The ever-changing local and global environment raises the need for UAEU to evolve. Locally, the UAE government has put human capital at the heart of its development plans, requiring action from higher education institutions. These plans, like the UAE Centennial Plan 2071, the National Higher Education Strategy, the National Employment Strategy, the Advanced Skills Strategy, as well as the Principles of the 50, influence the university's strategy in the mid and long-term.



## Our Vision

Leadership and innovation in higher education, research, and community service at national and international levels.

## Our Mission

The university contributes to developing a sustainable educational and research future for the UAE, provides impactful societal contributions, develops competitive capabilities by encouraging research collaboration and innovation, establishes a stimulating environment for entrepreneurship, and builds graduates' skills in line with the future labor market needs.

## Values:

- **Respect for Heritage and Cultural Diversity:** We respect the deep-rooted values and the rich heritage of the UAE and seek to sustain them.
- **Integrity and Transparency:** We adhere to the highest ethical principles and work with integrity, transparency, and accountability to create trust and credibility.
- **Collaborative Work Environment:** We support one another at work through cooperation and teamwork.
- **Leadership and continuous learning:** We develop the spirit of innovation, proactiveness, and excellence, and apply the best international practices in all of the university's operations. We also value the focus on student success and the constant desire for continuous learning and knowledge sharing among stakeholders
- **Effectiveness in Decision-making:** We focus on outcomes, base our decisions and plans on evidence and analysis, and develop and adopt efficient systems and procedures that support the university's core business.
- **Effective Communication:** We are committed to effective communication, through a variety of communication methods, with all our stakeholders (staff, students, alumni, partners, vendors, and the local and international communities).
- **Dedication to Knowledge:** We are committed to world-class education and scholarship relevant to student careers and community needs.
- **Cultivate a Culture of Innovation:** We are committed to fostering a culture of innovation in our working environment.
- **Reinforce Competitiveness:** We are committed to boosting our competitiveness and improving the university's international reputation.

# UAEU's Strategic Goals

## 1 GOAL 1

### Successful future-ready learners

Create a proactive educational system that enhances the capabilities of students and prepares them to lead in the future labor market

#### Strategic Projects:

- Promote dynamic and human capital-focused programs
- Foster graduate readiness and employability



## 3 GOAL 3

### Societal Impact

Strengthen the University's role in society by contributing actively to the goals of sustainable development and providing intelligent leadership for Life-Long Learning

#### Strategic Projects:

- Reinvent and streamline the lifelong learning offering
- Foster UAEU's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) contribution



## 2 GOAL 2

### Impactful Research and Innovation

Use the University's research and innovation capabilities to find novel and sustainable solutions to future challenges and enhance the global competitiveness of the University

#### Strategic Projects:

- Promote scientific research and innovation in areas of national and international importance
- Promote UAEU's competitiveness and reputation

## 4 GOAL 4

Strong internal & external collaboration Build and foster national and international partnerships that contribute to the promotion of the university's reputation and its global standing

#### Strategic Projects:

- Elevate advancement through partnerships
- Revitalize alumni engagement



## 5 GOAL 5

Distinguished services and proactive student experience  
Ensure that services are proactive and that the student experience is of the highest quality

### Strategic Projects:

- Enhance service efficiency and effectiveness through automation
- Enrich the student experience and university life



## 6 GOAL 6

### Realize Institutional Effectiveness

Recruit and retain the best talents, and provide efficient and effective institutional services and digital infrastructure

### Strategic Projects:

- Manage the financial resources effectively and efficiently
- Manage procurement according to international best practices
- Apply the best practices in human resource management
- Ensure implementation of quality and institutional excellence standards
- Ensure effective internal and external communication
- Implement international best practices in leadership
- Develop and improve strategic plan and performance measurement
- Provide the best legal services
- Provide up-to-date IT services
- Provide common services for all organizational units with high efficiency

## 7 GOAL 7

### Innovation Management

Reinforce institutional innovation practices that are based on agility, proactiveness, and readiness

- Manage institutional innovation
- Apply future foresight



# Students Profile



## Student Enrollment at UAEU in 2023-2024

Undergraduate

10,914      3,602      14,516

Master

772      261      1,033

Doctorate

347      200      547

Total Students

12,033      4,063      16,096

## The UAEU graduates in 2024

Undergraduate

1,755      461      2,216

Master

227      66      293

Doctorate

45      27      72

Total Students

2,027      554      2,581

### FALL-TO-FALL RETENTION RATE:

In 2024, the UAEU retention rate was 96.02% (or 3.98% attrition rate), which positions the UAEU (with THE rank of 301-350) favorably when benchmarked against international institutions, such as the University of Florida (96%; with THE rank of 132) and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor (97%, with THE rank of 23), and better than Emory University (94%; with THE rank of 106) and George Washington University (94% with THE rank of 201-250).

### ON-TIME GRADUATION RATE:

In 2024, the on-time graduation rate was 74.33%, which positions the UAEU close to the high-ranking universities, such as Purdue University, USA (75%; with THE rank of 86), and Michigan State University (77%, with THE rank of 116), and is better than University of Iowa, USA (72%, with THE rank of 201-250).

### STUDENTS' HAPPINESS:

In 2024, the UAEU students' happiness rate of 80.76% was

better than at several top-ranking international universities, including Imperial College of London, UK (79%, with THE rank of 10), Harvard University, USA (76.67%, with THE rank of 2), and the University of Manchester, UK (74%, with THE rank of 51). UAEU students were most happy with Campus Security (89.36%), Library Services and Resources (86.86%), their Experience at UAEU (84.64%), Internship Experience (81.57%), Registration Process (81.32%), Academics and Teaching (80.60%), Academic Advising Experience (80.41%), and Social Life and Social Events (79.95%).



# Faculty Profile

## Student Enrollment at UAEU in 2023-2024

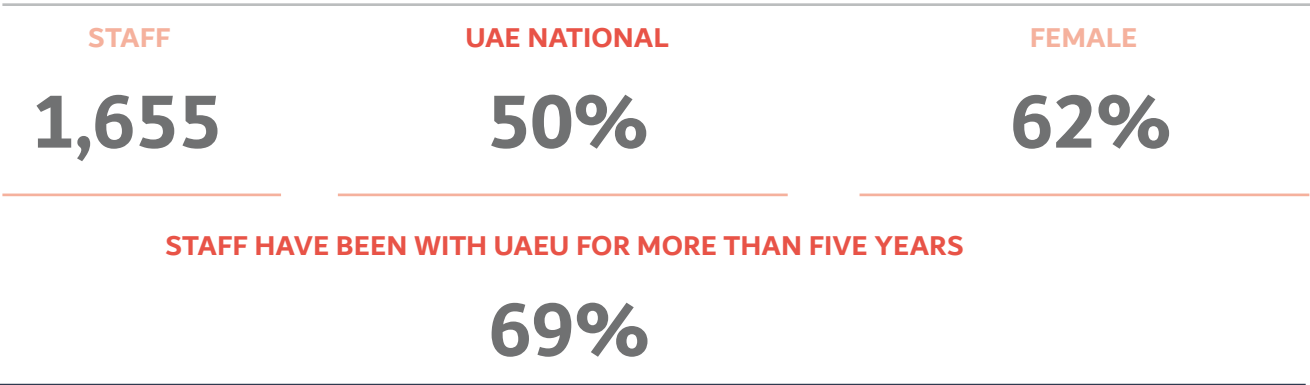
Universities are defined by their faculty and the innovation and energy they can bring with them to the forefront of the educational process. Our faculty members are at the heart of academic governance and provide leadership across multiple administrative processes, including hiring, promotion, curriculum design, and performance review.

## Faculty at UAEU in 2022-2023

In 2022-2023, the total number of Faculty employed at the UAEU was 994. Among them, 687 PhD-qualified Faculty members. 17% National and 83% International Faculty from 74 countries.

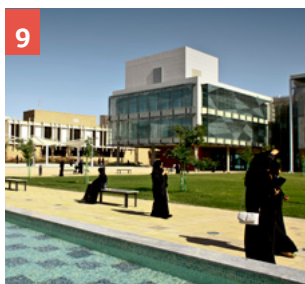
Nationality	International		National		
College	Female	Male	Female	Male	Total
AgriculturWe & Veterinary Medicine	11	30		1	42
Business & Economics	21	64	3	5	93
Education	12	18	5	5	40
Engineering	16	101	1	17	135
Humanities & Social Sciences	57	102	26	13	198
Information Technology	9	49	4	3	65
Law	1	28	4	11	44
Medicine & Health Sciences	38	84	18	17	157
Science	17	126	10	5	158
Total	182	602	71	77	932

# Staff Profile



# Review of the Year

## College Highlights of the Year



**1 COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS**

**2 COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND VETERINARY MEDICINE**

**3 COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES**

**4 COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

**5 COLLEGE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**6 COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**7 COLLEGE OF LAW**

**8 COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

**9 COLLEGE OF SCIENCE**

**10 COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

# College of Medicine and Health Sciences (CMHS)

## Message from the Dean:

As we reflect on a year of remarkable achievements at the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, I am pleased to share highlights of our progress in education, research, service, and new initiatives.

- QS Ranking in Life Sciences and Medicine 391 in 2024, as compared to 394 in 2022.
- THE Ranking in Clinical and Health 201-250 in 2024

On the educational front, the college has embarked on a significant MD curriculum reform, the first in 15 years, to ensure our program remains aligned with evolving medical education standards and the needs of healthcare. Our Postgraduate Clinical Pharmacy Program (PharmD) earned full accreditation from the American Accreditation Council of Pharmacy Education (ACPE), the first program of its kind outside the U.S. to receive this recognition. Additionally, our Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Science program was re-accredited by the Association for Nutrition (AfN), UK, through 2029. We also launched the UAE's first Genetic Counseling program to address the region's growing need for specialized expertise in genetic counseling.

On the research front, CMHS maintained strong productivity in both quality and quantity. Last year,

our researchers secured 14 new grants (AED 1,120,000.00) and we continue to support 17 ongoing grants (AED 1,356,800.00). The Department of Nutrition and Health (DNH) organized a symposium on Agrifood Systems in collaboration with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, providing a platform to share findings from their joint research. Additionally, we held another successful CMHS Research Day. This event featured contributions from 162 undergraduate and 61 graduate students, with 18 oral and 77 poster abstracts presented. The number of research publications in 2023 - 451 and in 2024 - 333, all published in Q1 journals. The total number of citations of scientific publications in 2023 was 524 (approximately 1.2 citation per publication), while in 2024 it was 689 (approximately 2 citations per publication).

The notable publication in the top 1% journals is:

- Servettini, et al. (2023) An activator of voltage-gated K+



**PROF. FATMA AL JASMI**

ACTING DEAN OF COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES

channels Kv1.1 as a therapeutic candidate for episodic ataxia type 1. PNAS, 120(31), e2207978120.

Also, 2 patents have been filed and awarded:

- System and method for diagnostics mild cognitive impairment, dementias and neurodegenerative diseases.
- A quick method for accurately estimating average electron densities.

On the service front, CMHS is proud to contribute academic staff to lead and participate in expert advisory committees at local, national, regional, and international levels. Regionally, our faculty are active in organizations like the Arab Board of Health Specializations and the GCC Health Council, while internationally, they serve on WHO expert panels. Faculty also serve as external examiners and assessors, ensuring excellence in healthcare and education standards.

Our students are equally engaged, contributing to community well-being through public health outreach programs. Key events include Diabetes Prevention among Adults, Breast Cancer Awareness, Stress Management talks throughout the year, and World Cancer Day.

This year, among the most notable is the reform of our MD curriculum – a major advancement that reaffirms our commitment to delivering world-class medical education. This milestone was complemented by the establishment of our state-of-the-art Simulation Center, designed to enhance hands-on learning and provide our students with realistic clinical experiences. The college launched several important initiatives to support growth and efficiency. The CMHS prepared and submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Education for an expansion of our facilities. In line with our mission to enhance operational transparency and efficiency, we also initiated a digitalization project to streamline workflows and improve accessibility across departments. To further strengthen our connections with global and local stakeholders, we restructured our College Advisory Board to include representatives from both national and international institutions, ensuring a broader perspective on our strategic direction and goals. However, as we move forward, we recognize the ongoing challenges that lie ahead. A key focus remains on strengthening the integration between academic learning and clinical practice, as well as expanding our efforts in clinical research. These are vital areas that not only support the growth of our students but also ensure that our college remains at the forefront of medical innovation and patient care.

## MISSION:

Improve continuously the well-being and healthcare of the UAE and Global Population by innovative medical and health sciences education and research and best standards in health services.

## VISION:

Sustain a world-leading International Academic Health Sciences Institution delivering quality in undergraduate and postgraduate education and research, innovation, and community partnerships.

## STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

### Enhance Student Journey:

Develop and implement comprehensive outreach programs targeting schools and colleges to attract diverse and talented students. Improve onboarding processes to ensure smooth transition into the college. Continuously enhance student experience through personalized support and engagement initiatives. Foster lifelong alumni relationships through alumni engagement programs.

### Elevate Student Curriculum:

Implement adaptive techniques and balanced curriculum portfolios, including PBL, TBL, Systematic learning, Self-Directed learning, etc. Integrate state-of-the-art learning methodologies including multimedia and simulated learning to enhance educational outcomes. Provide robust postgraduate training and Continuing Medical Education (CME) opportunities.

### Foster Research, Innovation, and Commercial Enterprise:

Promote a culture of research excellence, innovation, and entrepreneurship among faculty and students.

### Strengthen External Partnerships:

Foster strategic collaborations with government agencies, academia, industry partners, healthcare institutions, and charitable organizations. Promote interdisciplinary research and initiatives with societal impact. Advocate for national and international policy changes to advance healthcare and education.

### Ensure Effective Governance and HR Processes:

Implement robust governance structures to provide oversight and strategic leadership. Enhance engagement and communication within departments and faculties. Develop transparent and merit-based promotion pathways. Foster a culture of accountability and continuous improvement.

### Cultivate Faculty and Staff Excellence:

Establish clear career pathways for faculty and staff, including recruitment, retention, and advancement opportunities. Implement reward and recognition programs to acknowledge contributions and promote professional growth. Provide ongoing support for career development at early, mid, and late career stages.

### Optimize Administration and Financial Management:

Implement efficient and transparent financial management processes to ensure responsible use of funds. Align financial strategies with the college's strategic priorities to support long-term sustainability and growth.

## Facilities and Infrastructure Update:

### SIMULATION CENTER

The newly established in 2024, two-story Simulation (SIM) Center represents a major milestone in medical education and training, providing an immersive, state-of-the-art environment for students and healthcare professionals. The center is designed to meet the latest standards in medical education, the facility was completely transformed from the former skills lab on the ground floor and the lecture rooms on the first floor, with both levels demolished, redesigned, rebuilt, and equipped to align with contemporary training needs. The Center spans 3000 sq.m, with 1800 sq.m on the ground floor and 1200 sq.m on the first floor.

The center is equipped with cutting-edge AV systems, enabling real-time recording and review, a mandatory tool for detailed analysis of skills and techniques that ensures high-quality outcomes in healthcare education. The ground floor is dedicated to the SIM area which offers realistic, hands-on training scenarios that replicate the complexities of clinical practice. Here, students and healthcare personnel can learn and sharpen their skills in a controlled environment, making the most of advanced simulators and technology to practice procedures and respond to a variety of patient scenarios. This immersive setup helps bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world application, providing a safe space to build confidence and competence in medical practice. The flexibility of the SIM area also allows it to cater to various specialties, making it adaptable to the diverse needs of a medical curriculum.

The first floor houses the Assessment Center, equipped with 24 fully functional OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Examination) rooms. These rooms are carefully designed to support structured assessments, allowing students to demonstrate their skills and knowledge in a variety of clinical tasks. Each room provides a controlled environment for standardized patient interactions and clinical simulations, ensuring that evaluations are consistent and objective. The AV system enhances this process by allowing detailed review and feedback, ensuring continuous improvement and learning.

Overall, the SIM Center stands as a model facility that elevates both learning and assessment to new levels. By integrating advanced technology with thoughtfully designed spaces, the center supports the development of essential skills for future healthcare providers. This investment in innovative educational spaces underscores our commitment to producing healthcare professionals who are well-prepared to meet the demands of today's complex medical landscape.

### New Academic Programs:

#### GENETIC COUNSELING PROGRAM.

Genetic counseling is a growing and needed profession, not only in the field of clinical genetics but also in academia and genomic research, modern diagnosis laboratories, and in developing health policies and indirect consumer genetic services. The Department of Genetic & Genomics has launched the first Genetic Counseling program in the UAE, to enhance its outcomes

and to offer advanced academic disciplines to provide society with medical specializations graduates who meet the needs of medical institutions for qualitative specializations and support the clinical genetic consultations. Genetic Counseling program is a 2-year clinical education program designed for those who want to pursue a specialized occupation to improve the life quality of individuals and their families who have been diagnosed or might develop genetic diseases. The program provides students with the necessary skills and knowledge to have a positive impact on the quality of life of people who suffer from genetic disorders, thereby reducing the burden of genetic cases on society. The aim of the program is to improve the competencies of genetic counselors, it concentrates on strengthening clinical consultation skills in the field of pediatric genetic assessment, premarital screening, pre-pregnancy examination, prenatal testing, and cancer and adult genetics. In addition to the attention to the psychological support skills, protecting patients' rights, and improving the skills of the program members in clinical genetic research and community services. The program offers a balance between advanced genome techniques and powerful psychological and social genetic counseling and research training. Especially given that the program is designed to suit the multi-backgrounds and cultures Emirati society, and that the training is applicable in the clinical environment of the various healthcare providers in the UAE and will contribute to improving genome care through preparing competent genetics consultants.



## Accreditation and assessment outcomes:

### THE POST-GRADUATE CLINICAL PHARMACY PROGRAM (PHARMD)

has received full accreditation from the American Accreditation Council of Pharmacy Education (ACPE). This program is the first of its kind globally, outside the United States, to receive this prestigious accreditation for a two-year Postgraduate Clinical Pharmacy Program (PharmD/ Master's in Clinical Pharmacy). The full accreditation of the Clinical Pharmacy Graduate Program by the American Accreditation Council of Pharmacy Education (ACPE) reflects the university's commitment to providing high-quality education in line with international standards.



### THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NUTRITIONAL SCIENCE PROGRAM

offered by DNH was re-accredited by the Association for Nutrition (AfN), UK, for the next five years (2024–2029).

### CAA RE-ACCREDITATION.

The college's programs have been undergoing CAA Re-accreditation in the 2023/2024 academic year. Self-study documents have been submitted to CAA in the Spring of 2024, while CAA site-visit has taken place in Fall of 2024.

## College / Subjects Ranking (QS, THE)

**QS RANKING IN LIFE SCIENCES AND MEDICINE**  
**391 IN 2024 (394 IN 2022)**

**391**  
in 2024

**391**  
in 2024

**THE RANKING IN CLINICAL AND HEALTH**  
**201-250 IN 2024**

**201-250**  
in 2024

## Research and Innovation in 2023-2024

**17 ONGOING CMHS GRANTS (AED 1,356,800.00)**  
**14 CMHS GRANTS 2024 (AED 1,120,000.00)**

## Major ongoing and new research projects:

- ASPIRE - Abu Dhabi Precision Medicine VRI
- ASPIRE - Food Security in Drylands VRI
- ASPIRE - Molecular mechanism(s) of SARS-CoV-2 genomic RNA (gRNA) packaging
- ASPIRE - Interplay between gut Microbiota and Abnormal potassium channel function in the Genesis of autism and intellectual disability
- Collaborative Research Program Grant for Pharmacogenomics
- Muta'ah Mother and Child Health Study

## The number of publications, and % publications in Q1-rated academic journals:

### IN 2023

- All Publications – 451
- Publications in Q1 journals – 100%

### IN 2024

- All Publications – 333
- Publications in Q1 journals – 100%

## Notable Publications in the top 1% scientific journals:

Servettini I, et al (2023). An activator of voltage-gated K<sup>+</sup> channels Kv1.1 as a therapeutic candidate for episodic ataxia type 1. PNAS, 120(31), e2207978120.

## The number of publications addressing the UN Sustainable Development Goals:

The UN Sustainability Development Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) is the one specific to our faculty's research and clinical activities. Therefore, the majority of publications fall into that category.

## Awards, honors, and recognitions received by faculty members:

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### 2024 COLLEGE EXCELLENCE AWARDEES:

#### Teaching:

**Dr Ashraf Hefny,**  
Associate Professor, Surgery

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#### Scholarship:

**Prof Salahdein Aburuz,**  
Pharm. & Therapeutics

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#### Service:

**Prof Alia Al Bawardi,**  
Professor, Pathology

**Dr Taleb Al Mansoori,**  
Assoc Professor, Radiology

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#### Dean's Special Appreciation Award:

**Prof Christopher Howarth,**  
Physiology

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### 2024 COLLEGE EXCELLENCE AWARDEES:

#### Service:

**Dr Taleb Al Mansoori,**  
Assoc Professor, Radiology



### NOTABLE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS:

Mr Suresha Prabhu, PhD student working with Prof. Tahir Rizvi, Microbiology lab, has published a paper in PLoS Biology, one of the prestigious top 1% journals.

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### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE:

The CMHS has conducted several community service projects and workshops addressing different topics such as Cervical Cancer, Breast Cancer, Cancer, Obesity, Bullying, the Journey of Pregnancy, Stop the Bleed workshop, Diabetes, etc.

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### COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH EFFORTS AND PARTNERSHIPS:

DNH organized a symposium on Agrifood Systems with the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. The symposium provided a platform to share findings from their collaborative research project.



## CMHS partnerships with external organizations established in 2023-2024

Party name - topic	Resp.	MOU/ Agreement	Field	Year
Oxford Nanopore Technologies, Plc UK	UAEU	Agreement	Research Collaboration	2023
Emirates Health Services - MOHAP ( EHS)	UAEU	MOU	Research& Education	2023
Osaka Univeristy - Japan	CMHS	Agreement	Education and Student placement	2023
Organon Company	UAEU	MOU	Health & Education & Research	2023
Lum Giuseppe Degennaro Univeristy - Italy	CMHS	MOU	Research& Education	2023
Dubai Academic Health Corporation	UAEU	MOU	Research& Education	2023
Erasmus+ Open University of Cyprus	CMHS	Agreement	Research& Education	2023
MOHAP - National Research Centre	UAEU	MOU	Research& Education	2023
Rashid Centre for People of Determination	UAEU	MOU	Education and Student placement	2023
Authority Of Social Contribution - Ma'an	UAEU	Agreement	Research Project Fund	2023
Mediclinic Middle East	CMHS	Agreement	Education and Student placement	2023
Consultants Medical Centre	UAEU	MOU	Education and Student placement	2024
SpeechCare Centre - AD	UAEU	MOU	Education and Student placement	2024
The Royal Institute for Advancement – McGill University - Canada	UAEU	Agreement	Education – Curriculum Reform	2024
Talking Brains Center FZE	UAEU	MOU	Education and Student placement	2024
NECC Clinic – Abu Dhabi	UAEU	MOU	Education and Student placement	2024
Clariens Educao - Brazil	UAEU	MOU	Research& Education	2024
Mediclinic Middle East - Expand the first agreement	CMHS	Agreement	Education and Student placement	2024
Al Noor Training Center for people with disabilities	UAEU	MOU	Education and Student placement	2024
Irish Wellness Medical Center LLC	UAEU	MOU	Education and Student placement	2024
GW University - USA	CMHS	Agreement	Education and Student placement	2023
Rashid Centre for People of Determination	UAEU	MOU	Education and Student placement	2023

# College of Engineering (COE)

## Message from the Dean:

As we wrap up another dynamic academic year, I am excited to share the exceptional achievements and key insights gained by the College of Engineering. This report highlights several pivotal accomplishments that have defined our progress over the past year.

The College of Engineering (COE) hosts eight undergraduate, six master and six PhD programs in five main departments. These departments include Architectural Engineering, Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Electrical and Communication Engineering, and Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. Seven of the undergraduate programs are ABET accredited. The college also offers two interdisciplinary master programs: Master of Water Resources and Master of Engineering Management. In addition to the minor in Mechatronics, the minor in Combustion and Propulsion in collaboration with Georgia Tech University started in Spring Semester 2023 and in Environmental Engineering which will start in Spring Semester 2025. Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering will start in Spring Semester 2025 and Ph.D. in Water Resources programs are currently under review by the CAA. COE is also involved in Dual PhD degrees with KU-Leuven and McGill University.

The current enrolment in the college for undergraduate, master and PhD are 3,936, 224 and 167, respectively. In 2023-2024, the COE graduated 310 undergraduate engineers, 68 Master and 20 PhD students. The COE engineering graduates have attained a rigorous base of knowledge and developed critical thinking skills to enable them to engage in lifelong learning to take on the challenges of the future.

In 2023-2024, the COE upgraded its requirements for industrial training to a total of sixteen weeks split into two eight-week segments starting batch 2023. The college graduated 4 and currently 7 enrolled in dual PhD degree between UAEU and KU-Leuven and 1 enrolled with McGill University.

During academic year 2023-2024, COE received the 186 internal research funding. In addition, COE currently has 29 active external research funding. The total amount of research funding was 12,618,941 AED. The college had 536 Scopus research publications and 16 granted patents in 2023.



**PROF. MOHAMED H. AL-MARZOUQI**  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Several of these publications were in the top 1%, 5% and 10% with 63.4% in Q1 Journals. The COE Faculty filed 32 patents and 17 patents were granted in 2023.

Several faculty members in the college are recognized as the World's Top 2% scientist by Stanford University. COE faculty members have strong collaboration in research with faculty members from different local, regional and international institutions. The college currently has several active MOUs with government agencies, local and international industry in 2023-2024, Boeing sponsored several capstone senior design projects and Dassault Aviation supported the college in internship and research projects.

In 2023-2024, the COE faculty members received several awards including the prestigious Khalifa award for Education. Additionally, the faculty members received the University Distinguished Faculty and the University awards in teaching, research and services in 2023-2024. Several students received local, regional and international awards.

VISION:

Lead the UAEU into an era of renowned scholarly excellence in engineering education and impact driven research to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

MISSION:

To meet the educational, research and cultural demands of UAE society by preparing distinguished graduates with critical thinking and leadership skills to find creative solutions to engineering challenges while creating new knowledge through transformative and innovative research in strategic areas for the nation.



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

- Prepare graduates to be pioneers and leaders in engineering disciplines.
- Conduct scientific research and innovation in areas of national and regional importance.
- Maintain academic excellence in accordance with international standards.
- Promote partnership with industry.

New Academic Programs and Curriculum Updates:

- Prepare graduates to be pioneers and leaders in engineering disciplines.
- Conduct scientific research and innovation in areas of national and regional importance.
- Maintain academic excellence in accordance with international standards.
- Promote partnership with industry.

College Ranking (QS)

<b>297</b> in 2021	<b>328</b> in 2022	<b>260</b> in 2023	<b>233</b> in 2024
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Subject Ranking (QS)

SUBJECT	2021	2022	2023	2024
Petroleum Engineering	51-100	51-100	51-100	51-100
Civil Engineering	NR	201 - 220	151 - 200	151 - 200
Electrical Engineering	301 - 350	251 - 300	201 - 250	201 - 250
Mechanical Engineering	301 - 350	251 - 300	251 - 300	251 - 300
Chemical Engineering	351 - 400	301 - 350	251 - 300	251 - 300
Architecture/Built Environment	NR	201 - 250	201 - 250	201 - 250



Research and Innovation:

Externally Funded Projects	
29 active projects with total funds of 12,518,941 AED	
Externally Funded Projects	Number
National Faculty	4
Start-up	28
STRATEGIC RESEARCH	32
UPAR	33
UAEU-AUA	19
JOINT COLLABORATION	2
UAEU-ADU	2
UAEU-ZU	2
Postdoctoral SDG	2
Students Funded Projects	Number
District 4.0	4
SDG with Africa	5
NWEC WITH INDIA	5
SURE PLUS	43



National Collaborative Research Partnerships:

Company Name	Company Name
ABU DHABI AIRPORTS COMPANY (ADAC)	ABU DHABI CITY MUNICIPALITY
ABU DHABI DISTRIBUTION COMPANY (ADDC)	ABU DHABI NATIONAL OIL COMPANY (ADNOC) + (GASCO - ADGAS - TAKREER - BOROUGE)
ABU DHABI QUALITY AND CONFORMITY COUNCIL (QCC)	ABU DHABI POLICE
ABU DHABI SUSTAINABLE WATER SOLUTIONS COMPANY (SWS)	AD PORTS GROUP
ACES ARAB CENTER FOR ENGG STUDIES"	AGC MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA FZCO
ADVANCED MILITARY MAINTENANCE REPAIR OVERHAUL CENTER (AMMROC)	AL AIN DISTRIBUTION COMPANY (AADC)
AL AIN MUNICIPALITY & TOWN PLANNING	AL AIN FARMS
AL AIN WILDLIFE PARK & RESORT (AL AIN ZOO)	AL DHAFRA MUNICIPALITY
AL DAR PROPERTIES	AL FOAH DATES COMPANY (AGTHIA GROUP)

## UAEU

AL DHAFRAH REGION MUNICIPALITY

AW ROSTOMANI - NISSAN

BIN HAM ELECTROMECHANICAL ENT. CO L.L.C

CONIN ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS

CROWN PRINCE COURT

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPALITIES AND TRANSPORT

DIBBA AL HISSN MUNICIPALITY

DIRECTORATE OF TOWN PLANNING & SURVEY

DUBAI AVIATION ENGINEERING PROJECTS (DAEP)

DUBAI CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (DCAA)

DUBAI MUNICIPALITY

DUBAI PORTS

EMAAR PROPERTIES LLC

EMIRATES CEMENT FACTORY / EMIRATES STEEL (ARKAN)

EMIRATES NATIONAL OIL COMPANY LIMITED (ENOC)

EMIRATES SEMBCORP WATER & POWER CO.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

FUJAIRAH ASIA POWER COMPANY (FAPCO)

FUJAIRAH AVIATION ACADEMY

FUJAIRAH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

FUJAIRAH MUNICIPALITY

FUJAIRAH REFINERY (VTTI)

GPS CHEMAIL COMPANY

GREEN MOUNTAINS

JULPHAR PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES MANUFACTURERS

MOHAMMED BIN RASHID SPACE CENTER (MBRSC)

NATIONAL SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

NAWAH ENERGY COMPANY

NOOR ABU DHABI

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT-RAK (PSD)

RAK PROPERTIES

SEHA (AL AIN HOSPITAL, TAWAM HOSPITAL)

SHARJAH AVIATION SERVICES

SLB - SCHLUMBERGER

UNION CEMENT COMPANY

WAIWAI RESEARCH AND DESIGN AGENCY

YAH SAT

AL MASAOOD OIL INDUSTRY SUPPLIES & SERVICES COMPANY (MOISS)

APG (ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING GROUP)

CLS AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

DIBBA MUNICIPALITY

DIRECTORATE OF FUJAIRAH CIVIL DEFENSE

EDGE GROUP

EMIRATES AIRLINES

EMIRATES GLOBAL ALUMINUM (EGA)

ENERFLEX LTD

ETIHAD RAIL COMPANY

ETIHAD WATER & ELECTRICITY

FUJAIRAH CEMENT INDUSTRIES

FUJAIRAH POLICE

FUJAIRAH PORT

GHADEER MINERAL WATER COMPANY

GULF CEMENT COMPANY

HATTA HOSPITAL

KALBA MUNICIPALITY

MAJID AL FUTTAIM - CARREFOUR

MANAZEL

MARMUM DAIRY FARMS

MASAFI MINERAL WATER FACTORY

MASDAR / SHAMS POWER COMPANY

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

NATIONAL PETROLEUM CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (NPCC)

RAK AIRPORT

RAK CEMENT

RAK MUNICIPALITY

ROADS AND TRANSPORT AUTHORITY (RTA)

SANAD COMPANY - MUBADALA

SHARJAH ELECTRICITY, WATER AND GAS AUTHORITY

SHARJAH POLICE

STRATA MANUFACTURING (PJSC)

TADWEER-ABU DHABI WASTE MANAGEMENT

TRANSCO

UNION CHLORINE L.L.C

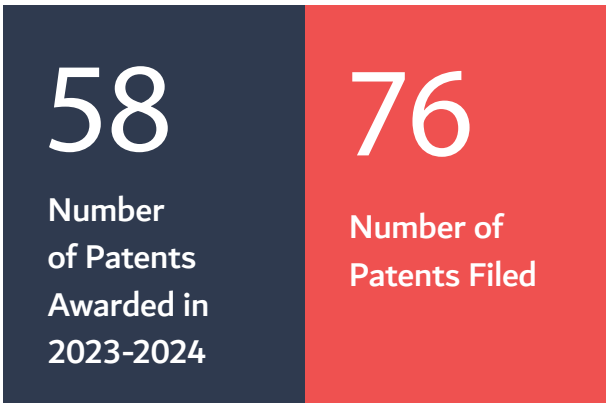
WORLEY

International Collaborative Research Partnerships:

Company Name	Company Name
ALSEER MARIN	LINDE
ARIANE GROUP	LUFTHANSA TECHNIK MIDDLE EAST
ARIANE GROUP	RÖDER PRÄZISION
BOEING	SIEMENS ENERGY
DASSAULT AVIATION	THE GERMAN EMIRATI INSTITUTE TECHNOLOGIES
DLH	RÖDER PRÄZISION

Number of publications, % publications in Q1-rated academic journals:

Year	1%	10%	25%	Total
2021	4	96	220	369
2022	11	165	302	469
2023	13	173	340	536
2024 (Q3)	11	199	365	521



# College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine

## Message from the Dean:

The College of Agriculture & Veterinary Medicine (CAVM) is a unique national asset. It is a beacon of distinctive learning that shares valuable knowledge regarding plant/animal health and production with youth aspiring to be future leaders/experts in these disciplines. The college is focused on education and research to ensure food security, safety, and sustainability.

The CAVM offers diverse undergraduate and graduate professional programs in Agriculture, Food Science, and Veterinary Medicine in the corresponding departments. In 2023, the Department of Food Science received full accreditation from the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) and the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA), underscoring its commitment to academic excellence and industry relevance. The department has also modernized its existing programs to make them more accessible and aligned with current industry practices. Notably, 50% of the MSc program in Food Science will now be available online, providing flexibility for working professionals and international students. Furthermore, new specialization tracks are being developed to cater to emerging fields within Food Science, such as sustainable food production and food innovation. Also, the revised Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine

(BVM) curriculum was initiated in September 2024, increasing credit hours from 152 to 175, and was re-accredited by the UAE Ministry of Education's Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) in August 2024 for 6 years (2030). CAVM has strengthened its academic network through national and international partnerships with prestigious institutions including Khalifa University in the UAE and McGill University in Canada. Cooperation agreement between UAEU and University of Veterinary Medicine-Budapest, Hungary for two semesters of clinical training for senior Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine students in both 2023 and 2024.

In 2024, CAVM has achieved a ranking of 201-250 in the QS World University Rankings by Subject for Agriculture & Forestry. Our research farms and laboratories are an integral part of our social and societal responsibility and a key to our interaction with the industry and national agencies. UAE's aspiration to be #1 in the Global Food Security Index by 2050 is one of the key national priorities. CAVM plays a decisive role in fulfilling these aspirations by



**DR. MOHAMMED ABDUL MUHSEN SALEM ALYAFEI**  
ACTING DEAN,  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & VETERINARY MEDICINE

producing graduates in key areas that will support the goal while engaging in R&D that will facilitate the advancement of this goal. During 2023, faculty members from CAVM were granted the following grants: 3 UPAR, 2 Center-based, 3 start-up, 2 AUA, 18 Sure Plus, and 3 SDGs. For external funding, many faculty members are participating in the ARIFSID project funded by ASPIRE. Some other findings are from MOCCA, ADAFSA, etc. In 2023, CAVM had 162 publications in Scopus Q1 journals, with 99 in the top 25%. From January to October 1st, 2024, CAVM has published 170 papers in Scopus Q1 journals, with 136 in the top 25%. One patent was filled in 2024 and entitled "A heat resistant biopesticide and a method of preparing the same". The number of citations in 2023 was 224 and in 2024 was 236.

CAVM is activities in Community Engagement and Service included multiple projects and partnerships that culminated in signing of several MOUs with the Abu Dhabi Farmers Club, Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Authority (ADAFSA), Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MoCCA), Mawarid

Services, Greenation company, AeroFams company, and RNZ company.

The CAVM is embracing change and seek to position ourselves as a regional leader in key disciplines vital to the Middle East and beyond for strengthening nutritious food production. In the coming years, the CAVM will continue to improve the educational journey of our students and research to develop solutions important to the industry and society.

### International Ranking:

In 2024, CAVM and UAEU have achieved a ranking of 201-250 in the QS World University Rankings by Subject for Agriculture & Forestry and THE ranking of 301-400 in Veterinary Medicine and in Agriculture & Forestry categories.

**201-250**  
in 2024



**201-400**  
in 2024



### MISSION:

Be a unique learning and innovation hub in agriculture, food, and veterinary medicine (in drylands) for a nutritive food-sufficient global community.

### VISION:

Create life-long inventive contributors and proactive problem-solvers in sustainable agriculture, food production & management, and animal health.

### Strategic Goals:

CAVM is a unique national asset as it is until date, the only college offering programs on agriculture, food science, animal science & veterinary medicine. The CAVM is constantly working in achieving its strategic goals and the progress has been reported to the university authorities on a regular basis. The past year saw a huge increase in the influx of students towards CAVM majors, which indicates the popularity of our programs and their societal impact. The research productivity and the community/stakeholder engagement has also seen an upward trend.

#### 1 GOAL 1

Generate students with international competencies and leadership skills in food, agriculture, nutrition, animal sciences and veterinary medicine

#### 2 GOAL 2

Foster impactful research into national and global significance for challenges in food, agriculture and animal health

#### 3 GOAL 3

Achieve societal impact by disseminating information, transferring technology and strengthen dynamic partnerships with stakeholders and community.

#### 4 GOAL 4

Create financial sustainability enabling advancement, innovative endeavors and futureproofing of CAVM.





## Accreditation of Academic Programs:

In 2024, all 9 Veterinary Medicine programs (3 undergraduate and 4 graduate) received full accreditation by the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the Ministry of Education for the next 6 years (2024-2030).

Similarly, all 5 Integrative Agriculture programs (3 undergraduate and 2 graduate) received full accreditation by the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the Ministry of Education for the next 6 years (2024-2030).

Also, in 2023, the Department of Food Science received full accreditation from the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) and the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the Ministry of Education, underscoring its commitment to academic excellence and industry relevance.

## New and Updated Academic Programs:

### NEW COURSES:

In 2023-2024, the Department of Food Science has expanded its curriculum to include several new foundational and specialized courses that address the evolving needs of the food industry and scientific community. Newly introduced courses, such as “Food Chemistry 1 and 2” provide students with an in-depth understanding of chemical processes in food, covering topics from macronutrient interactions to food additives and preservation techniques. Additionally, “Food Analysis 1 and 2” offer rigorous training in analytical methods used in food quality and safety assessments, including chemical, physical, and sensory analysis techniques. These courses equip students with critical analytical skills and a solid foundation in food science principles.

### UPDATED COURSES:

In 2023-2024, the Department of Food Science has modernized its existing programs to make them more accessible and aligned with current industry practices. Notably, 50% of the MSc program in Food Science will now be available online,

providing flexibility for working professionals and international students. Furthermore, new MSc tracks are being developed to cater to emerging fields within food science, such as sustainable food production and food innovation. Furthermore, to address the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of food science, a new MSc program was launched that integrates courses from chemical engineering, nutrition, and business. This multidisciplinary approach allows students to gain expertise in food science and related fields that influence the food industry, such as food production technologies, nutritional health, and business management.

Also in 2023-2024, the Department of Integrated Agriculture has integrated experiential learning components, such as fieldwork, internships, and laboratory-based research, to augment student experiences and prepare them for professional challenges. Furthermore, collaborations with industry partners have been strengthened, creating opportunities for joint projects



and knowledge exchange that foster innovation and practical applications in agriculture.

Importantly, the revised Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVM) curriculum increasing credit hours from 152 to 175 was approved and initiated in September 2024, whereby new students were admitted into the first-year cohort. New courses introduced in Fall Semester 2024 under the new BVM first-year curriculum include: Veterinary Biochemistry (VMED 111), Introduction to Veterinary Medicine (VMED 105), Veterinary Physiology-1 (VMED 109). A cooperation agreement has been signed between UAEU and University of Veterinary Medicine-Budapest, Hungary, for two semesters of clinical training for senior Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine students in both 2023 and 2024.

## Facilities and Infrastructure Updates:

Plans for second phase renovation of Falaj Hazza Facility, Building 1, for constructing veterinary teaching clinic, clinical and communication skills labs, animal holding facilities, lecture rooms, staff offices, student and staff lounges, student study room, animal museum and food services developed and finalized with UAE Facilities Management Department and appointed consultant with tender issued in September 2024 which was closed in October 2024 with intent that construction finalized by January 2026



## Technological Advancements and New Resources:

CAVM has gained the capability of production of therapeutically and diagnostically relevant recombinant proteins; technology for human and camel antibody purification, antibody engineering; hybridoma technology for the production of monoclonal antibodies; genotyping of drug-resistant bacterial strains and their microbiological characterization including MALDI-TOF MS; procured a 3D printer to create anatomical models, enhancing our teaching of animal anatomy; procured 15 virtual reality devices to improve the teaching experience. Also, CAVM is now capable of the whole genome sequencing facility via MGI platform. High-end research instrumentation purchased under the ASPIRE International Virtual Research Institute for Food Security in the Drylands (ARIFSID) includes:

- isoPURETM 96 Automated Purification System – for magnetic bead-based purification methods.
- MGISP-960 High-throughput Automated Sample Preparation System - is a flexible, fully automated workstation with 96-channel pipette for preparation and dispensation of biological samples.
- ScanDrop2: Nano-volume Spectrophotometer - that was specially designed for the analysis of microliter-size samples
- The qTOWER<sup>3</sup> auto fully automated qPCR thermal cycler, which uses Analytik Jena's patented optical technology.
- PCRmax – a thermal cycler for PCR and qPCR with outstanding temperature stability with the most innovative technology available in the market.
- TC 9639 Thermal cycler - provides consistent, reliable results for laboratories with medium to high throughput.
- Qseq 400 - a high-throughput automated capillary electrophoresis bio-fragment analyzer, for DNA, RNA and protein fragment analyses.
- DNBSEQ G50 - a compact and flexible benchtop genetic sequencer offering flexibility with two flow cells: FCS for rapid turnaround of STAT samples and FCL for cost-effective sequencing.
- nfitek - It is an integrated system which produces ultrapure water and UP water using tap water.
- MegaBOLT - high-performance bioinformatics analysis accelerator designed to optimize genomic data processing for Whole Genome Sequencing, Whole Exome Sequencing, and panel sequencing.

# College of Science (COS)

## Message from the Dean:

During 2023-2024, 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 19% from 2022. Many papers were published in prestigious journals, with 11 papers in the top 1%, 210 papers in the top 10%, and 425 papers in the top 25% journals.

COS Faculty members have been quite successful in being awarded several research grants, including 11 UPAR, 4 Strategic Research, 4 AUA, one SDG, 9 start-ups, 3 District 4.0, one KU-UAU, and 34 SURE PLUS grants totaling 4,434,455 AED.

COS has signed MOUs with the Technology Innovation Institute—Abu Dhabi, Akita University—Japan, Abu Dhabi Police Department, Dubai Police, The A.O. Kovalevsky Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas of RAS—Russia, NetZero Technologies FZLLC—Abu Dhabi, New York University—Abu Dhabi, and the University of Ljubljana—Slovenia.

The College has successfully strengthened its collaboration with the prominent European Centre for Nuclear Research (CERN). One physics student, Sanad Mubarak Binhalabi, participated in the CERN summer 2024 training program. Moreover, five of our best

students spent a 3-week summer training at Oxford University. Our internship program continues to flourish, with 279 students gaining invaluable work experience across various institutions nationwide, enhancing their preparedness for the competitive job market. Additionally, with the support of the Ministry of Education, 15 undergraduate students enrolled in its international student exchange program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA.

As a result of the strong collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), two faculty members authored 12 publications in well-known journals. The year 2024 marked a momentous occasion with the appointment of Prof. Salah Nasri as the UAE ATLAS cluster leader and Dr. Mohamed Belfkir as a convener of the photon identification group. During 2024, UAEU participated in the ATLAS E/Gamma workshop organized in Valencia, Spain.

Two significant international conferences were held during the year 2023-2024. 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),



**PROF. MAAMAR BENKRAOUDA**  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

in partnership with the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG), organized the seventh edition of the International Conference on Engineering Geophysics (ICEG) during October 16-19, 2023. The second one was the International Conference on "Microbiome: Human, Plant Environmental Health - Applications and Challenges", which unfolded on November 21-22, 2023, at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC). Moreover, the College also conducted three international workshops during 2023-2024, AUA Academic Workshop on "Delay Differential Equations and Applications to Immunology and Infectious Diseases (DDEs-AIIDs)", workshop on "Stochastic & Machine Learning in Finance, Econometric Risk Modelling, and other Sciences" and the Arab-German Young Association (AGYA) workshop.

Throughout the year, we prioritized attracting and developing talented students. The College of Science worked hard to attract and retain both undergraduate and graduate students, who currently total to 1740 undergraduates, 139 master and 82 PhD students. Moreover, we proudly graduated 285 undergraduates and 50 graduate students during the academic year 2023-2024. By continuing to



perform exceptionally well, 189 honor students in the fall of 2023 and 171 in the spring of 2024 were able to hold their positions on the Dean's List.

The various academic departments within the College of Science provide a range of programs at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Two new programs, Mathematics of Data Science, began in Fall 2024, and the BS-MS degree in Chemistry will be launched in Spring 2025. In addition, a new multidisciplinary graduate program proposal (MSc in Forensic Sciences) has been recently approved and will be launched in Fall 2025.

## VISION:

A beacon of scientific innovation, a host to a vibrant and creative scientific community, and a source of scientific solutions to the UAE and beyond.

## MISSION:

The college aims at nurturing an innovative scientific environment that is inspiring to students, attractive to talented faculty, and conducive to strong partnership with the community and industry.



## Strategic Goals and Objectives:

### 1 GOAL 1

Design Enriching and Engaging Student Journeys.

### 2 GOAL 2

Provide High Quality Adaptive Program Offering.

### 3 GOAL 3

Produce Impactful Research and Innovation

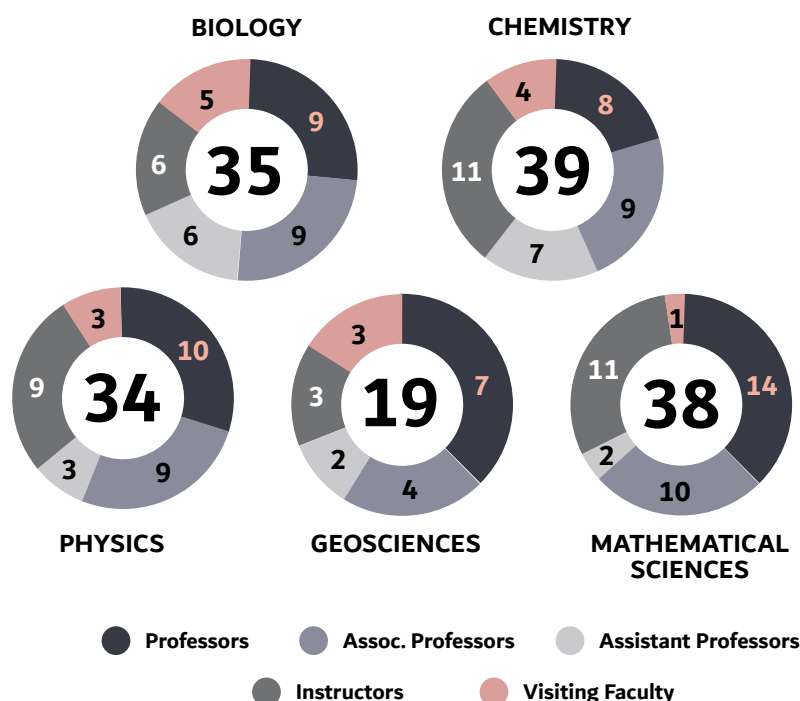
### 4 GOAL 4

Attract, Develop and Retain Top Researchers and Educators.

### 5 GOAL 5

Establish Strong Partnerships and Industry Relations.

## FACULTY MEMBERS:



## Facilities Upgrades:

As part of the new research infrastructure, funds were allocated to purchase the following equipment:

**Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)**

**X-Ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy (XPS)**



## New Programs:

### MATHEMATICS OF DATA SCIENCE

A new Bachelor of Science program was launched by the department of Mathematical Sciences starting from fall 2024. The Mathematics of Data Science program aims to bridge the talent gap in data science by training highly skilled data scientists who can thrive in a data-driven economy. Hosted by the Department of Mathematical Sciences, the program integrates computational and mathematical thinking into a transdisciplinary curriculum, supplemented by internships in data analytics. Students will learn to collect, process, and analyze data, uncovering patterns and gaining insights to solve real-world problems. Emphasizing problem-solving within specific domains, the program ensures students gain expertise in both data science and their chosen field. Graduates will be well-equipped to pursue diverse career opportunities across various sectors, not just in technology.

### BS-MS PROGRAM IN CHEMISTRY

Starting in Fall 2024, a new BS-MS program in Chemistry will be launched. This program offers a promising opportunity for Chemistry and Biochemistry students to advance in their careers by participating in graduate courses and conducting thesis research during their final year of undergraduate studies within the Department of Chemistry.

## Programs Under Review:

### MSC IN FORENSIC SCIENCE.

The College has submitted a proposal for a new interdisciplinary graduate program "Master of Science in Forensic Science." This proposal has been recently approved and the program will be launched in Fall 2025.

### BS-MS PROGRAM IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES & SUSTAINABILITY

A proposal for BS-MS in Environmental Sciences & Sustainability has been submitted by the Biology Department and is currently under review.

## Updates and improvements to existing programs:

The Mathematics, Physics and Biology BSc programs have undergone revisions, strengthening their IT courses to equip students with essential programming tools required for the job market. These changes will be implemented starting from Fall 2024.


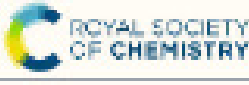





### COURSE TRANSFORMATION INTO ONLINE DELIVERY MODE.

Beginning in fall 2023, the Biology Department has transformed the general education course GESU121, "Sustainability," to an online delivery format. This shift aims to enrich student learning, particularly by offering greater flexibility, access to multimedia resources and tools, personalized learning opportunities, and chances for collaboration and networking. Proposals to convert additional courses within the College are currently underway.



## Accreditation:

The College of Science takes numerous steps to offer its students world-class programs. All current programs are either accredited locally or internationally. Every PhD program at the College of Science is available in a Dual Award format in partnership with McGill University, Canada, and Katholieke Universiteit (KU) Leuven, Belgium. The table below provides a summary of the international accreditation status of science undergraduate programs.

Program	Accreditation Body	Duration	Renewal
BSc in Biology	 Royal Society of Biology	2019-2024	2024
BSc in Chemistry	 ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY	2022-2027	2025
	 <small>QS THE</small> QS World University Rankings 2024 (Top 1000) THE World University Rankings 2024 (Top 1000)	2017-2022	2025
BSc in Biochemistry	 <small>QS THE</small> QS World University Rankings 2024 (Top 1000) THE World University Rankings 2024 (Top 1000)	2017-2022	2025
BSc in Geosciences	 ABET Applied and Natural Sciences Accreditation Commission	2022-2026	2025
BSc in Mathematics	 ABET Applied and Natural Sciences Accreditation Commission	2022-2026	2025
BSc in Physics	 ABET Applied and Natural Sciences Accreditation Commission	2020-2026	2025

## College / Subjects Ranking (QS, THE)

All science courses were ranked as follows according to the Times Higher Education (THE) and QS rating in 2024: Ratings for 2025 have improved (THE: 2s51-300):

Subjects	THE	QS
Biological Sciences	301-400	351-400
Chemistry	301-400	451-500
Natural Sciences	301-400	401-500
Environmental Sciences	301-400	351-400
Mathematics	301-400	301-350
Physics	301-400	501-550

## Research and Innovation in 2023-2024

Ongoing funded research (amount) and new grants and research funding secured during the reporting period is reflected in the table below:

Grant type	Number	Amount AED
District 4.0	3	142,000
Start-up	12	1,596,176
UPAR	41	4,282,374
Strategic Research	15	1,789,880
Joint Collaboraitons	2	396,000
National Faculty	3	454,000
AUA	4	425,000
SDG	1	40,000
IDEX	2	100,000
Post-Doc -3- 2023	1	175,000

## The number of publications, and % publications in Q1-rated academic journals:

The College of Science leads all UAEU colleges in terms of overall number of publications in Scopus-indexed journals The College is proud of its researchers' hard work and dedication to attaining such an exceptional achievement.

Year	1%	10%	25%	Total
2020	10	83	210	409
2021	7	138	279	502
2022	14	167	359	549
2023	11	210	425	637
2024	10	285	502	722

## Patents filed and awarded:

Patent Title	Country	Inventor(s)
Method and System for Gas Identification by Simultaneous Permeation Through Parallel Membranes	USA	Sayed Marzouk and Abdullah J. Abu Namous
Method of liver cancer treatment with Safranal- based formulation	Japan	Amr Amin and Alaa Al Hroust
Combination Therapy for Cancer	Japan	Amr Amin
Safranal-Sorafenib Combination Therapy for Liver Cancer	Japan	Amr Amin
Forming Acousto-Optic Lenses Using Spherical Acoustic Waves in Fluids	USA	Usama Al Khawaja
Novel Coking Resistant Nifeal Catalyst for Partial Oxidation of Methane to Synthesis Gas	USA	Abbas Khaleel and Abdul Rasheed Pillantakath

## Awards, honors, and recognitions received by faculty members:

Patent Title	Inventor(s)
Prof. Khaled El-Tarabily	University Excellence Award in Scholarship
Prof. Khaled El-Tarabily	Chancellor's Award for Institutional Excellence
Dr. Dlala Alshamsi, Dr. Khalid El-Haj and Mr. Omer Elbashir	Chancellor's Innovation Award (9th Cycle) in the faculty category of Water and Food Security.
Prof. Yaser Greish	College Excellence Award in Teaching
Prof. Muhammad Syam	College Excellence Award in Service
Prof. Nacir Tit	College Excellence Award in Scholarship (Theoretical Science)
Prof. Synan AbuQamar	College Excellence Award in Scholarship (Experimental Science)
Dr. Iltaf Shah	Promoted to Full Professor
Dr. Abdessamad Tridane	Promoted to Full Professor
Dr. Sunil Mundra	Promoted to Associate Professor
Dr. Mohammad Aalam	Promoted to Associate Professor

## Notable Student Achievements:

- In 2023, MSc students published 13 papers in international journals, while PhD students published 35 papers.
- For the year 2023-2024, 37 MSc theses and 13 PhD dissertation defenses were successfully completed.
- 132 undergraduate students participated in 34 SURE PLUS 2024 Summer Programs.
- The student Reem Quzli from the Mathematical Sciences Department won the Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Outstanding University Student in the academic field (Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences – Session 26).
- On October 5th, 2023, two teams of students from the Department of Chemistry competed in the CHEMATHON competition at KFUPM. The first team (Hamad Alblooshi and Muneb Mukhtar) won first place, while the second team (Ali Saif Aleissae, Mohammed Alhassani, Abdulrahman Al Teneiji, Abdullah Khalaf, and Sultan Jama) won the best poster award.
- Two student groups won COP28 competitions. Maryam Abbas Ali Altahri, Amna Mohammed Rashed Alkaabi, and Mariam Alsaadi presented their project 'Waste to Energy'. The second team, Aysha Al Balooshi, Mansoor Al Nasi, and Sara Al Muhairi, presented their project, 'Windows into the Future'.
- 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.
- Gamilah Abdulgabar and Haneen Abufarajallah from the Department of Chemistry received third place in the 11th Undergraduate Research & Innovation Competition (URIC) that was conducted on May 23, 2024 at Abu Dhabi University.
- A group of 4 Chemistry students (Mariem Sidi, Noor Albastaki, Mahra Alremeithi, Seba Albalki) were among the winners of the Sustainability Innovation Challenge Competition organized by the Ministry of Education and Altamimi & Company.
- Hamad Alblooshi, Muneb Mukhtar, and Sultan Jama who secured second place at the 2AAU Health Biomedical Symposium held at Al Ain University.
- The student Aesha Mohammad Rahma (Department of Biology) won First Place in the research competition in the field of medical research, held by Sultan Qaboos University Deanship of Student Affairs (January 7-9, 2024).
- 14 male and 15 female students were designated Dean's List high performers in Fall 2024, while 10 male and 15 female were named in Spring 2024.
- College of Science students had a great time competing in the College Trophy Competitions (February 2024) and won many prizes.
- Fifteen of our students participated in the Ministry of Education Student Exchange Program with the University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA.



## Community Engagement and Service:

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 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.

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.

The Department of Mathematical Sciences at the College of Science hosted a three-day workshop titled "Stochastic & Machine Learning in Finance, Econometric Risk Modelling, and Other Sciences" (SMLF2024) on February 21-23, 2024.

Sustainability Club visited Al Narjes school to promote sustainability and creativity for schoolchildren and worked with schools to increase plant awareness and promote sustainability.



The College of Science, in cooperation with the Emirates Schools Establishment, organized the "Science Exhibition" from 21-22 May 2024, at Al Jahili School and Al Dhamaa School in Al Ain.

Through "Masterminds," a Ministry of Education initiative promoting Olympiad participation, the Biology Department organized two training camps for the national team.

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.

College of Science participated in the 17th edition of the Najah Education and Training at Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC) from October 29th to October 31st, 2023.

## Partnerships and Collaborations:

National:	
ADNOC	AL-AIN DISTRIBUTION COMPANY
ABU DHABI JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT	DUBAI WATER AND ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY
FEDERAL AUTHORITY FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION (FANR)	ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY, ABU DHABI
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE	SANDOOQ AL WATAN
MINISTRY OF HEALTH	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES SPACE AGENCY
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	MOHAMMED BIN RASHID SPACE CENTER
MINISTRY OF ENERGY	MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM SOLAR PARK
MINISTRY OF TOURISM & HERITAGE	KHALIFA UNIVERSITY
DUBAI POLICE	UNIVERSITY OF SHARJAH
ABU DHABI POLICE	NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, ABU DHABI
AL-AIN CITY MUNICIPALITY	AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF SHARJAH
ABU DHABI MUNICIPALITY	ZAYED UNIVERSITY, ABU DHABI
NET ZERO TECHNOLOGIES	UAEU RESEARCH CENTERS
NATURAL CENTER OF METEOROLOGY AND SEISMOLOGY	



International:
CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (CAS)
EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH (CERN)
UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE
NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY, SINGAPORE

Additional Partnerships Established in 2023-2024:

IN 2023-2024, THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE SIGNED MOUS WITH THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS:
TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION INSTITUTE, ABU DHABI
AKITA UNIVERSITY, JAPAN
ABU DHABI POLICE DEPARTMENT, DUBAI POLICE
THE A.O. KOVALEVSKY INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGY OF THE SOUTHERN SEAS OF RAS - RUSSIA,
NETZERO TECHNOLOGIES FZLLC, ABU DHABI
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, ABU DHABI
UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA.



# College of Information Technology (CIT)

## Message from the Dean:

In 2023-2024, the College of Information Technology (CIT) introduced the Bachelor of Science in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, which was launched at the end of the academic year. This new program, along with the existing graduate programs and ABET-accredited undergraduate programs—BSc in Computer Engineering, BSc in Computer Science, BSc in Information Security, and BSc in Information Technology—will significantly contribute to developing a skilled local workforce in computing fields, driving innovation and growth.

The college also completed the CAA reaccreditation visit for all of its academic programs, reinforcing its commitment to academic excellence. The college has rapidly grown to become the third-largest at the university, fostering a vibrant community and abundant opportunities for personal and academic development, with enrollment growth of over 360% since 2011.

To further enhance its academic offerings and reinforce its commitment to improving academic programs, the college is regularly revising and updating its courses and curriculum to align with advancements in technology. The updated curriculum in the computer engineering program now includes embedded machine learning, autonomous systems, applied AI, and distributed computing and data engineering. Furthermore, the college improved its research and teaching infrastructure by launching a new Autonomous Systems Lab. This initiative aims to enhance the educational experience by offering students access to advanced computational facilities and facilitating large-scale, hands-on experimental research.

The college published 203 papers during 2023 in journals listed by Scopus, of which 99 were in the top quartile and 48 were in the top decile. This represents a 16% improvement compared to 2022.

Eight faculty members from the college have been named to the prestigious World's Top 2% Scientists list published by Elsevier. The list is based on a study conducted by researchers from Stanford University, USA. Moreover, three faculty members from the college have been included in both the yearly-based and long-term career impact lists. The College is the main host and organizer of the International Conference on Innovations in Information Technology since 2004. The conference is technically sponsored by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). The 15th edition was held in November 2023 and focused on advancements in artificial intelligence, the Internet of smart things, data science, and security.

Undergraduate students in the college are actively engaged in research, reflecting their commitment to academic excellence and innovation. They participated in various projects and initiatives, including the summer undergraduate research experience program and collaborations with faculty, contributing valuable insights and findings. Notably, one student paper was published at the International Conference on Wireless



**DR. FEKRI KHARBASH**

ACTING DEAN, COLLEGE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Networks and Mobile Communications (WINCOM), while another was presented at the International Wireless Communications and Mobile Computing (IWCMC) conference. Both events are technically sponsored by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

The college organized the thirteenth edition of the Information Technology Marathon, an annual competition for school students throughout the UAE. This event features engaging challenges, provides a platform for students to showcase their skills, and raises awareness of IT's strategic significance in the UAE while nurturing future IT talent. The 13th edition, themed "Artificial Intelligence for a Sustainable Future," attracted participation from 120 schools, with 300 students involved. Additionally, college students played a key role in organizing the event, contributing to its success.

Students received numerous awards and recognitions and participated in various competitions, demonstrating their exceptional skills and dedication. For example, this year, teams from the college won second and third place in the UAE Zero Robotic Programming Challenge for UAE Universities, a unique event held onboard the International Space Station (ISS) featuring Emirati astronaut Sultan AlNeyadi.

# College of Business and Economics (CBE)

## Message from the Dean:

In 2023-2024, the College of Business and Economics (CBE) has continued to offer quality programs, using the latest emerging pedagogies and educational technologies. The College has widened the UAEU's international footprint by strengthening international research collaborations with Cambridge University and Lancaster University-UK, City University of Hong Kong, McGill University, Canada, Warsaw University of Technology, Poland, Dundalk Institute of Technology Ireland, Peking University, China, and Temple University, USA. As per the latest Scopus statistics, 81% of CBE faculty publications resulted from international collaboration.

The international reputation of CBE continues to rise. The College now ranks in the top 200 in the 2024 Times Higher Education subject ranking for Business and Economics. CBE faculty research keeps improving both in terms of quantity and quality. In 2023, CBE researchers published a total of 204 papers, 62% of which appeared in Q1 Scopus journals. This latter percent has jumped to 81% so far in 2024, according to Scopus. The CBE moved from 4 to 8 faculty members included in Stanford's 2024 Top 2% Scientists Ranking.

During the academic year 2023-2024 the CBE has been awarded

18 SURE+ grants, 3 new startup grants and 2 new UPAR grants and 8 continuing grants for previous year. Notably, several CBE faculty received significant extramural grant awards: Dr Heba Abouelsood received the Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences (BITSS) Program Grant from the University of California at Berkeley for promoting research reproducibility and transparency; and Dr. Muhammad Bilal Farooq received 2024 Accounting & Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand (AFAANZ) Research Grant. Also, CBE faculty collaborated with the Bank of China to develop and launch the first white paper on ESG in the UAE in COP 28. The CBE organized and hosted the British Accounting and Finance Association (BAFA) Joint Conference of The Corporate Finance and Asset Pricing SIG, and The Northern Area Group.

In 2023, CBE has launched the revised Bachelor of Accounting program. The new structure of the program introduces a considerable element of modern technology that is fast becoming a vital element in every modern business.



**PROF. MOHAMED MADI**  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

It also includes two tracks to prepare students to go for five professional certifications after graduation. Also, the Department of Economics and Finance started applying the revised curriculum of the economics program.

In Spring 2024, the CBE had a very successful CAA-AACSB reaccreditation combined review visit. That resulted in both the National and international reaccreditation of all CBE programs.

The CBE led the establishment of the Human Capital Research Center (HCRC) which focuses on the evolving landscape of market readiness and skill sets. Recognizing the strategic importance of "human capital" in shaping an honorable and sustainable future, the center employs rigorous scientific methods to analyze current conditions, global trends, and future job market foresight. The director of the center, the head of its Labor Market Research and Development Unit, and the head of its Higher Education Research and Development Unit are all CBE faculty.

## VISION:

The College will be recognized by the local and international stakeholders as a business school of reference in high quality research and education.

## MISSION:

To provide student-centered market relevant education, while creating and disseminating new impactful knowledge and successful practices, promoting sustainability, entrepreneurship, and engagement with the community and the world.

## Strategic Goals and Objectives:

- Enriching student journey: The College aims to provide a learning environment that facilitates the development of fully rounded leaders and professionals ready for the workplace.
- Internationalization: The College will diversify its student body and pool of faculty members by admitting more international students and recruiting more internationally recognized lecturers and researchers.
- Cross-disciplinary adaptive program offerings: Improve the quality of the College current programs and introduce new market-relevant programs.
- Teaching Effectiveness and Impact: The College will emphasize and facilitate effective and impactful teaching.
- Interdisciplinary and impactful scholarship: The College will boost the quantity and quality of research output through intra-organizational collaboration.
- Engagement with the community and the world: The College will enhance and encourage deeper engagement with local, regional and global communities.

## CBE Progress in achieving the Strategic Goals AY 2023-24:

The College has made significant strides in advancing its strategic goals, with notable achievements in diversifying its student and faculty body, enhancing program offerings, fostering impactful teaching, and elevating research output. The College has demonstrated strong progress in engaging students through diverse initiatives designed to support a globally-minded and inclusive academic environment. Key accomplishments include exceeding international enrollment targets, expanding faculty development initiatives, launching new academic credentials, and strengthening alumni and community engagement. Through initiatives such as the College Annual Research Program (CARP) and industry collaborations, the College has not only boosted research productivity but also ensured alignment with regional and industry-specific needs. Additionally, the successful implementation of site visits, hands-on projects, and pro bono services for NGOs reflects the College's commitment to community support and practical learning opportunities for students.

The establishment of an International Coordinator role, reaccreditation progress, and collaborations with industry leaders highlight the College's dedication to quality and international standards, further reinforcing its reputation and relevance in a global academic landscape. Efforts to integrate contemporary UAE and regional issues into the DBA curriculum and to expand digital learning resources exemplify the College's responsiveness to evolving educational and market trends.





## Areas for Improvement:

- To build on these achievements, the College has identified several areas to further enhance its strategic goals:
- **Expand Student Exchange Participation:** Increase partnerships with international institutions and explore incentives to encourage greater engagement in student exchange programs.
- **Implement Satisfaction Measures in Faculty Development:** Introduce satisfaction surveys to assess the impact and effectiveness of faculty development initiatives.
- **Broaden the Co-Teaching (CXO) Model:** Extend co-teaching with industry practitioners to additional courses, promoting practical skills and real-world insights across disciplines.
- **Accelerate Digital Learning Transformation:** Fast-track the implementation of digital learning resources, particularly in high-demand courses, to align with the needs of a digitally proficient student body.
- **Increase Student Engagement Events:** Organize additional competitions and innovation challenges to foster experiential learning and student-driven research initiatives.
- **Enhance Alumni and Community Visibility:** Expand alumni engagement through structured mentorship programs and increase awareness of community services to broaden impact and community involvement.

## Facilities and Infrastructure:

The college intends to move toward HyFlex learning, and accordingly, the Dean has approved in 2024 a budget of 286'000 AED to equip one classroom of the Abu Dhabi Off-Campus Site with equipment and technology facilitating the HyFlex delivery of postgraduate programs.

### ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND CURRICULUM:

- **New programs or courses introduced:** The revamped Accounting program was launched in Fall 2023 and the revamped MBA was launched in Spring 2024.
- **Updates and improvements to existing programs:** The revamped BBA and DBA programs have been approved by CAA and will be launched in Fall 2025.
- **Accreditation and assessment outcomes:** All CBE undergraduate and graduate programs have been reaccredited by both CAA and AACSB, following a very successful combined review visit last February. Both Prof. Madi and Dr Mayada are actively engaged with AACSB. Prof. Madi is a Mentor, Reviewer, and a Member of the Initial Accreditation Committee. Dr Mayada is a Reviewer and Member of the Accounting Accreditation Committee.
- **Interdisciplinary/Multidisciplinary programs:** The CBE is in the process of getting the necessary internal and external approval of the interdisciplinary bachelor program in Technological Entrepreneurship and Management, developed in collaboration with the CIT.
- **College / Subjects Ranking (QS 251-300, THE 176-200).** Our MBA program has been ranked first in the UAE for the past 3 years.

## Research and Innovation (during the reporting period):

Ongoing funded research (amount) and new grants and research funding secured during the reporting period are listed below:

### TOTAL AMOUNT OF ONGOING GRANTS

Type of Grants	Total Amount
UPAR/Startup/Strategic	5,009,632
Sure+	543,350
CARP24	625,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,177,982</b>

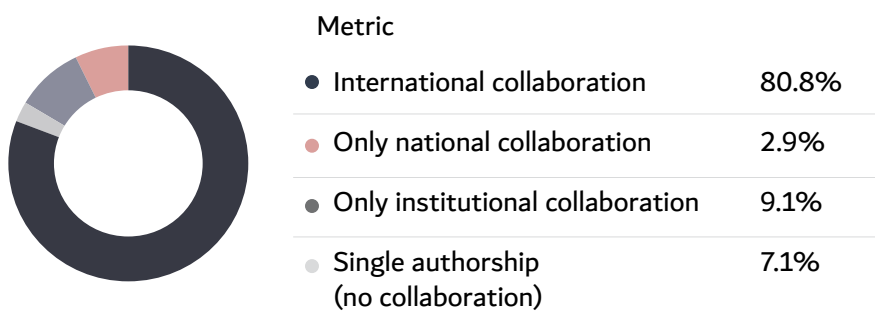


NUMBER OF GRANTS SECURED DURING AY2023/2024

Type of the Grant	Number of Grants
Startup	5
UPAR	1
STRATEGIC	3
Sure +	17
CARP24	25
Total	51

GEOGRAPHICAL COLLABORATION

International, national and institutional research collaboration by CBE

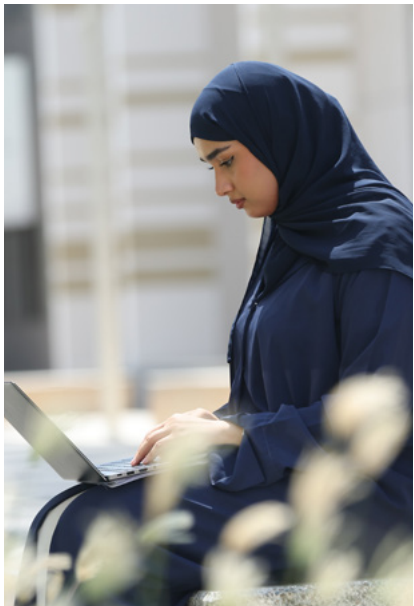


NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS, % PUBLICATIONS IN Q1-RATED ACADEMIC JOURNALS

Year	# of publications	% in Q1 Journals
2023	204	62%
2024 (up to Q3)	182	81%

Faculty Achievements:

- Four additional CBE faculty made it to the Stanford's 2024 Top 2% Scientists Ranking, pushing up the total to eight.
- Prof Khaled Aljifri was recognized by ScholarGPS as being in the top 0.5% of all scholars worldwide.
- Dr Mayada Youssef was recognized by ScholarGPS as being in the top 2.5% of all scholars worldwide in the area of Management Accounting.
- Dr Muhammad Bilal Farooq received the 2024 Accounting & Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand (AFAANZ) Research Grant on 29th June 2024.
- Dr Heba Abouelsood received the Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences (BITSS) Program Grant from the University of California at Berkeley for promoting research reproducibility and transparency. The grant ran from January 1 to June 30 in 2024



## Notable Students' Achievements:

### AWARDS AND HONORS RECEIVED BY STUDENTS:

- 2023: Seed Fund amounting to AED 25,000 awarded by “Sandooq Al Watan”, Abu Dhabi, to the registered student start-up “Tanafos”.
- 2023: Top 5 Student Start-Up Ideas, bagged by a team of female entrepreneurship students at a national level competition organized by TiE Dubai, UAE.
- 2024: 2nd Place – Innovation category, bagged by the student start-up at the 11th Undergraduate Research & Innovation Competition, Abu Dhabi University, UAE.
- 2024: One student was the winner of EY's Tax Professional of the Year for 2024 in MENA.

### NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS ADDRESSING THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Sustainable Development Goals	Number of publications
Goal 1: No poverty	13
Goal 2: Zero hunger	2
Goal 3: Good health and well-being	16
Goal 4: Quality education	8
Goal 5: Gender equality	3
Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation	2
Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy	10
Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth	26
Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure	16
Goal 10: Reduced inequalities	19
Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities	1
Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production	16
Goal 13: Climate action	7
Goal 14: Life Below Water	0
Goal 15: Life on land	1
Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions	5
Goal 17: Partnership for the goals	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>185</b>

In 2024, 22 of our CBE students have co-authored 6 research papers with 5 faculty CBE members. 12 of these students were CBE undergraduate students. Two of the papers were supported by the SDG Grant of UAEU and the CARP Grant of CBE. The papers were all accepted and presented at ICBAP 2024, International Conference on Business Analytics in Practice 2024 (<https://academyba.com/icbap2024/>). One of these papers (“A Novel Data Analytics Methodology for Analyzing Real Estate Brokerage Markets with Case Study of Dubai”) was recently published in a 10% Scopus Journal (<https://www.mdpi.com/2075-5309/14/10/3068>).

Last year's CBE Buzz Festival was a great success. The Festival, organized by CBE student clubs and held in the Great Hall, provided a platform for Emirati small businesses to showcase their startups and gain valuable hands-on sales experience. CBE Master of Business Analytics students' notable research achievements include research publications:

- Nehal AlMadany published the following paper in top 1% journal.
- AlMadany, N. N., \*Hujran, O., Al Naymat, G., & Maghyereh, A. (2024). Forecasting cryptocurrency returns using classical statistical and deep learning techniques. *International Journal of Information Management Data Insights*, 4(2), 100251. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jjime.2024.100251>.
- Mariam Al Akasheh published the following papers in top 5% and 25% journals, respectively.
- Al Akasheh, M., Malik, E. F., \*Hujran, O. & Zaki, N. (2024). A Decade of Research on Machine Learning Techniques for Predicting Employee Turnover: A Systematic Literature Review. *Expert Systems with Applications*, 238 (Part E), 121794. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eswa.2023.121794>
- Al Akasheh, M., Hujran, O., Malik, E. F., & Zaki, N. (2024). Enhancing the Prediction of Employee Turnover with Knowledge Graphs and Explainable AI. *IEEE Access*, 12, 77041-77053. <https://doi: 10.1109/ACCESS.2024.3404829>. in the top 25% journal.

### ESTABLISHING THE CBE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION:

One of the most noticeable achievements at this level is the establishment of the CBE ALUMNI Association in 2023. The ALUMNI Association Board comprises 10 members chaired by Dr. Ibrahim Ahmed Al Kuwaiti (Education Director – Sheikh Shakhboub Medical City). The members are also from reputable government and private companies (e.g., ADNOC, TAQA, NMC Healthcare, Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce, AlFahim Holding, etc.). The first CBE Alumni Gala was organized on April 25th, 2024, at the Marriott Al Forsan in Abu Dhabi. This event brought together the college Dean, professors, and alumni. A highlight of the event was a dynamic panel discussion on the future impact of AI, featuring esteemed ALUMNI panelists: HE Dr. Saif AlShaali, Ms. Sulaiman Hajji, and Mr. Saif AlSalman.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE:

In collaboration with ADGM (Abu Dhabi Global Market), several research projects were/are being undertaken:

- Digital Transformation of Banking and Financial Institutions in the UAE: Understanding the Common Challenges for Collective Action led by 4 faculty members: Thouraya Gherissi Labben, Johan Burger, Gurdal Ertek, and Tarek Elrazaz. 12 banks were involved in the projects. The results were communicated during a conference organized by ADGM, and the whitepaper is available at the following link <https://www.adgmacademy.com/publications/>
- Innovation in the UAE banking sector. This project is currently led by 4 faculty members: Thouraya Gherissi Labben, Johan Burger, Cintia Kluzer, and Heba Abouelsood. A conference and white paper are expected.
- Case Study on Wio Bank, a fintech bank in the UAE. This is led by Johan Burger and Thouraya Gherissi Labben in collaboration with ADGM Academy Research Centre and Manchester University in the United Kingdom.
- Reporting and taxation in the UAE. This project is currently being led by 3 faculty members: Tariq ElRazaz, Heba Abouelsood, Hisham Yacob. A conference and a white paper are expected.
- A project led in collaboration with the Bank of China with 2 faculty members, Ning Chen, and Cintia Kluzer, led to the publication of a whitepaper: *Corporate Sustainability Reporting in the United Arab Emirates: From Integration to Growth Enabler*. The paper was also presented at COP28.



Various webinars were hosted in collaboration with CBE faculty and business executives:

- 26 October 2023: New World of Business: The New BRICS. Hosted speakers were Dr. Usman Khalid, Dr. Sasi Gopalan (both faculty at the CBE), and Mr. Sido Bestani, Managing Director of Swift for the Middle East, Africa, South & Central Asia (MEASCA).
- 17 January 2024: Leadership in the UAE. Hosted speakers were Dr. Thouraya Gherissi, Dr. Mohammed Al Suwaidi, Dr. Willem Visser (all faculty at the CBE), and Ms. Charmaine Klima, Senior Leadership Expert at ADNOC.
- 12 June 2024: Startups and SMEs in the UAE. Hosted speakers include Dr. Raihan Taqui Syed (CBE), Ms. Lyritia Van der Linde (CEO of South African Business Council), Mr. Kevin Holliday (CEO of C3 – Companies Creating Change – Entrepreneurship hub for circular economy companies), and Mr. Sleem Hasan (Venture Capitalist - CEO and Founder of Privity, an independent Dubai-based venture-focused advisory firm).

## PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS:

A number of partnerships and collaborations have been established in 2023-2024, including:

2023	2024
Academic Organizations	
Arizona State University, USA	HKUST Business School, Hong Kong
Dublin City University Business School, Ireland	PAT Business School, Ireland
Goethe Universität am Main, Germany	Reims School of Business, France
HSE University, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Russia	SMU (Singapore Management University), Singapore
NEOMA Business School, France	
Corporate Organizations	
Emirates Entrepreneurship Association, UAE	Nutrider Limited, UAE
Roche Diagnostics Middle East FZCO, UAE	Emirates Islamic Bank, UAE
Unipreneru Inc, UAE	ADNOC, UAE
Chari, Morocco	Barakat Vegetables & Fruits, UAE
	Royal Horizon Holding LLC, UAE
	Department of Economic Development, UAE
	Emirates Family Office Association, UAE

# College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS)

## Message from the Dean:

Strategically, the College Business Plan (2023-2026) set out five college-level goals aligned with the UAEU strategic goals, focusing on areas such as successful future-ready learners, impactful research and innovation, societal impact, strong internal and external collaboration, and organizational excellence and sustainability. The mission of CHSS is to promote excellence in learner-centered education and collaborative research, and our vision of being recognized nationally and internationally for advancing knowledge and preparing enterprising leaders guides every decision, initiative, and effort we make. In 2023-2024, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS), true to its ethos, remained at the forefront of educational innovation and transformation, committed to preparing our students for their future. This includes giving them the 21st century skills they need, as well as preparing them to be useful and engaged citizens of the UAE and the world. CHSS faculty have achieved numerous and notable milestones in scholarly research, strengthening our university's reputation and simultaneously integrating this research into the student's curriculum.

During the 2023-2024 academic year, CHSS introduced several new academic programs, such as the Bachelor of Science in Applied Sociology and Social Data Analytics and the Master of Arts in English. These exciting additions to the educational portfolio represent the College's continuous efforts to align with emerging 21st-century employment trends, adapting our program offerings to the changing world. Moreover, the CHSS has restructured all existing bachelor's

and master's programs in line with the latest academic trends and market demands, further expanding our offerings and enhancing the potential career paths for our students.

Several educational programs within the College have been accredited by leading international accreditation organizations. Most notably, the Bachelor of Arts in Geography has received accreditation from the CHES/IES Accreditation Schemes for the Program of Study in the Environmental Sciences Outside of the UK. Also, the Bachelor of Social Work has been accredited by the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW), and the BA in Tourism Studies by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (Tourism TedQual Certification System). Another exciting development is that the Department of Cognitive Sciences is developing a new interdisciplinary Bachelor of Arts in Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence, which is one of four proposed programs identified by the UAEU for inclusion in its inaugural Interdisciplinary Accelerator Project.

The College has established national and international academic partnerships with institutions like East China Normal University, the Korea Foundation, and the Francophonie University Association.



**PROF. HASSAN AL NABOODAH**

DEAN, COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

In 2023, CHSS maintained nine ongoing funded projects and acquired four new grants, showing strong engagement with funded research initiatives. This progress continued into 2024, with an increase to 10 ongoing funded projects and six new grants secured. Resulting from this research, CHSS has published in Q1-rated scientific journals 60 papers in 2024 and 58 in 2023.

The academic year saw a series of vibrant events spanning across all departments. These events engaged students and faculty in stimulating and culturally diverse activities. Some of these events included the 8th Annual Undergraduate Research Conference, a workshop on dealing with psychological stress, a presentation at the National Space Science & Technology Center (NSSTC), and Mufakiru Elemarat.

The College applauds the remarkable achievement of securing the top position for Social Sciences among institutions in the United Arab Emirates in the prestigious 2023 SCIMAGO Institution Ranking. Also, CHSS being ranked first place, locally and by subject, in the 2023 QS World Universities ranking obtained by the United Arab Emirates University.



VISION:

To be recognized nationally and internationally for advancing knowledge, preparing enterprising leaders, furthering the prosperity of the nation in government, and enhancing the global prospects for future generations.

MISSION:

To achieve excellence in learner-centered education and collaborative research, developing the intellectual, practical, creative and entrepreneurial abilities of the country’s men and women as future leaders of the nation; to promote UAE heritage; to encourage a spirit of internationalism, tolerance and acceptance of diversity across the campus and in the wider society.

Strategic Goals:

The College Business Plan (2023-2026) identifies five college-level strategic goals. These are aligned with the UAEU strategic goals, as shown in the table below:

UAEU Strategic Goals:	
<div>1</div> <div>GOAL 1</div> <div>Successful future-ready learners</div>	<div>2</div> <div>GOAL 2</div> <div>Impactful research and innovation</div>
<div>3</div> <div>GOAL 3</div> <div>Societal impact</div>	<div>4</div> <div>GOAL 4</div> <div>Strong internal and external collaboration</div>
<div>5</div> <div>GOAL 5</div> <div>Organizational excellence and sustainability</div>	

CHSS Strategic Goals:

1

GOAL 1

Produce future-ready graduates, distinguished in their area of academic specialization and capable of becoming productive leaders in society.

2

GOAL 2

Develop the college’s reputation as a center of excellence, producing high-impact and innovative research in areas of national and global importance.

3

GOAL 3

Promote the college’s role in transferring knowledge and skills to serve society.

4

GOAL 4

Encourage and support collaborative activities across all departments within the college, with other colleges and with relevant external institutions and agencies.

5

GOAL 5

Encourage excellence and sustainability across all departments and administrative units.

To achieve these goals, the College has implemented various initiatives and programs, including:

- Developing new academic programs and revising existing ones.
- Expanding global partnerships through agreements with institutions like East China Normal University and the Korea Foundation.
- Seeking international accreditation for all its programs.
- Organizing events and activities to foster a vibrant academic community.
- Investing in research and development.
- Improving learning facilities and infrastructure.
- Promoting faculty and staff development.

## Facilities and Infrastructure:

The Department of Media and Creative Industries is undergoing renovations in Building E5 to accommodate new facilities for the new Bachelor of Visual Studies and Creative Industries.

Six labs and storage rooms are being updated:

- Room E5 0012 has been turned into a photo lab.
- Room E5 0015 is now a digital design and gaming lab.
- Room E5 0017 is a printing area.
- Room E5 0018 will become a sculpture and mural room.
- Room E5 0019 is being used for storage.
- Additional floor boxes have been added to Room E5 0020.
- Ceramic equipment has been delivered to Room E5 0021, and installation is in progress.



## Academic Programs and Curriculum:

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences at the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) has introduced several new academic programs in the 2023-2024 academic year, including:

- A Bachelor of Science in Applied Sociology and Social Data Analytics (Government & Society Department).
- A Master of Arts in English (Languages and Literature Department).

The College has also updated and improved its existing programs by incorporating minor credit hours into the majors and introducing two college requirement courses.

In terms of accreditation, the Bachelor of Arts in Geography has been accredited by the Committee of Heads of Environmental Sciences (CHES) and the Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES). The Bachelor of Social Work has been accredited by the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) and the BA in Tourism Studies by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (Tourism TedQual Certification System). The college continues to actively pursue international accreditation for its other English-language programs.

The Department of Cognitive Sciences is developing a new interdisciplinary Bachelor of Arts in Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence program, which is one of four proposed programs identified by the UAEU for inclusion in its inaugural Interdisciplinary Accelerator Project.

The College has established national and international academic partnerships with institutions like East China Normal University, the Korea Foundation, and the Francophonie University Association. The Department of Cognitive Sciences also has international collaboration agreements with various universities around the world.

Subjects Ranking:

The College applauds the remarkable achievement of securing the top position for Social Sciences among institutions in the United Arab Emirates in the prestigious 2023 SCIMAGO Institution Ranking. This outstanding recognition is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our faculty and researchers.

CHSS being ranked first place, locally and by subject, in the 2023 QS World Universities ranking obtained by the United Arab Emirates University. The ranking depends heavily on global research outputs and educational reputation.

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences remains fully committed to both the quality and quantity of its research, in alignment with the strategic goals set by the University.



Research and Innovation (during the reporting period):

The data in Table 1 reflects a positive trajectory in research activities within the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS), with a steady increase in both ongoing funded projects and new grants secured. In 2023, CHSS maintained 9 ongoing funded projects and acquired 4 new grants, showing strong engagement with funded research initiatives. This progress continued into 2024, with an increase to 10 ongoing funded projects and 6 new grants secured.

Overview of CHSS ongoing funded projects and new grants secured for 2023 and 2024.

Year	Ongoing Funded Projects	New Grants Secured
2023	9	4
2024	10	6

While this upward trend is encouraging and underscores the college's commitment to impactful research, it also highlights an area for potential growth: the overall volume of funded projects. To further elevate CHSS's research impact and competitiveness, it would be beneficial to focus on increasing the quantity of funded research initiatives. Expanding the number of grant applications and funded projects could broaden CHSS's research contributions and enhance its visibility and influence in the academic community. This balanced approach—maintaining quality while boosting quantity—will be key to advancing CHSS's research ambitions in the years to come.

Research Publications:

The Table below displays publication activity over time for the College of Humanities and Science at the United Arab Emirates University. The counts indicate that the college produced 60 publications in 2024 and 58 in 2023. This close year-on-year count suggests a steady research output, which reflects stable research funding, consistent faculty, researcher engagement, and a sustained focus on high-output. Such consistency reflects the college’s strong alignment with current research trends, possibly influenced by ongoing local and international collaboration or alignment with strategic priorities.

Database	Year	Number of Scopus Indexed Papers
Scopus	2023	20
	2024	37
Google Scholar	2023	33
		49

The research portfolio shows a strong focus on high-quality publications, with notable achievements in top-ranked Scopus journals. Specifically, three publications are in the top 1%, demonstrating a clear commitment to excellence. Additionally, nine publications are in the top 5%, and thirteen are in the top 10%, highlighting consistent output in influential journals. Six publications rank within the top 15%, and twenty are in the top 25%, underscoring a solid presence in quality publications. CHSS 2023 Q1 publications broken by the journal ranking is as follows:

Scopus Rank Rank (1,5,10 or 25%)	Number of Publications
1	3
5	9
10	13
15	6
25	20

THE NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS ADDRESSING THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:

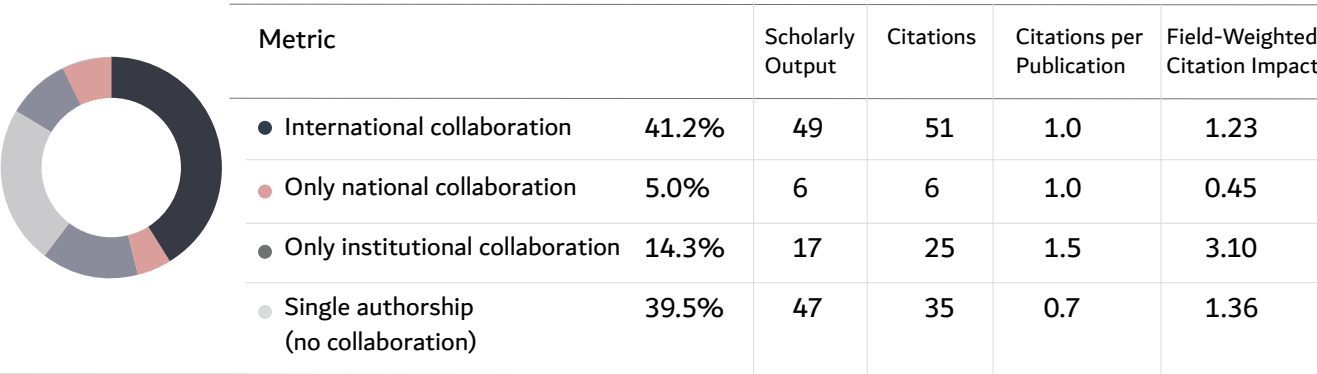
The CHSS faculty members have demonstrated a commitment to addressing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as evidenced by our recent activities in this area. For the academic year 2023-2024, we have successfully secured 5 SDG-focused grants. Additionally, 19 SDG-related proposals have been submitted since 2022, reflecting our proactive engagement and growing interest in contributing to sustainable and impactful solutions. These numbers highlight our faculty’s dedication to research that aligns with global priorities and societal needs, reinforcing our role in advancing the SDGs through meaningful scholarship.

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH EFFORTS AND PARTNERSHIPS:

The SciVal data on Geographical Collaboration metrics reveals the distribution and impact of CHSS’s collaborative research activities across different geographical scopes: international, national, institutional, and single authorship (no collaboration). Each category illustrates the diversity and effectiveness of CHSS’s research collaborations, as measured by scholarly output, citation counts, citations per publication, and Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI).

GEOGRAPHICAL COLLABORATION ANALYSIS FOR COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES:

UAEU’s most impactful collaborations are within the institution, followed by international partnerships. This analysis underscores the importance of both internal and international networks in enhancing research impact. National collaborations show potential for improvement, representing an opportunity for UAEU to enhance its research influence within the country.



INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION (14.3%):

Internal collaborations within UAEU contribute 14.3% of the output, with 17 publications that garnered 25 citations. This group achieves the highest impact, with 1.5 citations per publication and an FWCI of 3.10, indicating that internal collaborations produce highly impactful research, over three times the global average.

NATIONAL COLLABORATION (5.0%):

National collaborations account for the smallest share, with 5.0% of the output (6 publications) and 6 citations. Although these publications achieve a citation rate of 1.0 per publication, their FWCI is only 0.45, suggesting a lower impact compared to international and institutional collaborations.

SINGLE AUTHORSHIP (NO COLLABORATION) (39.5%):

Single-authored works represent 39.5% of UAEU’s research output, comprising 47 publications and 35 citations. Although these publications have a lower citation rate (0.7 citations per publication), their FWCI is 1.36, suggesting they perform above the global average in terms of impact, though with less reach compared to collaborative publications.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION (41.2%):

International collaborations make up the largest portion of UAEU’s scholarly output, accounting for 41.2% of publications. With 49 publications and 51 citations, this category has an average of 1.0 citation per publication and an FWCI of 1.23, indicating an above-average citation impact. This demonstrates the value and reach of UAEU’s international research partnerships.

MAJOR ONGOING AND NEW RESEARCH PROJECTS AND THEIR OUTCOMES:

Table 2, (based on Scopus/Scival dat) provides insights into the diverse scholarly activities across various subfields within the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS). Reflecting a strong commitment to advancing research, several subcategories have achieved significant growth. Scholarly output and author growth across arts and humanities subfields is shown in the table:



Subcategory	Scholarly Output	(Growth %)	Authors	Authors (Growth %)
Language and Linguistics	43	200	48	66.7
General Arts and Humanities	41	225	50	225
Philosophy	41	44.4	34	22.2
Arts and Humanities (miscellaneous)	32	-50	32	14.3
Literature and Literary Theory	26	0	16	-16.7
History	19	300	13	200
Religious Studies	15	0	19	-
Visual Arts and Performing Arts	12	-50	10	-25
Archeology (arts and humanities)	10	0	10	150
History and Philosophy	7	400	6	400
Conservation	3	0	7	-
Classics	2	0	1	-

## Faculty Achievements:

The notable Faculty achievements during the academic year 2023-2024 are grouped by departments:

### DEPARTMENT OF ARABIC LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE:

Dr. Hany Rashwan is a member of the Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA).

### DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE:

Dr. Doris Hambuch was appointed coordinator of the new Master of Arts in English program.

Dr. Raja Lahiani won the College of Humanities and Social Sciences Award for Excellence in Scholarship.

Dr. Mohammed Al-Batineh received a Research Award from the Human Capital Research Center.

### DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND URBAN SUSTAINABILITY:

Prof. Naeema Al Hosani received the College Award for Excellence in services.

Dr. Nazmi Saleous received the College Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Dr. Ahmed Al Murshidi was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.

### DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELLBEING:

Prof. Abdulaziz Albrithen received the 'Rashid Bin Humaid Cultural & Sciences Award'

### DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY:

Dr. Maxime Jaffre served as an expert for the European Commission - European Education and Culture Executive Agency.

Dr. Abdulfattah Yaghi served as an external examiner for Ph.D. dissertations in Organizational Leadership and Women's Leadership at the University of Reading, UK, and in Human Resource Management at the Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia.

### DEPARTMENT OF COGNITIVE SCIENCES:

Dr. Sara AlAleeli was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor.

## Student Achievements:

Notable Students' achievements during the academic year 2023-2024 are grouped by departments:

### DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND URBAN SUSTAINABILITY:

Ms. Hala Shehadeh, Ms. Jamila Aldhaheeri, Ms. Mahra Alketbi, Ms. Meera Alkaabi, Ms. Mouza Alkaabi, and Mr. Khaled Shehadeh, along with their advisor, Dr. Khalid Hussein, won first place at the GIS Day 2023 Poster Competition for their project "Evaluating Groundwater Storage Changes in the UAE Using Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE)."

### DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES:

A group of students from Dr. Shujun Jiang's capstone course won the National Dairy Company Hayatna Design Competition (5,000 AED prize).

### DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY:

Jawaher Ali Alhashmi (Political Science) won the Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance.

Fatima Khaled Mohammed Nasser Al Kaabi (Political Science) was recognized at the World Youth festival 2024.

Maryam Almazrouei (Political Science) was named a Sheikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Scholar at NYUAD.

Maitha Zaher Almadhani (Political Science) received the Chancellor's Award for the Arts Committee.

Two students reached the final rounds of the Sharjah Sustainability Competition.

### DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE:

Shamma AlDhaheeri (English Literature) won the Inaugural Chancellor's Award for Arts at UAE University for her short story "The Saving of Verdantil."

Reem Alshemeili (French) received a scholarship from the French Embassy and Campus France to attend intensive language courses at the CAVILAM language school in Vichy, France.

Two students from the Chinese Minor program won second prize in the "China in the Eyes of the UAE" Speech Contest.

Four students participated in the "Chinese Bridge" Chinese Proficiency Competition, with three ranking in the Top 8.

## Community Engagement and Service:

The notable Community Engagement activities during the academic year 2023-2024 are grouped by departments:

### DEPARTMENT OF ARABIC LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE:

The Department has engaged in several community outreach initiatives, including publishing flyers, organizing events, and participating in various volunteer and service-related activities.

### DEPARTMENT OF COGNITIVE SCIENCES:

Dr. Sara AlAleeli participated in a workshop on University-Industry Engagement on Mental Health Programs and the Early Childhood Development Human Capital University Champions Roundtable Kick-Off meeting.

Several faculty members received online-transformation training from the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL).

## **DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND URBAN SUSTAINABILITY:**

Prof. Naeema Alhosani participated in a dialogue session on "The role of Emirati Women in achieving Sustainability," gave a lecture at the Open Day for new students, presented at COP28, organized a field trip to the National Center of Meteorology in Abu Dhabi, and gave a virtual lecture on "Technology and Mental Fitness."

Dr. Khalid Hussein participated in COP28 with a project titled "DROP," engaged in the seminar "Innovate for a Sustainable Future," and delivered a presentation on flash flooding at a seminar on urban resilience.

The Department has engaged in school outreach programs and offered various activities for students during the Reading Month.

## **DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE:**

Dr. Doris Hambuch and Ms. Sarah Nesti Willard launched their new chapbook at the Al Ain Book Festival.

Dr. Raja Lahiani acted as an international referee for faculty promotion and was invited to deliver a keynote speech at Alagappa State University in India.

The Department organized events for International Translation Day and International Tolerance Day.

The Department participated in UAE Reading Month with a "Language and Culture Expo."

## **DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES:**

Stacey Kalkowski participated in a beach cleanup in Amsterdam, judged an international Game Jam, and participated in the College of Science Art Exhibition for Innovation Month.

## **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELLBEING:**

Prof. Ansie Fouché participated in an anti-bullying campaign and presented at a seminar on urban resilience.

The Department collaborated with the Abu Dhabi Early Childhood Authority to design and deliver training courses for unemployed social work graduates.

Dr. Krista Cooper conducted a workshop on trauma for psychology students.

Dr. Shamma AlFalasi is developing a professional diploma for the Department of Community Development and a crisis intervention training program for the Abu Dhabi police.

Prof. Abdulaziz Albrithen is developing a professional diploma for the Community Development Authority (CDA) in Dubai. The Department provides free consultation services in the field of social work.

## **DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY:**

Dr. Suaad Al Oraimi participated in the workshop "Attribute Mapping at the World Heritage Site of Al Ain," presented on Teacher's Day, was honored at the Sharjah Book Fair, visited Sharjah University, and participated in several symposiums.

Dr. Anne Bartlett collaborated with the Filipino community and the Filipino Social Club to understand more about social cohesion in the UAE and was invited to participate in a panel for the UN General Assembly.

Dr. Maxime Jaffre organized a panel discussion for COP28.

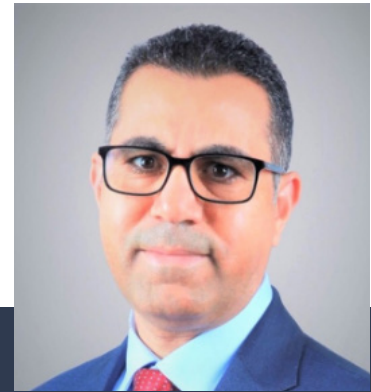
# College of Education (CEDU)

## Message from the Dean:

In the 2023-2024 academic year, the College of Education (CEDU) has made significant strides in advancing its mission to develop future-ready graduates, foster impactful research, and actively engage with society. Program development has been a key focus, highlighted by the launch of the Master's in Gifted and Talented Education—the first of its kind—developed in partnership with the College of William and Mary. This program exemplifies CEDU's commitment to addressing national priorities. Additionally, the College achieved re-accreditation for several core programs, including Bachelor's degrees aligned with international standards such as CAEP. The MS program in Physical and Health Education has also been submitted to the UPCC for approval.

CEDU became the first institution in the UAE to receive CAA approval for a Micro-credential in Educational Innovation (Teaching Track), and in 2023, the Academic Council approved five Micro-Master programs. The College is also the first accredited Training Provider (2023-2026) to offer the first vocational program in Special Education (SPED) and was the first to apply for NQC accreditation for this program. Student success remains central, with employment rates rising by an impressive 30% in recent cohorts. High retention and graduation rates reflect strong support systems, strategic recruitment, and flexible programs, ensuring graduates are well-prepared for impactful careers in education.

**PROF. ALI SAID IBRAHIM**  
ACTING DEAN, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



Research and innovation have flourished, with the College securing over 2 million AED in 21 research grants. Faculty published 133 papers, 58% of which appeared in top-tier journals. CEDU's partnerships with leading institutions, including the University of Oxford, UCL, and UAE organizations, have strengthened research impact, further supported by the newly established CEDU CARE Lab, which promotes global research literacy and application. The College has also engaged in collaborative research with prestigious institutions such as the University of Oxford, UCL, ERASMUS+, UNESCO, ECA, MOE, SCMC, and the Hamdan Foundation, hosting the Fatima Bin Mubarak Research Center for Motherhood and Childhood.

The Special and Gifted Education Department has established Erasmus Plus collaborations for faculty and student mobility with Frederick University, Cyprus (for PhD student and faculty exchanges), and International Hellenic University, Greece (for faculty exchanges). Additional research partnerships include collaborations with the University of Johannesburg, University of Balamand (Lebanon), Ohio University (USA), Exeter University (UK), American University in

Dubai, Zayed University, and New York University Abu Dhabi. CEDU faculty have provided consultancy services across the UAE and internationally for organizations such as SCMC, UNICEF, UNESCO, the World Bank, MOE, ESE, Khalifa Award, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Organization, Al Qasimi Foundation, and the American Educational Research Association, among others.

CEDU faculty were also represented at COP28, the GCC Committee of Deans Annual International Conference in Hail (Saudi Arabia), the Asian Football Federation, the University of Denmark's Football Science of the Future, the GCES Conference, and the Peace Summit. Community engagement remains a cornerstone of CEDU's mission. The College hosted the "UAE Reading Festival" and the first "Inclusive and Diversity in Education Forum," promoting literacy and inclusion. Partnerships with the Dubai Autism Center and the Hamdan bin Rashid Foundation further underscore its commitment to community support. Collaborations have also expanded, including with the Early Childhood Authority, to enhance student learning and faculty partnerships. Participation in global events such as COP28 and the GCC Committee of Deans Conference reflects CEDU's

dedication to advancing education and sustainability.

CEDU continues to provide upskilling programs for university graduates and teachers, along with training initiatives for school professionals, in collaboration with the Emirates Schools Establishment (ESE) and the Abu Dhabi Early Childhood Authority (ECA). Notably, 82% of teachers participating in the ESE upskilling program for the 2023-2024 academic year passed the MOE certification exam. Additionally, a new partnership with the Zayed Higher Organization for People of Determination highlights CEDU's commitment to inclusive education.

These achievements reflect the College of Education's dedication to excellence, innovation, and societal impact. CEDU remains committed to continuous improvement, aligning with national priorities and striving for global leadership in education.

## VISION:

The College of Education aims to be a regional leader in utilizing research-based approaches to prepare successful, future-ready learners in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), offering a wide range of graduate and undergraduate programs.

## MISSION:

The College of Education (CEDU) strives to address societal needs through evidence-based research, scholarship, and the development of learning and teaching. We are dedicated to serving our national, regional, and global communities. In all our endeavors, CEDU seeks excellence in its programs utilizing a robust theory-practice nexus.

## Core Values:

### EXCELLENCE

The College of Education (CEDU) strives to address societal needs through evidence-based research, scholarship, and the development of learning and teaching. We are dedicated to serving our national, regional, and global communities. In all our endeavors, CEDU seeks excellence in its programs utilizing a robust theory-practice nexus.

### INNOVATION

CEDU is dedicated to embracing a spirit of innovation in teaching, research, and service among its faculty, students, and staff.

### INTEGRITY AND DIGNITY

CEDU places utmost value on conducting academic activities according to the highest standards of academic and professional integrity, honesty, and trustworthiness.

### DIVERSITY AND EQUITY

CEDU carefully considers the significance of cultural diversity, equity, and social justice to ensure that faculty, students, and staff are supported and valued regardless of their backgrounds. We strive to embrace the power of diversity to foster an inclusive and caring environment.

### COLLABORATION AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

CEDU is committed to forging local and international collaborations and providing much-needed services to the community and stakeholders through outreach, research, and partnerships.

### EMPOWERMENT

CEDU empowers its faculty, students, and staff to thrive and leverages the community as a source of strength and creativity.

## Strategic Goals and Objectives:

### 1 GOAL 1

#### Successful Future-ready Learners

Create a proactive educational system that enhances the capabilities of students and prepares them to lead in the future labor market.

### 2 GOAL 2

#### Impactful Research and Innovation

Use the University's research and innovation capabilities to find novel and sustainable solutions to future challenges and enhance the global competitiveness of the University.

### 3 GOAL 3

#### Societal Impact

Strengthen the University's role in society by contributing actively to the goals of sustainable development and providing intelligent leadership for life-long learning





## New and Updated Academic Programs

During the academic year 2023–2024, the College has introduced several new academic programs and courses, including:

- The Master's program in Gifted and Talented Education, in partnership with the College of William and Mary, has been submitted to the CAA for Initial Program Accreditation.
- The Master's program in Physical and Health Education has been submitted to the UPCC for approval.
- The College is the first in the UAE to receive CAA approval to offer a micro-credential in Educational Innovation (Teaching Track), and in 2023, the Academic Council approved five micro-credential programs at the Master's level.
- The College is the first to be accredited as a Training Provider, with approval from August 10, 2023, to August 9, 2026, allowing it to offer its first vocational program in Special Education (SPED).
- Two students were accepted into the Dual Master of Education program with the Education University of Hong Kong (EduHK) and officially admitted by the partner institution. However, both were unable to secure leave from their workplaces to pursue the opportunity in Hong Kong for Fall 2024.
- The first college in the UAE to receive CAA approval to offer a Micro-credential in Educational Innovation (Teaching Track), with the Academic Council also approving five Micro-Master programs in 2023.
- The first college to apply for NQC accreditation for its vocational program in Special Education (SPED).

## Program Accreditation and Re-accreditation:

### BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S PROGRAMS:

Programs such as the Bachelor of Education in Special Education, Early Childhood Education, and the Master of Education met the required standards for renewal. Accreditation bodies praised the alignment with international standards (e.g., CAEP) and UAE's National Qualifications Framework.

### DOCTORAL PROGRAMS:

PhD programs in Special Education, Science Education, Mathematics Education, and Language & Literacy were renewed, highlighting their rigor and alignment with UAEU's mission. The College was also commended for its high-quality PhD offerings in these specialized fields.

## 4 GOAL 4

### Strong Internal and External Collaboration

Build and foster national and international partnerships that contribute to the promotion of the university's reputation and its global standing.

## 5 GOAL 5

### Distinguished Services and Proactive Student Experience

Ensure that services are proactive and that the student experience is of the highest quality.

## 6 GOAL 6

### Realize Institutional Effectiveness

Recruit and retain the best talents, and provide efficient and effective institutional services and digital infrastructure.

## 7 GOAL 7

### Innovation Management

Reinforce institutional innovation practices that are based on agility, proactiveness, and readiness.

## New and Improved Infrastructure:

The college has expanded the SPED lab to a center under the name of Sheikha Mouza Bint Suhail Center for Exceptional Children (MBSCEC). Also, CEDU established the first Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics Laboratories in the country.

## Research and Innovation:

There were 12 active research grants received in 2023 and 9 more with 22 faculty recipients and >20 students participating in the research projects. The amount of internal research grants is at 754,203.66 AED while the amount of external research grants is at 1,410,581.17 AED.

One faculty was distinguished as a world-renowned expert in Sports Science (among Stanford University's World's Top 2% Scientists List) and is ranked 9th worldwide among 14,500 researchers in Sports Science in 2023. Another faculty awarded the South Africa National Research Foundation C2 Rating. Four students (named also researchers) were part of funded projects; and secured funding for 4 SURE+ grants with funding for 2 UPAR and 3 Start-up grants.



CEDU journal - IJRE ranked 23rd among 1000 Journals in the Arab Region; released Special Issues with EduHK and UCL - <https://scholarworks.uaeu.ac.ae/ijre/>; IJRE is pursuing its SCOPUS indexing for journals; Recently, the Journal was benchmarked by the Sohar University, Oman.

CEDU's newly established College Research Laboratory (now renamed CEDU CARE – Cultivating Advanced Research Expertise Research Lab), aims to serve as the leading education-based research lab locally and globally by strengthening the research literacy skills of scholars in the field to translate research into educational practice and influence policy.

## International Collaborations and Partnerships:

Faculty expertise generated joint collaborative research projects with international reputable Universities & Entities (University of Oxford & UCL, ERASMUS+, UNESCO, ECA, MOE, SCMC, Hamdan Foundation, etc.), hosting the Fatima Bin Mubarak Research Center for Motherhood and Childhood.

CEDU had representations at COP 28, GCC Committee of Deans Annual International Conference in Hail, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Asian Football Federation, University Denmark Football Science of the Future, GCES Conference, and Peace Summit).

Externally funded (ERASMUS Plus) Project GIFTED (Games and Inclusion for Teacher Education) has been disseminated to KHDA and ESE. Currently, ESE has expressed intent to use the Online game-based training program – Capability 5 ERASMUS Plus. UAEU students (undergraduate and graduate students) who served as pilot participants of the game-based teacher training platform have all received certificates of participation from the international consortium. Transnational Project Meeting occurred in Ferrara Italy: 18-26 November 2023 and March 13-15, 2024 for the ERASMUS+ Project GIFTED.

In addition to this externally funded research grant from ERASMUS Plus, the Special and Gifted Education Department has also established Erasmus Plus collaborations for faculty and student mobility, specifically with the following:

- Frederick University, Cyprus, for PhD student and faculty exchanges.
- International Hellenic University, Greece, for faculty exchanges.

Research partnerships have been forged between CEDU Faculty and the University of Johannesburg, the University of Balamand, Lebanon, Ohio University, USA, Exeter University, UK, American University in Dubai, Zayed University, and New York University Abu Dhabi.

CEDU Faculty offered different consultancy services throughout UAE and internationally (SCMC, UNICEF, UNESCO, Early Childhood Authority, World Bank, MOE, ESE, Khalifa Award, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Organization, Al Qasimi Foundation, American Educational Research Association, Al Ain English Speaking School, Brighton College Al Ain, British Garden International School, Al Ain British Academy (Aldar), Norland Academy).

National Collaborations and Partnerships:

CEDU has current partnerships with Zayed Higher Organizations for People of Determination.

A strong partnership is established with the World Giftedness Center and the Hamdan Foundation. Two faculty members from the Special and Gifted Education department have been invited to serve as Jurors for the World Giftedness Center Award 2024.

The CEDU – Special and Gifted Education Department (SPED) has signed A memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Dubai Autism Center to collaborate on research, training, events, activities, and field experiences for SPED students.

The CEDU - (SPED) has also signed an MOU with the Hamdan Bin Rashed Al Maktoum Foundation of Medical and Educational Science, focusing on training, events, and activities.



Research Publications:

The College of Education had a significant increase in publications by 21% from the academic year 2022-2023 to the academic year 2023-2024 and a 70% increase in research citations. The number of publications in 2023-2024 in various tier journals and citations are shown in the table:

Research Productivity	2023				2024			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Publication	26	29	51	27	35	44	25	30
Citation	4	7	64	49	12	11	41	48
Top 1%	0	3	1	0	2	2	0	1
Top 10%	7	10	1	0	10	14	11	9
Top 25%	17	15	4	3	21	28	19	20
TOTAL	26	29	51	27	35	44	25	30

## CEDU Workshops, Consultancy Services, and Community Impact:

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CEDU conducted a total of 52 workshops, 23 of which were for external stakeholders, including the Abu Dhabi Department of Health, the Ministry of Community Development, Sharqiyah Kalba TV, and the Emirates Schools Establishment (ESE).

CEDU faculty provided a wide range of consultancy services both within the UAE and internationally, collaborating with esteemed organizations such as SCMC, UNICEF, UNESCO, the Early Childhood Authority, World Bank, Ministry of Education, ESE, Khalifa Award, Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Organisation, Al Qasimi Foundation, American Educational Research Association, Al Ain English Speaking School, Brighton College Al Ain, British Garden International School, Al Ain British Academy (Aldar), and Norland Academy.

CEDU launched the first summer camp for the children of UAEU employees, enhancing family engagement and support within the university community.

In sports competitions, the College of Education took first place out of 9 colleges in the 4th edition of the College Trophy (Female) 2024.

In the sports competition of "Gulf Universities Championship 2023," our student "Abdulsalam Ibrahim" won the silver medal in the 800-meter race.

The Physical Education Students won 3rd place in the long jump "Emirates Athletics Cup" in May 2024.

The Physical Education Students secured second place in the "Youth Championship Cup 2024 (U20 Football Championship)".

The College secured second place out of 9 colleges in the 3rd edition of the College Trophy (Female) 2023.

## Partnerships with external and Internal organizations:

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- CEDU has signed a partnership with Al Ain British Academy, Al Ain English Speaking School, Brighton College Al Ain & Garden City Al Ain.
- CEDU - Physical Education Department signed an MOU with Alain Club for three years of collaboration in Sports events and activities.
- Transnational Project Meeting occurred in Ferrara Italy: 18-26 November 2023 and March 13-15, 2024 for the ERASMUS+ Project GIFTED.
- CEDU - Physical Education Department forged a collaboration with UAE Elite Sports Academy to provide Physical Education students with the chance to undergo training and participate in athlete identification tests.
- CEDU - Physical Education will sign an MOU with the Department Ministry of Defense- Military Physical Education Center for three years to develop specialized academic programs in the field of sports and nutrition, conduct scientific research in the field of sports, organize conferences and seminars, and exchange of experiences and cadres supporting community participation and any other topics in the field of sports.
- CEDU- Curriculum and Instruction Department signed an MOU with Emirates Schools Establishment for its upskilling project.
- CEDU- Curriculum and Instruction Department signed an MOU with the Abu Dhabi Early Childhood authority for the ECA-ECE Practitioners Training.
- Research partnerships have been forged between CEDU Faculty and the University of Johannesburg, the University of Balamand, Lebanon, Ohio University, USA, Exeter University, UK, American University in Dubai, Zayed University, and New York University Abu Dhabi.

# College of Law (COL)

## Message from the Dean:

The College of Law works on enhancing its educational programs and extracurricular activities to ensure that students receive the highest levels of education. It also provides the necessary support to faculty members to improve the level of academic research at the college by emphasizing the importance of publishing in reputable, high-impact, and classified academic journals. This approach aims to have an impact on the field of knowledge, and on the university's standing, reputation, and rankings both locally and internationally. This is clearly reflected in the college's achievements in the 2023-2024 academic year, the most notable of which were signing a memorandum of understanding with "Haut conseil de l'évaluation de la recherche et de l'enseignement supérieur -HCERES" for the purpose of obtaining international accreditation for the Bachelor's program in Law, and was successfully granted in October 2024.

Also, during the 2023-2024 academic year, COL has updated and improved its current programs. Due to the latest legislative amendment and the benchmarking studies, the curriculum of the Bachelor in Law program has been updated by adding new courses such as Tax Legislations, and International Law of the Sea, and by canceling courses such as Islamic Criminal System. Also, COL has been working on establishing a new Master's program in Law &

Technology, in collaboration with the School of Law at the University of Colorado.

In AY23/24, at the national level, the College signed a memorandum of understanding with the Dubai Judicial Institute to offer a joint master's program, exchange legal and institutional publications and research, provide student internship and scholarship programs, host distinguished experts, and organize joint seminars, conferences, workshops, meetings, and brainstorming sessions.

In addition, The UAEU became an academic partner to the ADGM Academy and the Willem C.Vis Middle East International Commercial Arbitration Pre-Moot on the 5th of February of 2024.

The college organized the first international moot court competition for Arab law schools, in which the college's participating team won the second place beside participating in two international moot courts competitions; The Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot and SCCA Arabic Moot. It is worth mentioning the increase in the rate of scientific publications in Q1-ranked journals in the Scopus



**PROF. FATIHA GOURARI**  
ACTING DEAN, COLLEGE OF LAW

database. The COL faculty members produced 48 publications last year (2023) which represents an increase of more than 50% compared to 2022. Out of these 48 publications, 23 were published in Q1 and 40 in Q2-ranked scientific journals. Furthermore, COL faculty members produce a wide variety of legal materials that facilitate legal education and contribute to the national and regional development of law, including law books and law articles published in national and regional law journals.

For their scholarly activities, several faculty of the COL have received prestigious awards. Notably, Prof. Abouelwafa Ibrahim has won the First Award in 5th Scientific Research Competition for Faculty members in the Arab Colleges of Law. Also, four COL students have won the Second- Best Team Award in the 2024 International Moot Court Competition of the Association of Arab Colleges of Law.

Stimulating community engagement and promoting international reputation are essential goals for the college as it aims to broaden its impact and establish a strong presence. In 2023-2024, the college achieved this through: providing professional training programs



for lawyers in collaboration with the Judicial Training Institute, Ministry of Justice; offering a training program for members of the Public Prosecution Office of the Abu Dhabi Judicial Department; fulfilling legal clinic duties efficiently and effectively by offering free legal consultations to various sectors of society, along with multiple awareness lectures on laws for students at several schools. Organizing seminars, lectures, and workshops with training sessions in collaboration with partners, such as international law firms (Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner, Hadler & Partner, Clyde & Co, and Al Tamimi & Company) and (including Abu Dhabi Federal Court of Appeal, Abu Dhabi Judicial Department, and Dubai Courts).

## VISION:

To become the flagship law college in the region, and to attain leadership at the local and regional levels in research by tackling contemporary and pressing issues which have a special relevance to the profession and job market, to offer university education which adopts the best and innovative practices in legal education, and to provide high quality community services in the field of law. The College will reach beyond the status quo by developing, adopting, and implementing programs and projects congruent with the University's mission.

## MISSION:

To prepare distinguished legal professionals who would academically and practically be equipped with skills, capabilities and values necessary to practice legal business. This will be accomplished by providing students with an interactive and integrated, challenging but supportive educational environment, by effectively contributing with solid scientific research towards the development of various legal fields, and by providing distinguished legal services to individuals and various institutions of the society.

## Strategic Goals and Objectives:

The College is committed to achieving its priorities and strategic objectives, focusing on four main areas:

### Developing High-Quality Academic Programs:

The College aims to offer students an exceptional legal education that equips them with the academic and professional skills necessary to compete in the job market. This goal is pursued through:

- Obtaining international accreditation for Colleges' programs.
- Offering new graduate programs.
- Conducting periodic assessments of program and course learning outcomes.
- Leveraging stakeholder feedback to monitor, review, evaluate, and continuously improve program quality.

### Creating an Interactive and Holistic Educational Environment:

The College is committed to providing a dynamic and integrated environment that enhances teaching, learning, research, and training. This approach aims to develop students' unique personalities by fostering scientific, professional, and ethical growth. Through this, students gain the skills and values required for creative professions and high standards essential for legal practice. The College continues its efforts to improve evaluation systems and learning processes through:

- Evaluating the implementation of interactive teaching methodologies.
- Incorporating peer feedback on teaching.
- Offering students international educational experiences.
- Conducting extracurricular activities to enhance students' skills, such as moot court competitions, the annual student conference for legal research, and training courses and workshops to develop students' professional abilities.

## Supporting and Promoting Robust Legal Research:

The College is committed to advancing high-quality legal research by encouraging faculty members to publish in top international journals and organizing various research-focused events. Currently, the College prioritizes publications in Q1 and Q2 Scopus-indexed journals to enhance the university's global ranking. To achieve this, the College has implemented several initiatives, including forming research teams of 3-6 faculty members to produce legal articles for publication in Scopus-indexed journals and working to have the College's journal classified within Scopus. Additionally, the College has established specific guidelines to boost research productivity. Faculty members who graduated from non-Arabic universities are required to publish one research article per year in a Scopus journal rated as Q1 or Q2. Faculty members who graduated from Arabic universities are expected to publish at least one research paper per year in one of the journals designated by the College.

## Establishing Strong Connections with Community, International Institutions, and Various Business Sectors:

The College seeks to address the evolving needs of the labor market while promoting legal awareness and values of justice. This is accomplished through organizing community-oriented conferences and seminars, conducting specialized training courses for judges and lawyers, and enhancing the role of the legal clinic to operate efficiently and effectively.

## New and Updated Academic Programs:

The College is working on establishing a new Master's program in Law & Technology, in collaboration with the School of Law at the University of Colorado. Notably, all programs are currently undergoing the reaccreditation process, which will allow for the introduction of new courses to be adopted and offered starting in Fall 2025. Due to the latest legislative amendment and the benchmarking studies, the curriculum of the Bachelor in Law program has been updated by adding new courses such as Tax Legislations, and International Law of the Sea, and by canceling courses such as Islamic Criminal System. All programs are currently undergoing the reaccreditation process, which will allow for the introduction of new courses to be adopted and offered starting in Fall 2025.

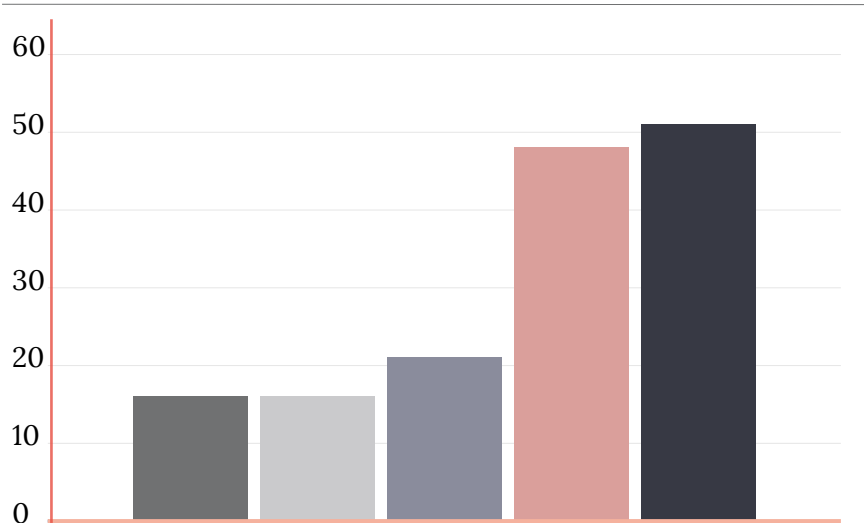
In AY23/24, at the national level, the College signed a memorandum of understanding with the Dubai Judicial Institute to:

- Offer a joint master's program,
- Exchange legal and institutional publications and research,
- Provide student internship and scholarship programs,
- Host distinguished experts,
- Organize joint seminars, conferences, workshops, meetings, and brainstorming sessions.

At the international level, the College signed a memorandum of understanding with the 'Haut Conseil de l'évaluation de la recherche et de l'enseignement supérieur (HCERES)' to obtain international accreditation for the Bachelor's program in Law.

In addition, The UAEU became an academic partner to the ADGM Academy and the Willem C.Vis Middle East International Commercial Arbitration Pre-Moot on the 5th of February of 2024.

Research and Innovation



The chart shows the significant evolution of the number of publications in the recent years. For example, the college faculty members produced 48 publications in 2023 and 51 publications in 2024 which represents an increase of more than 50% compared to 2022. The COL believes that the efforts on research are paying back and that the next years will produce even more publications and specifically more SCOPUS publications.

It is worth highlighting also that the faculty members in the COL produce a wide variety of legal materials that facilitate legal education and contribute to the national and regional development of law, including law books and law articles published in national and regional law journals



Faculty Achievements:

The notable Faculty achievements during the academic year 2023-2024 are grouped by departments:

NAME	AWARD
Prof. Abouelwafa Ibrahim	First Award in 5th Scientific Research Competition for Faculty members in the Arab Colleges of Law
Prof. Ibrahim Al Shawabkeh	College Excellence Award in Community Services
Prof. Abdulla Al Khatib	College Excellence Award in Research
Prof. Mohammad Nsour	College Excellence Award in Research
Dr. Saleh Al-Sharieh	College Excellence Award in Teach
Dr. Sumay Al Jahouri	Chancellor’s Medal for Youth- Chancellor’s Award for Institutional Excellence, 4th Cycle

## Students' Achievements:

NAME	AWARD
Abdulla Alnuaimi Hajar Almazrouei Nouf Awadh Sara Alhajeri	Second- Best Team Award in the 2024 International Moot Court Competition of the Association of Arab Colleges of Law
Shaikha Alzubaidi	Honorable mention for best Claimant Oralist in program organized by the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution in preparation for the Willem C. Vis Moot Competition
Shamma Alneyadi	Honorable mention for best Respondent Oralist in program organized by the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution in preparation for the Willem C. Vis Moot Competition
Saif Alsharari	Award for Best Respondent Oralist in the program organized by the French Law Firm Lazareff Le Bars

## Community Engagement and Service

Stimulating community engagement and promoting international reputation are essential goals for the college as it aims to broaden its impact and establish a strong presence. Community engagement initiatives encourage collaboration with local and international organizations, involve students and faculty in meaningful projects, and address regional challenges, ultimately fostering a sense of responsibility and connection.

In AY23/24, the college achieved this through:

Providing professional training programs for lawyers in collaboration with the Judicial Training Institute, Ministry of Justice.

Offering a training program for members of the Public Prosecution Office of the Abu Dhabi Judicial Department.

Fulfilling legal clinic duties efficiently and effectively by offering free legal consultations to various sectors of society, along with multiple awareness lectures on laws for students at several schools.

Organizing seminars, lectures, and workshops with training sessions in collaboration with partners, such as international law firms (Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner, Hadler & Partner, Clyde & Co, and Al Tamimi & Company) and judicial authorities (including Abu Dhabi Federal Court of Appeal, Abu Dhabi Judicial Department, and Dubai Courts).



# College of Graduate Studies (CGS)



## Message from the Dean:

The College of Graduate Studies (CGS) offers a broad array of accredited educational programs, including 41 Master's and 26 Doctorate degrees, which enroll over 1600 graduate students. We also offer a Dual Master's 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 the UK.

In 2023-2024, a total was 1672 (Masters=1087, PharmD= 17, PhD= 548, DBA= 37) from 62 different nationalities. These graduate students were enrolled in 67 graduate degree programs, including 40 Masters, 25 PhD, PharmD, and Professional Doctorate (DBA) programs. Among these students, 787 received scholarships, fellowships, and assistantships (9 PhD Scholarships, 397 PhD Fellowships, 345 Chancellor Fellowships, 11 full-ride scholarships, 7 Space Science scholarships, 8 Masters Fellowships, and 10 graduate assistantships). In the 2023-2024 academic year, these graduate students have contributed significantly to the academic and research mission of UAEU, by publishing 510 publications (411 by PhD students and 99 by Masters students).

**PROF. ALI HASSAN AL-MARZOUQI**  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

CGS collaborates closely with all academic colleges and various units in the university to support the academic success, professional development, and personal well-being 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). Several students are currently enrolled in the Dual PhD Degree collaboration with KU Leuven and McGill University (Canada). The Dual Master's program in Education with the Education University of Hong Kong starts its first cohort in the Fall of 2024. New partnerships are under development with The University of Groningen (The Netherlands), Monash University (Australia), the University of Alberta (Canada) and University of Liverpool (UK).

In 2023-24, the overall on-time graduation rate for Master's programs was 55.56%, and for PhD Programs was 63.64%. The employment rate for students who graduated in 2023 at 9 months post-graduation was 78.4%

New programs approved in 2023-2024 included a Master of Genetic Counseling in the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, a PhD Program in Environmental Engineering in the College of Engineering, and a Ph.D. Program in Geographic Information Science in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Additionally, 33 dual PhD degree collaborations in all STEM fields were approved with KU Leuven (Belgium) and McGill University (Canada). Upcoming new programs under approval include 4 new Masters programs and 8 PhD programs. These include MSc in Machine Learning and Data Science, a Master of Education in Gifted and Talented (in affiliation with the 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, Dual PhD degree with Groningen University (Netherlands), Dual PhD degree with Monash University (Australia), Dual PhD degree with University of Alberta (Canada) and Dual PhD degree with University of Liverpool (UK).



In 2023-2024, CGS organized several events and professional development activities. Notably, the UAE Graduate Students Research Conference received over 1000 attendees with about 790 paper presentations out of 1147 papers submitted, where 34 students from different institutions were awarded cash prizes for best oral and poster presentations. 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.



### VISION:

To be the national leader in serving the society towards advancing knowledge and developing future leaders, by delivering the highest quality graduate programs in the country, and to produce highly skilled graduates who are recognized nationally and internationally for their quality, service and impactful contributions towards the community and world's advancement in knowledge, innovation, and creativity.

### MISSION:

To serve as an advocate for graduate education and research, to foster an intellectual and professional environment that values and supports creative, scholarly and scientific inquiry while serving the nation's need for a well-educated and professionally-trained workforce through programs and services that meet best practices and international standards, and to facilitate development and delivery of interdisciplinary graduate programs through collaborations with international institutions.

### Strategic Goals and Objectives:

College of Graduate Studies has the following 6 goals:

#### 1 GOAL 1

Increase enrollment in graduate programs

#### 2 GOAL 2

Ensure the development and delivery of high-quality graduate programs

#### 3 GOAL 3

Enhance graduate student research outcomes

#### 4 GOAL 4

Prepare students to be distinguished leaders in their areas of specialization and productive members of society

#### 5 GOAL 5

Create a sustainable life journey for graduate students by providing financial support

#### 6 GOAL 6

Enrich the quality of graduate student life by providing professional development opportunities and enhancing services

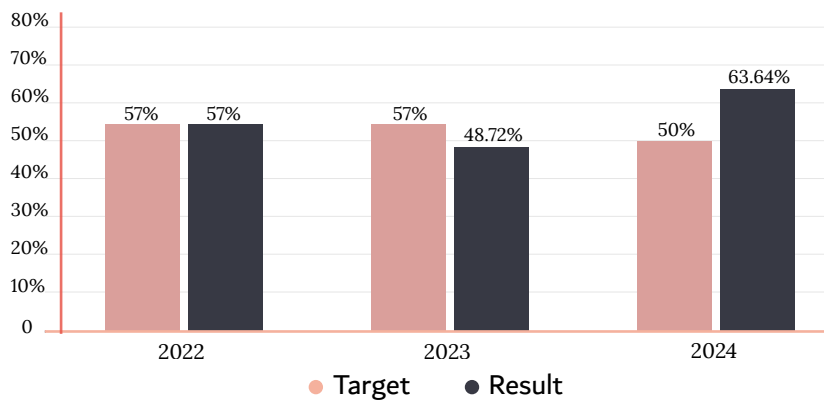
These goals are aligned with UAEU's strategy as shown on the table next page. CGS collaborates with individual colleges to discuss and plan on how to achieve the goals together. CGS expects to establish one to two joint/dual/affiliate degree graduate programs per year in collaboration with colleges. Furthermore, academic colleges are asked to enhance the curriculum and make changes in the delivery mode of graduate programs by converting courses and programs to online or blended modes. CGS expects to transform one graduate program to online/blended per year in collaboration with colleges. Faculty members need to be trained in effective teaching and learning methods to modify their courses to online or blended modalities. CGS and CETL (Center of Excellence in Teaching and Learning) are offering the PhD Student Teaching Academy, which prepares PhD students to become future faculty members. Graduates of this academy will be knowledgeable on effective teaching and learning methods and also will contribute to teaching lower-level undergraduate courses at UAEU.

## Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

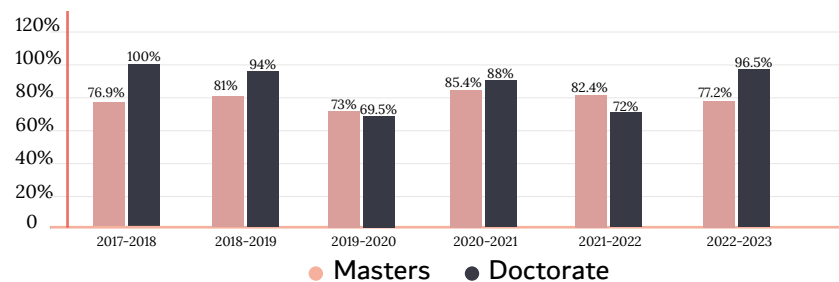
The Overall on-time Graduation Rates for Master Programs was 55.56% in 2023-24



The Overall on-time Graduation Rates for Doctoral Programs was 63.64% in 2023-24

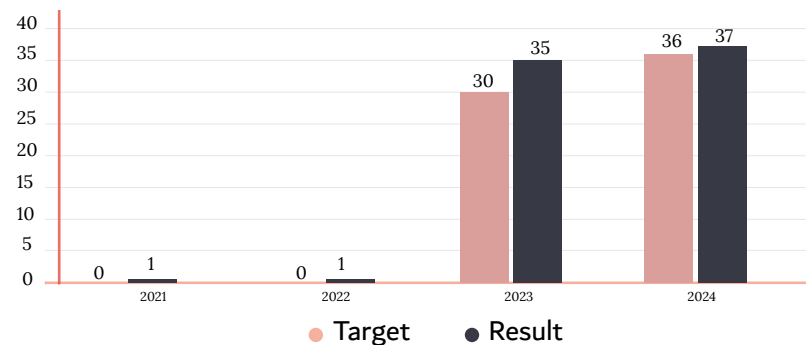


Graduate student employment rate was 78.4% in 2023.

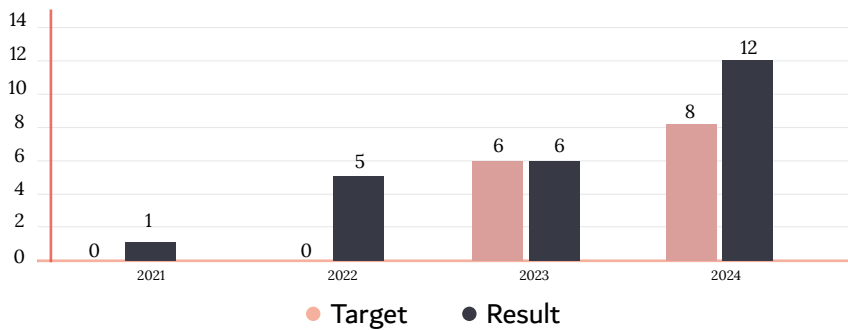


## Operational KPIs

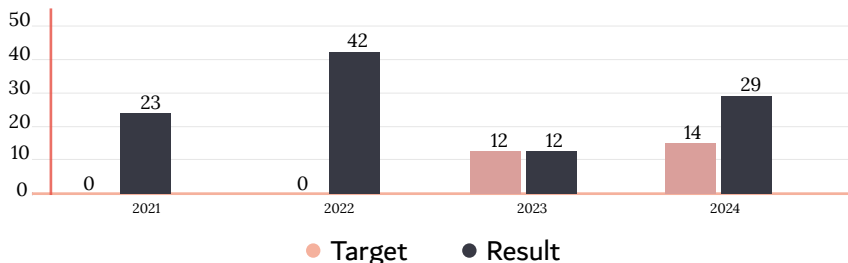
The number of dual graduate programs newly offered collaboratively with prestigious universities was 37 in the academic year 2023- 2024.



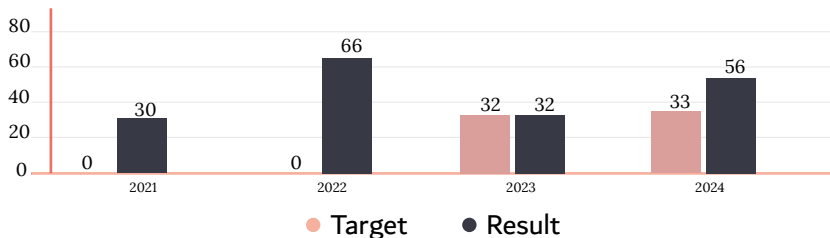
The number of students enrolled in dual graduate programs was 12 PhD students in the academic year 2023-2024.



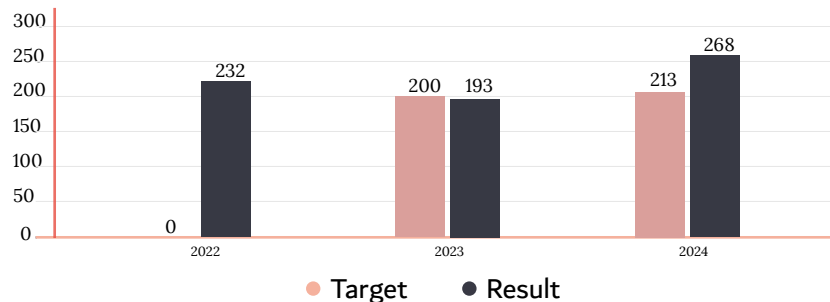
The number of students enrolled in BS-MS tracks was 29 students in the academic year 2023-2024.



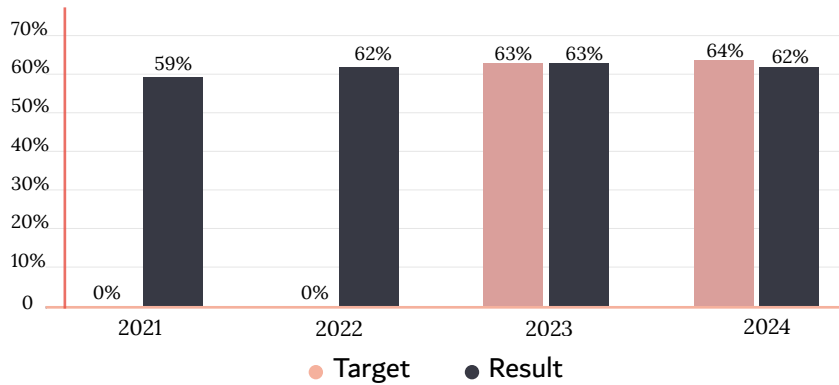
The number of Doctorate students who completed PhD Students Teaching Academy was 56 students in the academic year 2023-2024.



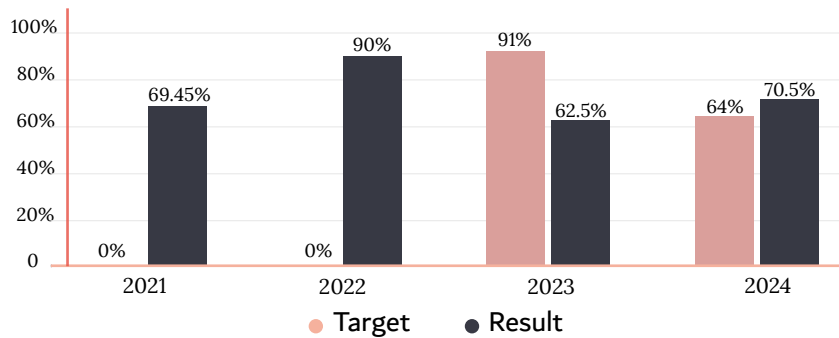
The number of new Students enrolled in graduate programs from UAEU alumni was 268 in the academic year 2023-2024.



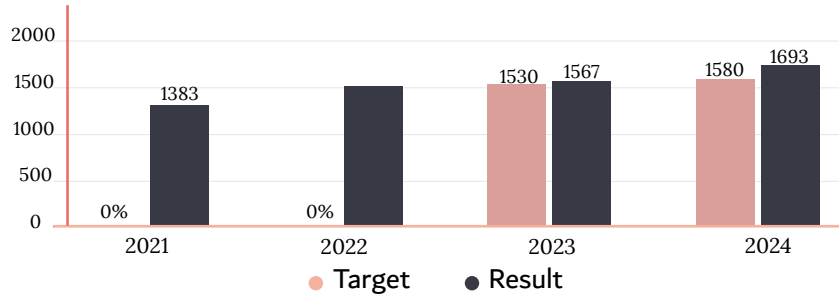
The percentage of graduate students enrolled in STEM programs was 62% in the academic year 2023-2024.



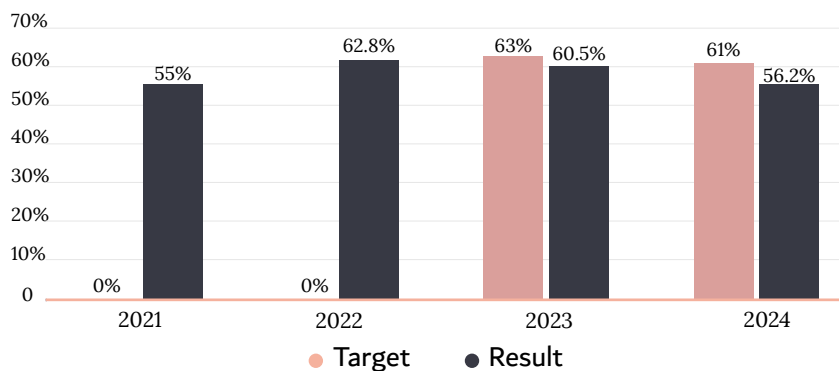
The ratio of first-time enrolled graduate students to applicants offered admission was 70.5% in the academic year 2023-2024.



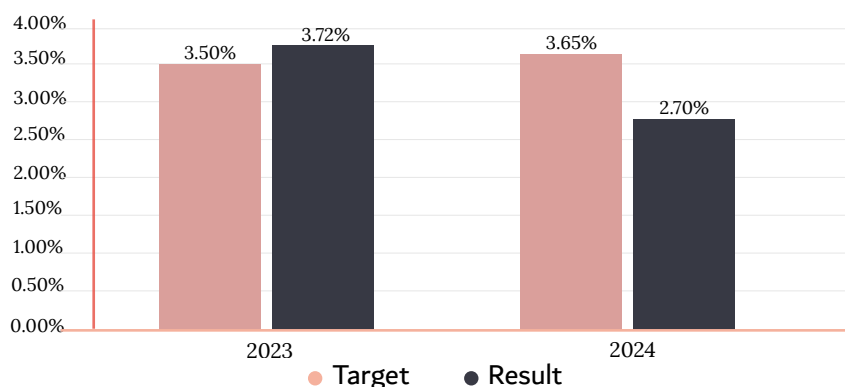
The number of enrolled graduate students was 1693 in the academic year 2023-2024.



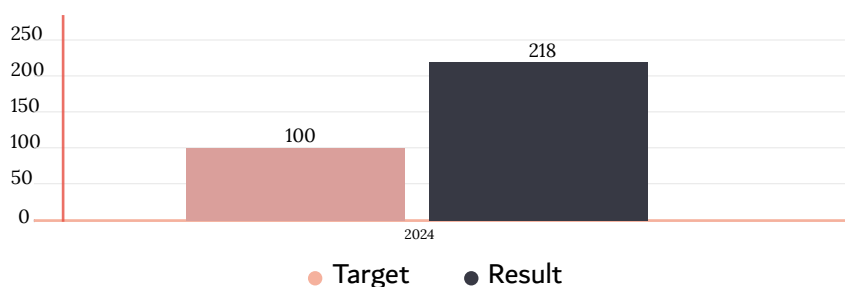
The percentage of graduate students receiving financial support (through scholarships, fellowships, and assistantships) sponsored by internal or external sources was 56.2% in the academic year 2023-2024.



The attrition rate for first-year graduate students was 2.7% in the academic year 2023-2024.



The number of graduate students who attended and presented at national and international conferences was 218 students in the academic year 2023-2024.



### New programs and courses introduced in 2023-2024:

- Master of Genetic Counseling, CMHS (Decree 5/09/2023)
- PhD Program in Environmental Engineering, COE (Decree 26/6/2024)
- Ph.D. Program in Geographic Information Science, CHSS (Decree 22/3/2024)
- Dual PhD Degree in all STEM fields with KU Leuven, Belgium (Decree 13/12/2023)
- Dual PhD degree in all STEM fields with McGill University, Canada (Decree 13/12/2023)
- Master of Education in Gifted and Talented (in affiliation with College of William and Mary)
- Dual PhD degree in Chemistry with Groningen University (Netherlands)
- Dual PhD degree with Monash University (Australia)
- Dual PhD degree with University of Alberta (Canada)
- Dual PhD degree with University of Liverpool (UK)



## New UAEU graduate programs under process:

- MSc in Machine Learning and Data Science
- 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
- Requirements for the BS-MS Accelerated Option has been revised to meet CAA guidelines.

## Graduate Students Research and Innovation:

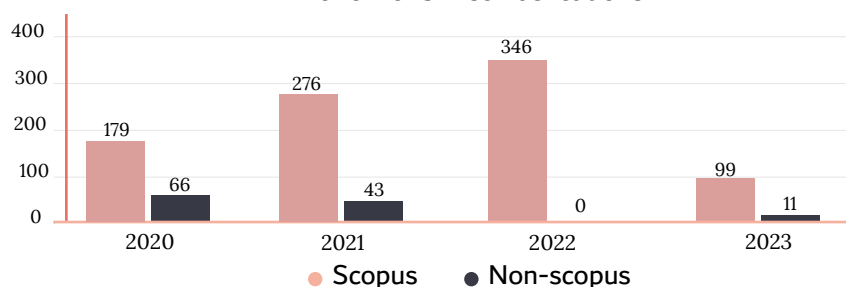
College of Graduate Studies has organized the UAE Graduate Student Research Conference 2024 on 20/4/2024 held at UAEU in Al Ain Campus which received over 1000 attendees with about 790 paper presentations out of 1147 papers submitted.



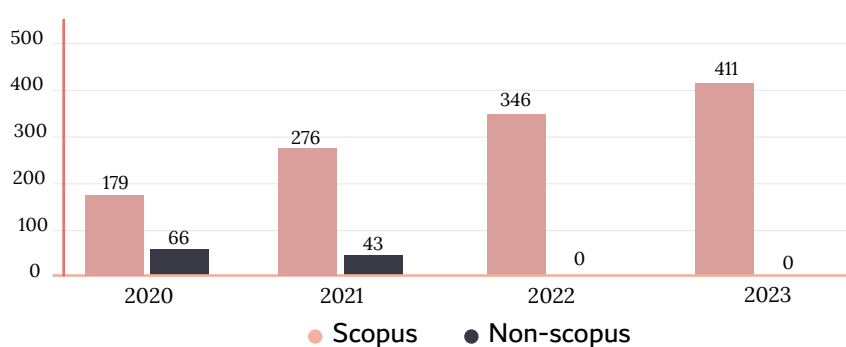
## Graduate Student Publications:

Currently, the data for 2023-2024 is not ready yet as collecting this data from the students and their advisors takes time. In 2022-2023, the number of research publications by graduate students was 510 (PhD 411 and 99 Masters - Scopus).

2020-2023 Msc Publications



2020-2023 Total Doctorate Publications



## Patents by Graduate Students:

In 2023-2024, the UAEU graduate students have been granted 2 patents:

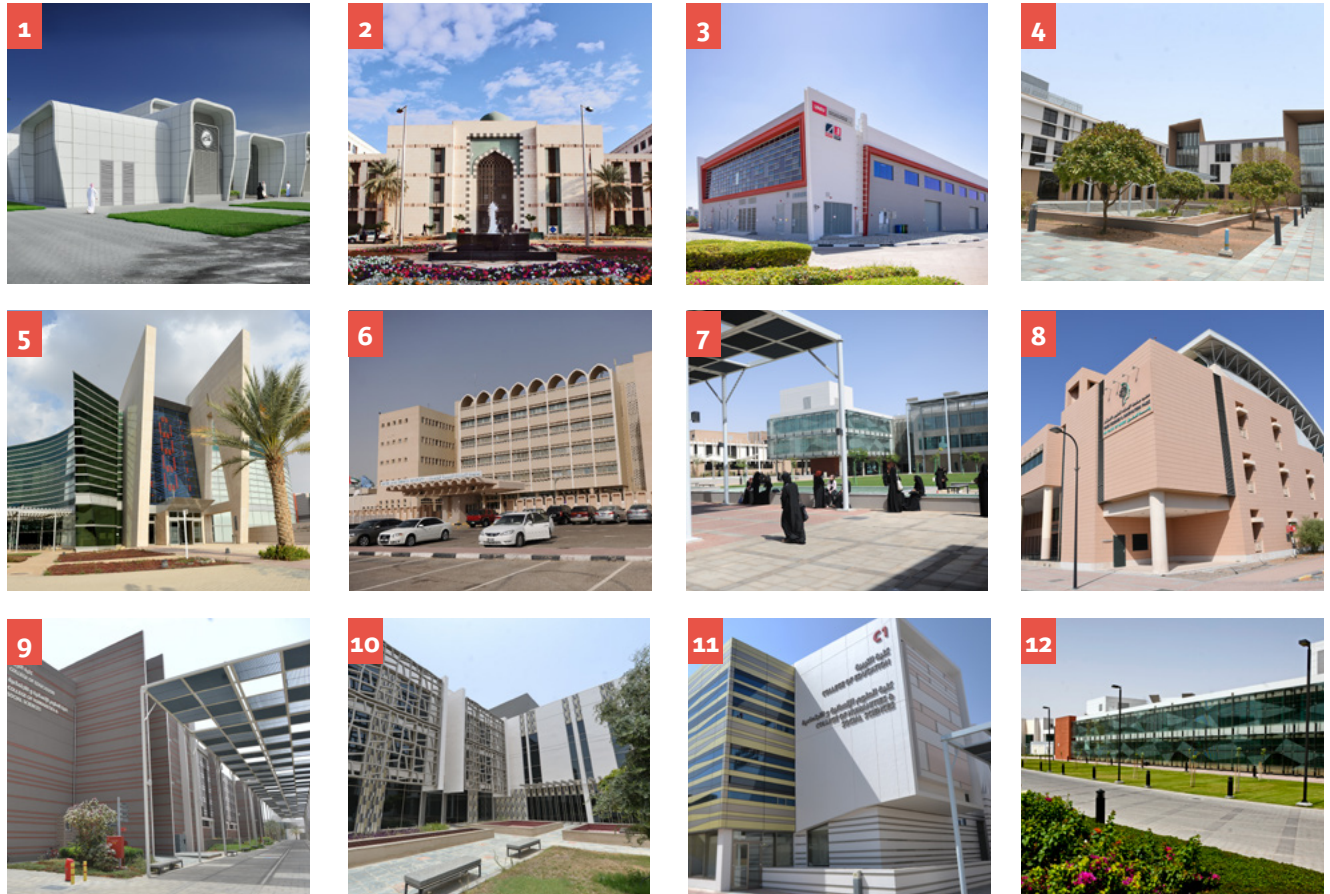
Student Name	Prog	College	Patent Country	Title	No.	Patent Grant Date	Website Link
Manisha Sukhraj Kothari	PhD	COE	US Patent	A method of capturing carbon dioxide using carbide slag	US1199-8870B1	4-6-2024	<a href="https://patents.google.com/patent/US11998870B1/en">https://patents.google.com/patent/US11998870B1/en</a>
Amanpreet Behl	PhD	COS	Indian Patent	Decontamination Apparatus	202011-047606	19-3-2024	<a href="https://iprsearch.ipindia.gov.in/PublicSearch/PublicationSearch/ApplicationStatus">https://iprsearch.ipindia.gov.in/PublicSearch/PublicationSearch/ApplicationStatus</a>

## Patents by Graduate Students:

Student Name	College	Program	Publications
Dr. Fathima Nagoor Pitchai	CMHS	PhD in Biomedical Science	Publication on Top 1% 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 <a href="https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.adn5866">https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.adn5866</a>
Joud Hewalla	COE	PhD in Civil Engineering	Publication on top 1% Journal (Journal of Building Engineering) as 1st author as per Scopus 2023 ranking for paper titled "Durability assessment of geopolymers and cementitious composites for screed applications" Under the supervisor of Dr. Hilal El-Hassan <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jobbe.2024.109037">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jobbe.2024.109037</a>
Nehal Nabil Al Madany	CBE	Master of Business Analytics	Publication on top 1% Journal (Journal Name: International Journal of Information Management Data Insights) as 1st author as per Scopus 2023 ranking for paper titled "Forecasting cryptocurrency returns using classical statistical and deep learning techniques" Under the supervisor of Prof. Omar Hujran <a href="https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2667096824000405">https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2667096824000405</a> <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijime.2024.100251">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijime.2024.100251</a>
Youssef Elmezayen	COE	PhD in Civil Engineering	Published in the top 1% journal, PLOS Biology, as 1st author; paper entitled "MMTV RNA packaging requires an extended long-range interaction for productive Gag binding to packaging signals". Supervisor: Prof. Tahir Rizvi, CMHS <a href="https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3002827">https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3002827</a>
Labeeb Ali	COE	PhD in Chemical Engineering	Publication on top 1% Journal (Journal of bioresources and bioproducts ) as 1st author as per Scopus 2024 ranking for paper titled "Catalytic upgrading of bio-oil from halophyte seeds into transportation fuels" Under the supervisor of Prof. Mohamednoor Altarawneh <a href="https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2369969823000610">https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2369969823000610</a>
Mohamed Shafi	COE	PhD in Chemical Engineering	Publication on top 2% Journal as 1st author (Journal Name: Environmental Pollution) for paper titled "Debromination of novel brominated flame retardants using Zn-based additives: A viable thermochemical approach in the mitigation of toxic effects during e-waste recycling" under the supervisor of Dr. Mohammednoor Al Tarawneh. <a href="https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2024.123645">https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2024.123645</a>

Student Name	College	Program	Publications	
Jad Bawab	COE	PhD in Civil Engineering	Publication in top 1% journal (Journal of Building Engineering) as 1st author as per Scopus 2023, "Accelerated carbonation curing of concrete incorporating calcium carbide residue", under the supervision of Dr. Hilal El-Hassan	doi.org/10.1016/j.jobe.2024.109258
			Publication in top 1% journal (Developments in the Built Environment) as 1st author as per 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	doi.org/10.1016/j.dibe.2023.100258
			Publication in top 4% journal (Construction and Building Materials) as 1st author as per 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	doi.org/10.1016/j.conbuildmat.2023.133734 conbuildmat.2023.133734
			Publication in top 4% journal (Construction and Building Materials) as 1st author as per 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	doi.org/10.1016/j.conbuildmat.2024.137390
Maryam Nooman AlMallahi	COE	PhD in Mechanical Engineering	<p>Published 2 papers in International Journal of Thermofluids (top 5%)  <a href="https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666202723001726">https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666202723001726</a>  <a href="https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666202724000326">https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666202724000326</a></p> <p>Published a paper in Applied Thermal Engineering (top 5%). Journal name: Applied Thermal Engineering  <a href="https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1359431124013309">https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1359431124013309</a></p>	
Jennifer Osamede Airouyuwa	CAVM	PhD in Food Science	<p>Published in top 5% journal (Food Chemistry Volume 448, 2024) 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.  <a href="https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=w3_A13QAAAAJ&amp;hl=en">https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=w3_A13QAAAAJ&amp;hl=en</a></p>	

# Research and Innovation Centers



**1 NATIONAL SPACE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CENTER (NSSTC)**

**2 ZAYED BIN SULTAN AL NAHYAN CENTER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES (ZCHS)**

**3 INDUSTRY 4.0 DISTRICT**

**4 NATIONAL WATER AND ENERGY CENTER (NWECC)**

**5 BIG DATA ANALYTICS CENTER**

**6 EMIRATES CENTER FOR MOBILITY RESEARCH (ECMR)**

**7 CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND LEADERSHIP (CPPL)**

**8 THE UAEU SCIENCE AND INNOVATION PARK (SIP)**

**9 HUMAN CAPITAL RESEARCH CENTER**

**10 CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING (CETL)**

**11 CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTER (CEC)**

**12 THE EMIRATES CENTER FOR HAPPINESS RESEARCH (ECHR)**



# National Space Science & Technology Center (NSSTC)



**ALI ALSHEHHI**

DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

## Message from the Director

As we close another remarkable year, I am both proud and inspired by the strides we have taken at the National Space Science and Technology Center (NSSTC). From pioneering projects in satellite to our growing influence at national and global space forums, 2024 has been a testament to our team's resilience and ability to learn. This year, we have not only expanded our technological capabilities but have also strengthened our international partnerships, reinforcing our commitment to positioning the UAE as a leading force in space

science and technology.

The year 2024 has been transformative, each achievement has been hard-won, and each challenge has been a steppingstone toward our larger vision of pioneering excellence in space science. The resilience, collaboration, and innovation displayed by our team make me confident in our future trajectory. I look forward to building on this momentum, together, as we move into another promising year.

## Overview

The National Space Science and Technology Center (NSSTC) has been an instrumental entity in advancing the UAE's ambitions in the space sector. Established to support the nation's strategic vision, NSSTC's objectives are aligned with the overarching space strategies of the UAE. Through active engagement and strategic initiatives, NSSTC aims to propel the UAE's space ambitions and showcase a commitment to driving innovation in the sector.

Foundation and Early Years:

YEAR ESTABLISHED:

The NSSTC was established in 2016 as a pivotal entity to lead space science and technology initiatives within the UAE.

INITIAL FOCUS:

In its early years, NSSTC focused on building foundational capabilities in satellite development, Earth observation, and planetary science research.

Strategic Evolution:

DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL CAPABILITIES:

Over the years, NSSTC has concentrated on developing advanced local capacities in space satellites technologies and academic research.

KEY PROJECTS:

The center has been instrumental in launching several key projects, including the development and deployment of satellites, as well as leading space exploration research.

LABORATORIES:

- 1 Mechanical lab
- 2 Thermal lab
- 3 Electrical lab
- 4 MLI manufacturing

NSSTC units:

1. Technology development

2. Space Science research

Facilities:

1 ASSEMBLY INTEGRATION AND TESTING

The Assembly, Integration, and Testing (AIT) facility at the National Space Science and Technology Center (NSSTC) is dedicated to advancing the United Arab Emirates' capabilities in space science and technology. This cutting-edge facility is equipped with the latest technology and infrastructure to support the development and validation of satellite systems and space components. The AIT facility ensures rigorous testing and integration processes, adhering to international standards to guarantee the reliability and performance of space missions.

Our certified team of engineers and technicians brings an extensive array of expertise and experience to the facility, ensuring that every aspect of assembly, integration, and testing is conducted with the highest level of precision and care. Their commitment to excellence and adherence to best practices ensure that each project meets the stringent requirements necessary for successful space missions.

By fostering innovation and collaboration, the NSSTC AIT facility plays a pivotal role in the UAE's vision to be a leader in space exploration and technology, supporting a wide range of scientific and commercial space initiatives.

FACILITIES:

Our facilities are equipped with the latest technology for assembling, integrating, and testing satellites weighing up to 350 kg.

- Climatic Chamber provides precise control over temperature and humidity, offering a controlled environment for comprehensive testing.
- Small Thermal Vacuum Chamber provides a controlled environment to validate satellite performance in the harsh conditions of space.
- Large Thermal Vacuum Chamber creates a controlled space environment for comprehensive testing, ensuring mission success in challenging space conditions.
- Mass Properties Measurement System is designed to accurately measure and verify the mass properties of your satellite.
- Vibration Shaker is designed to simulate the extreme vibration encountered during satellite launches and space travel, ensuring your satellite systems are thoroughly tested for space missions.

## Ground Segment

The Ground Segment at the National Space Science and Technology Centre (NSSTC) is the heart of our space operations. Located at the UAE University in Al Ain, next to the NSSTC building, this facility is essential for maintaining seamless communication with our satellites, ensuring the success of our missions.

Our Ground Segment is equipped with advanced ground stations, featuring a UHF band antenna ideal for low-earth orbit (LEO) satellites and CubeSats. This system supports telemetry, tracking, and command (TT&C). Additionally, our dual band S/X antenna operates in both S and X bands, allowing for high-bandwidth data downlinks and TT&C for more extensive satellite missions. These facilities enable us to manage a diverse range of satellite operations effectively.

## Mission Control

Mission Control at NSSTC is the operational hub, overseeing all aspects of our satellite missions. We manage satellite operations by monitoring their status, executing commands, and analyzing data to ensure optimal performance. Coordination with our ground stations is essential for scheduling communication and managing data downlinks, making Mission Control central to the success of our space missions.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE MISSION CONTROL:

#### ● SATELLITE LINK:

Establish and maintain robust communication links with satellites.

#### ● EDUCATIONAL ENGAGEMENT:

Involve students through educational programs.

### FUNCTIONS OF THE MISSION CONTROL:

#### ● TELECOMMAND:

Send precise commands to satellites.

#### ● TELEMETRY:

Receive real-time health and monitoring data.

#### ● PAYLOAD DATA:

Download captured satellite data, e.g., images.

## NSSTC Strategic Goals and Objectives:

NSSTC strategic goals for 2024 was designed to guide its activities and contribute to the overarching objectives of the UAE's national space vision. These goals include:

- **Advancing Space Initiatives:** Driving forward key space initiatives that align with national priorities.
- **Bridging Industry Gaps:** Facilitating seamless collaboration between industry stakeholders to achieve long-term innovation objectives.
- **National Innovation Goals:** Contributing significantly to the UAE's national innovation goals and overall space industry development.
- **Creative Innovation:** Introducing innovative components that enhance the space sector's overall experience and capabilities.



Through its strategic focus on bridging industry gaps, contributing to national innovation, and leading the commercialization of space services and satellite data, NSSTC is not only guiding the activities of the center but also significantly contributing to the overarching objectives of the UAE's space vision. By emphasizing strategic partnerships, innovative engagement, and empowerment of space-tech entrepreneurs, NSSTC aims to drive significant advancements in space initiatives, ensuring long-term sustainability and global competitiveness in the space sector



## Satellite development:

### THE AL-AIN SAT-1

is a collaboration project between NSSTC and the IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS) in the form of the 2nd GRSS Student Grand Challenge to allow student teams to develop Earth Observation payloads for a small satellite.

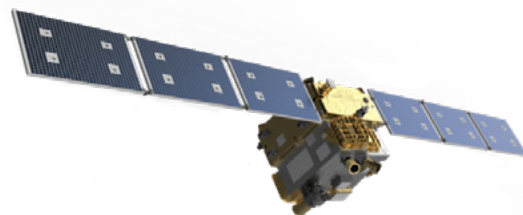


#### MISSION OBJECTIVES:

- Technology Demonstration: Test payloads developed by students from partner international universities.
- perform Microwave Radiometry (MW) measurements at L-band, vegetation analysis using a Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)/Near-Infrared Regions (NIR) camera, and Radio-Frequency Interference (RFI) detection and classification.
- Take Images using a miniature Multispectral camera.
- Preform using image classification to autonomously detect the best quality images for downlinking.
  - A remote sensing Student-built CubeSat
  - Orbit: LEO
  - Size: 3 U Cubesat
  - Launch Date: Q1 2025

### THE ARAB SATELLITE 813

is the first space cooperation Program between the Arab countries led by the UAE. His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE announced Satellite 813 as a contribution to the Arab Space Cooperation. This initiative comes as a result of the leadership's commitment and generous support towards establishing the group and encouraging its efforts of collaboration in space. The Arab Satellite named 813 commemorates the year that marked the beginning of prosperity of the House of Wisdom in Baghdad under the reign of Al-Ma'mun. Representing the region, the House embraced scientists, translated notable texts and produced scientific capabilities. The development of this satellite is funded by the UAE Space Agency and UAEU.



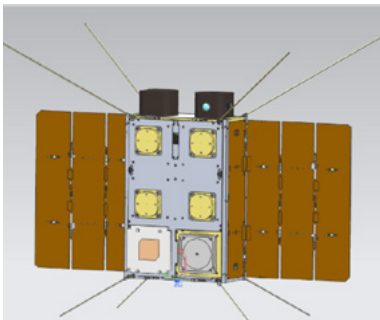


**MISSION OBJECTIVES:**

- Foster NSSTC space engineers' and scientists experience and capabilities.
- Utilize the Assembly, Integration, and Testing (AIT) facilities at the National Space Science and Technology Center.
- Acquire a better understanding of climate change and develop solutions to significant environmental issues.
- Encourage the Arab Countries to step into the field of space science and technology.

**GNSSAS SATELLITE**

is the Global Navigation Satellite System - Augmentation System (GNSSaS), based on using a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) technology demonstration Cubesat to provide GNSS navigation signal knowledge baseline for the UAE to ultimately aim for a constellation. The technology demonstrator will utilize the existing Medium Earth Orbit (MEO) GNSS constellations and will transmit GNSS signals in at least two approved ITU frequencies over the UAE. The technology demonstrator will set the baseline for the GNSSaS program, which is an innovative augmentation concept that aims to provide positioning accuracy of <1m with %99 availability over the targeted area. This satellite program is funded by the UAE Space Agency.

**MISSION OBJECTIVES:**

- Orbit: LEO (550KM)
- Size: 6 U cube-Sat (12 kg)
- Launch Date: TBA
- Validate high precision Orbit Determination and Time Synchronization algorithms
- Transmit GNSS Signals (S-band and L5/E5) from LEO

## Space Science Research

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**NSSTC PLANETARY SCIENCE**

The Planetary Science Group conducts research and development in Planetary Exploration. The focus are planetary environments (planets and their atmosphere, weather, climate, surface, and sub-surface). The group is involved in the study of science data from space missions to planets. That is supported by mathematical models of planetary environments. The group is interested in all the bodies of the solar system (the Sun, planets, moons, asteroids, etc.) and analogue environments on the Earth. The group builds expertise in planetary science in the UAE academic community, by involving University students, at the graduate and undergraduate level.

The Planetary Science group studies planets and other bodies in the Solar System, using a variety of spacecraft observations and mathematical models. Their focus includes planetary atmospheres and surfaces. Their goals are the following:

- Explore, study, and better understand the Solar System
- Build planetary science expertise in the UAE
- Engage students into research
- Participate in interplanetary missions
- Raise the UAE's visibility in planetary science



## Main themes of the group's research:

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### **STUDY PLANETS, MOONS, AND ASTEROIDS IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM.**

Specifically: the lower atmosphere, upper atmosphere, surface, and sub-surface: dust and water in the atmosphere and at the surface, winds and the general circulation of the atmosphere, any atmospheric processes and surface processes, and more.

### **SPACECRAFT DATA EXPLORATION AND APPLICATION.**

From third-party space missions, such as EMM and others (including MAVEN, MEx, MGS, MOM, MRO, ODY, TGO, Curiosity, Insight, Perseverance, and more). Support of NSSTC operated missions.

### **PLANETARY CLIMATE MODELS AND DATA ASSIMILATION.**

Mars PCM, MarsWRF, MITgcm, LETKF, and more.

### **RADIATIVE TRANSFER MODELS (RTMS).**

Mars and Earth RTMs (SCIATRAN RTM, DISORT RTM, ...) and applications, such as the simulation of spacecraft observations and spacecraft data production.

## Earth Observation

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The Earth Observation Group (EOG) specializes in Remote Sensing based observation of the earth's surface. The group is involved in research with the goal of improving the understanding about earth's surface process, phenomena, and its predictability in response to climate change. This group provides end-to-end expertise, from mission concept design to downstream data processing activities.

This group is driven by the user needs. In fact, the first remote sensing-based project was carried out to develop high-resolution land cover land use map on a temporal basis to identify changes over time. This project led to the development of Earth observation group in National Space Science & Technology Center (NSSTC). Apart from this, it also delivers consultancy services to a variety of stockholders for effective decision-making based on different geospatial data sets.

The group pursues research in various fields of EO, which include:

- Geosciences.
- Farmland and vegetation monitoring.
- Environment and climate change.
- Surface Hydrology.
- Hazard zonation and disaster mitigation.
- Urban sprawl monitoring.
- Offshore changes and algal bloom monitoring.
- Terrain Modelling, etc.

Earth Observation projects include:

- High Resolution Land Cover Land Use Classification of UAE
- High Resolution Terrain Modelling
- Climate Change Studies
- Sand dunes monitoring
- Coral Bleaching Monitoring
- Land Cover Land Use Classification MENA
- Topographical Sheet Development Sha'am in Ras Al Khaimah
- Drone Images Processing – Shees Park

## A PROJECT NAMED DROP.

This project is focusing on temporal Ground water status in Africa in changing climate scenario was initiated in mid of 2023. First phase of the project is completed in Dec 2023 and showcased during cop28 event in Dubai. Project received appreciation from local as well as global audience (Politicians, Research Institutions, NGOs as well as young students).

## Student Achievements:

The center champions experiential teaching and training, ensuring that the next generation of space scientists and engineers receive world-class education. The National Center seeks to provide training programs for university students commensurate with their specializations, as the center receives students from all universities inside or outside the country. The statistic shows that number of trainee students during the year 2023 and 2024 reached approximately 86 students, who work under the supervision of professors and expert engineers, who worked in various space projects and field. NSSTC gives the opportunity for the students to present their work in a local and international space conferences.

## Community Engagement and Service:

The National Space Science and Technology Center (NSSTC) has actively engaged in a range of international and national events, reflecting its commitment to global collaboration and knowledge-sharing in space science and technology. As exhibitors, speakers, and visitors, NSSTC has represented the UAE at prominent forums. Locally, NSSTC has participated in key events, engaging with academic and industry audiences to foster interest in space sciences and showcase advancements in space technology. These events have provided NSSTC with valuable platforms to connect with global and regional space experts, reinforce partnerships, and highlight the UAE's growing role in the space sector. Through these efforts, NSSTC continues to establish itself as a pioneering force and a center of innovation within the space sector.



# Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Center for Health Sciences (ZCHS)



**PROF. TAHIR AZIZ RIZVI**

DIRECTOR ZAYED HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER (ZCHS)

## Message from the Director

The Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Center for Health Sciences (ZCHS) was established at UAE University (UAEU) in 2012 through a generous endowment from the Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation (ZCHF). Today, the center continues to receive steadfast support from both UAEU and ZCHF, embodying its mission to become a world-class health research institution with a strong national and international presence. ZCHS is a pioneering integrated virtual research center in the UAE, covering all aspects

of health care. Rather than operating from a single physical location, the center functions as a collaborative network across various UAEU colleges. This model allows its multidisciplinary team—spanning medicine, biology, chemistry, nutrition, IT, public health, and engineering—to drive forward innovation and impactful research. By fostering partnerships with universities and institutions worldwide, ZCHS has made significant strides toward achieving its vision of global recognition.



### VISION:

To become a recognized research center of excellence, nationally, regionally, and internationally.

### MISSION:

- Increase research and innovation capacity in the areas relevant to health sciences to accommodate national needs.
- Develop state-of-the-art technical know-how that is relevant to the UAE healthcare system.

- Provide research training opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students, and next generation of scientists in basic & clinical sciences and public health to prepare them to contribute towards the development of a knowledge-based economy in the UAE
- Increase the Center's public visibility through community outreach programs and international collaborations.

## Facilities and Infrastructure:

A Virtual Hub for Multidisciplinary Health Research, the Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Center for Health Sciences (ZCHS) operates as a virtual center, bringing together the expertise and resources of various colleges at UAE University (UAEU). While the majority of its researchers are based at the College of Medicine and Health Sciences (CMHS), the center actively supports and facilitates health-related research projects across other colleges within the university. Rather than being confined to a single physical location, ZCHS embodies a collaborative model, enabling research to be conducted across multiple disciplines and facilities. This unique structure has established ZCHS as the UAE's first integrated research center covering all facets of health care. The center's researchers come from diverse academic backgrounds, including medicine, biology, chemistry, nutrition, information technology, and engineering. This multidisciplinary team is well-positioned to drive forward innovation, cutting-edge research, and impactful health care practices. Committed to building an international reputation, ZCHS actively seeks to establish formal partnerships with universities and institutions worldwide through collaborations and memoranda of understanding, furthering its vision to contribute to global health research and innovation.

## Strategic Goals and Objectives:

- Conduct impactful research addressing UAE healthcare priorities and establish leadership in health sciences regionally and globally.
- Enhance infrastructure to drive innovation in health sciences, aligning with UAE's healthcare needs.
- Offer training and mentorship for students in health sciences to develop future leaders.
- Support the UAE's knowledge-based economy by translating research into practical applications.
- Boost public awareness and international collaborations to expand the center's influence and visibility.



## Values and benefits offered by the ZCHS

Since its inception, ZCHS continues to help support health, economic, and social development in the UAE by making available the academic and research resources of ZCHS to various entities in the UAE, including other universities. Consistent with this, the research conducted by the investigators of ZCHS has benefited the community as well as the UAEU.

### DIRECT RESOURCES

Endowment from ZCHF (AED 11,000,000) which generates a certain amount of revenue yearly. Available funds as of this year AED approximately 700,000.

### INDIRECT RESOURCES

- The Office of the Associate Provost for Research covers salary (~AED 100,000/year) of one staff to help accomplish the day today functioning of the center.
- The Office of the Associate Provost for Research covers consultancy fee for one current center consultant.



## Research and Innovation:

The center strives to build an international reputation and to forge formal links with other universities and institutions through collaborations to achieve its vision. This can be substantiated by some of the achievements for the academic year 2023-2024 listed below:

### INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL FUNDING

ZCHS investigators, as in the past years, were successful in securing ZCHS-based strategic research grants and grants based on Asian University Alliance (AUA) collaborative grants. With regards to external funding, ZCHS investigators were able to attract funds for their ongoing grants from other external organizations, such as ASPIRE/ADEK. Finally, despite many challenges, ZCHS investigators have positioned the center ideally to be recognized as a “center of excellence”, nationally, regionally, and internationally. However, due to the virtual

nature of the center, the thematic progression of research in thrust areas has not yet fully blossomed. Therefore, every effort should be made to transform ZCHS into a real, physically thriving research center with its own budget, staff (especially scientific leaders in the thrust areas), and core facilities.

### PUBLICATIONS IN PEER REVIEWED JOURNALS AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

During the academic year 2023-2024, a total of 89 articles were published by ZCHS-affiliated

investigators in internationally peer-reviewed journals. Out of these, 59 articles (66.3%) were published jointly with scientists from international institutions suggesting that ZCHS investigators have positioned the center in a distinctive position to be recognized internationally. Additionally, ZCHS investigators published these articles on health-related issues in areas of science such as health and clinical sciences, life sciences, physical sciences, engineering, and computer science etc. reflecting a truly multidisciplinary nature of ZCHS.

## Patents

ZCHS investigators demonstrated remarkable innovation by applying for 7 patents and being awarded 3 patents during the 2023-2024 academic year.

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE:

Since its inception, ZCHS continues to help support health, economic, and social development in the UAE by making available the academic and research resources of ZCHS to various entities in the UAE, including other universities. Consistent with this, the research conducted by the investigators of ZCHS has benefited the community as well as the UAEU. Therefore, ZCHS investigators perform:

- Community Based Research
- Community Advisory Services for UAE Governmental and International Organizations
- Research leading to some health policy action, intervention or recommendations

The ZCHS' continuing efforts to build a knowledge-based economy is the creation of a unique, internationally renowned research center that can bypass customary impediments faced in advancing scientific discoveries into reality. The years of relentless efforts by ZCHS investigators has placed the Center into a distinctive position to be recognized as a center of excellence, nationally, regionally, and internationally.





# Industry 4.0 District



**DR. ABDULRAHMAN KALBAT**  
INDUSTRY 4.0 DISTRICT



## Message from the Director

The Industry 4.0 District is a major undertaking by UAE University as part of its ambitious plan to be the “University of the Future”. This “District” hosts Labs and integrate various components of the Fourth Industrial Revolution into UAEU students’ education, including courses, programs, projects, research activities, and industrial applications. Students,

faculty, freelancers, and industries will have access to these labs to be able to try out, prototype, and test their ideas in different fields and may be guided in turning their ideas into commercial products. We anticipate that “District 4.0” will transform the way we conduct education in the STEM fields in the region.

### Vision:

To establish UAEU Science and Innovation Park as a global leader in integrating Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) advancements into higher education, driving innovation, entrepreneurship, and industrial transformation in alignment with the UAE's national strategy.

### Mission:

The UAEU Science and Innovation Park is dedicated to fostering innovation, research, and entrepreneurship by providing state-of-the-art facilities and resources through the Industry 4.0 District. By linking education, industry, and government initiatives, we aim to equip national talent with advanced skills in science and technology, promote collaboration, deliver real-world industrial solutions, and transform innovative ideas into successful startups that contribute to the UAE's knowledge-based economy.

## Goals:

District 4.0 is placing the UAEU in the forefront of incorporating the Fourth Industrial Revolution into Higher Education in the country and in the region. District 4.0 serves to:

- Build and establish a facility to host the UAEU Industry 4.0 District Labs and provide for the needed infrastructure to run them.
- Link the Industry 4.0 Labs with the National Agenda and Government Initiatives.
- Establish the facilities required to teach Industry 4.0 concepts for manufacturing to align with United Arab Emirates 4IR strategy.
- Establish an industrial robots research lab to conduct state of the art research in the area of AI and automation.
- Prepare a pool of national talents and entrepreneurs for Industry 4.0 and equip them with the required knowledge and skills in advanced science and technology.
- Attract Industry funding to UAEU by providing real application solutions.
- Play a leading role in the transformation process of local industries into using 4IR through technical consultation.
- Acquire state of the art equipment and supporting software.
- Provide affordable Industry 4.0 services to designers and innovators.
- Attract talented students and researchers to use the resources and services available in the labs.
- Provide various training courses and workshops on the use of labs' equipment and software.
- Promote entrepreneurship by transforming students' ideas and prototypes into startups through the UAEU Science and Innovation Park.

Academia, think tanks, entrepreneurs, technology providers and manufacturers have access to all the facilities and labs of District 4.0 to try out, prototype, and test their ideas in different fields. They may also be guided in turning their ideas into commercial products. The District will support the university initiative to commercialize several of the patents that have high value to the industry and specifically in the areas of material science, energy and technology. District 4.0 is transforming the way education is delivered in the STEM fields in the region. Through increased quality, efficiency, speed, and flexibility, District 4.0 allows businesses to achieve new competitive advantages

## FABRICATION LABORATORY (FABLAB)

is dedicated to advancing the field of fabrication technology, utilizing a versatile array of tools including 3D printers, CNC machines, and conventional fabrication equipment to explore innovative techniques and create complex, precise structures and materials with speed and

## Industry 4.0 District Labs and Facilities



### SMART MANUFACTURING LAB

aims to integrate digital technologies and intelligent automation to revolutionize traditional manufacturing processes, enhancing efficiency, customization, and production speed.



### COGNITIVE, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ROBOTICS LAB (CAIR)

focuses on the development and application of advanced AI and robotics technologies to create intelligent systems capable of autonomous decision-making and interaction with their environment.





### ADVANCED MATERIALS CHARACTERIZATION LAB

specializes in analyzing and developing new materials with enhanced properties, using cutting-edge techniques to understand material behavior at the nano and microscale.



### SMART GRID AND SMART CITIES LAB

is focusing on sustainable urban development, the Smart Grid and Smart Cities Lab develops technologies for intelligent energy distribution and urban systems, aiming to create efficient, resilient, and interconnected cities.

### Smart Manufacturing Lab Capabilities



**Bosch REXROTH mMS4.0 Modular Mechatronic Training System**

### FabLab Capabilities



**Vertical Milling Center M2 Pro, DMG Mori, Germany**



**Wire Cut EDM Machine, NeoSpark B 300, Knuth, Germany**



**Lead Screw and Feed Shaft Lathe, Turnado 280/1500, Knuth, Germany**



**Universal Milling Machine, FTX-125-FC Visual, Devco, Italy**



**Ultimaker S5 Desktop 3D printer + Air Manager + Material Station**



**NeoDen 3V Desktop Pick and Place Machine with Vision System**

## CAIR Lab Capabilities



**Baxter - Two-Armed  
Collaborative Robot with  
an Animated Face from  
Rethink Robotics**

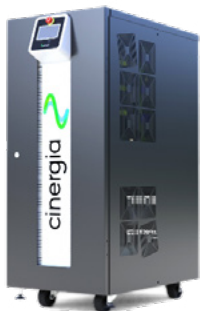


**KINOVA GEN3  
7DOF Robotic Arm  
With Vision And  
Gripper**



**Unitree Go 1 EDU  
Quadruped Robot  
Dog**

## Smart Grid & Smart Cities Lab Capabilities



**Cinergia  
Regenerative AC  
Grid Emulator (GE+  
7.5 vAC)**



**Chroma Programmable  
DC Power Supply (Solar  
Array Simulation)  
Model 62000h-s Series**



**Chroma Bidirectional  
DC Power Supply  
Model 62060D-600**



**Chroma Programmable  
AC & DC Electronic  
Load  
Model 63802**



**Chroma  
Programmable DC  
Power Supply  
Model 62034E-1200P**



## District 4.0 Enablement Center in Collaboration with MOIAT

The Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology (MOIAT) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) to establish the UAE's second Industry 4.0 Enablement Center within UAEU's District 4.0. The signing took place on February 15th, 2023, on the sidelines of the World Government Summit in Dubai. Sarah Al Amiri, Minister of State for Public Education and Advanced Technology, and Zaki Anwar Nusseibeh, Cultural Advisor to the President of the UAE and Chancellor of the United Arab Emirates University, witnessed the signing of the MoU.

## District 4.0 Research and Development Program

The District 4.0 Research Program is a new initiative by the Industry District 4.0, in collaboration with the Research Office at UAEU, announced in August 2023. This program aims to increase awareness among students and the broader UAEU community about the applications associated with the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). The program provides seed funding for 10 research projects lasting 6 months, in the amount of up to 50,000 AED each. Research teams are composed of 2 undergraduate students, 1 graduate student and 1 faculty. The goals of the projects are: to explore, test, and develop their research ideas into solutions for real-world problems. Eligible colleges include: College of Engineering, College of Information Technology and College of Science. The funded projects are as follows:

	Title	PI Name	College	Theme	Budget (AED)
1	Additive Manufacturing of Heat Exchangers for Energy Recovery in UAE	Fadi Al Naimat	Engineering	Fablab	50,000.00
2	Additive manufacturing of a complex wall shape for interior design of Architectural Engineering Department	Lindita Bande	Engineering	Fablab	49,500.00
3	Exploring Doped-Ga2O3-Based Memristors for Neuromorphic Computing Solution	Halla Aldosari	Science	Advanced Materials Characterization Lab	50,000.00
4	Cobalt Layered Double Hydroxide (Co-LDH) for High-Performance Zinc Air Batteries	Fathy Hassan	Science	Advanced Materials Characterization Lab	50,000.00
5	Hospitality robot: Developing a ChatGPT-based social conversational robot for the hospital waiting room	Abdelkader N Belkacem	IT	Cognitive, AI and Robotics (CAIR)	30,000.00
6	Open-architecture controller development for multi-axis robotic structures as experimental platform for collaborative robotics	Khalifa Harib	Engineering	Cognitive, AI and Robotics (CAIR)	50,000.00
7	Agriculture 4.0 Meets Smart Cities: Transforming Urban Farming through Industrial IoT and LoRa-based Networks	Nasir Saeed	Engineering	Smart Grid and Smart Cities Lab	42,400.00
8	Edge AI for Smart Urban Pedestrian Safety	Moulay Badidi	IT	Smart Grid and Smart Cities Lab	30,000.00
9	IoT-based Fault Detection System for Smart Predictive Maintenance: Application to rotary motors	Ayham Zaitouny	Science	Smart Manufacturing Lab	42,000.00
10	Workshop Ventilation Equipment Maintenance Optimization through Real-Time Air Quality Monitoring and Industry 4.0 Integration	Ibrahim Shaban	Engineering	Smart Manufacturing Lab	50,000.00
Total Budget					443,900.00 AED

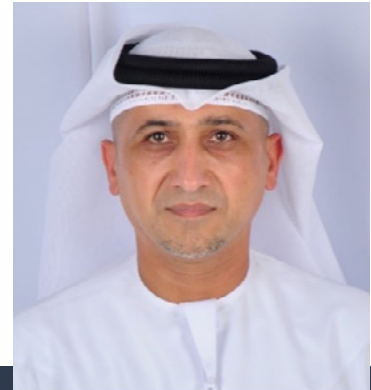
## District 4.0 Graduation Projects

The Industry District 4.0, in collaboration with the Research Office at UAEU, successfully funded seven graduation projects from the College of Engineering and the College of Science that align with the principles and applications of Industry 4.0. The main objective of providing this funding is to encourage students to delve deeper into the potential of Industry 4.0, fostering an environment of innovation and real-world problem-solving within the university. The funded projects are as follows:

	Title	Advisor	Department	Budget (AED)
1	Synthesis and Characterization of Advanced Cobalt oxide/hydroxides Nanostructures for High Energy Supercapacitors Applications	Fathy Mohamed Hassan	Department of Chemistry	5,000.00
2	Pure Waters Ahead: Nitrogen-Enriched Phosphazene Matrix for Lead(II) Ion Remediation	Shaikha Alneyadi	Department of Chemistry	5,000.00
3	AI-designed Genes for Desulfurization of Sour Crude Oil leading to unique Biomass affording the manufacturing Oxygen Reduction Reaction (ORR) Electrocatalysts and their use in Hydrogen Fuel Cells	Abdulla Azzam Mahboob	Department of Chemistry	5,000.00
4	Search and Rescue Operation using See-Through Technology	Qurban Andar	Electrical and Communications Engineering Department	5009.00
5	Development of 3 DOF Drone Experimental Setup and Localization System	Khalifa Harib	Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department	4,877.00
6	Design, manufacturing, and testing of a 3D-printed chemical space propulsion system	Jeongmoo Huh	Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department	5,000.00
7	Development of an Educational Bench Type Die Drawing Machine (GP 2)	Abdel Hamid Mourad	Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department	14,050.00
Total Budget				43,936.00 AED



# Emirates Center for Mobility Research (ECMR)



**DR. RASHED ALZAHMI**

EMIRATES CENTER FOR MOBILITY RESEARCH

## Message from the Director

During the 2023–2024 academic year, the Emirates Center for Mobility Research (ECMR) focused on enhancing its visibility and building trust among key stakeholders in the mobility sector. A pivotal strategy involved reducing service fees to secure high-profile projects, thereby achieving dual objectives: (1) marketing ECMR through real-world project outcomes showcased via conventional and social media, and (2) building trust and credibility with stakeholders who either promote ECMR within their networks or return as repeat clients.

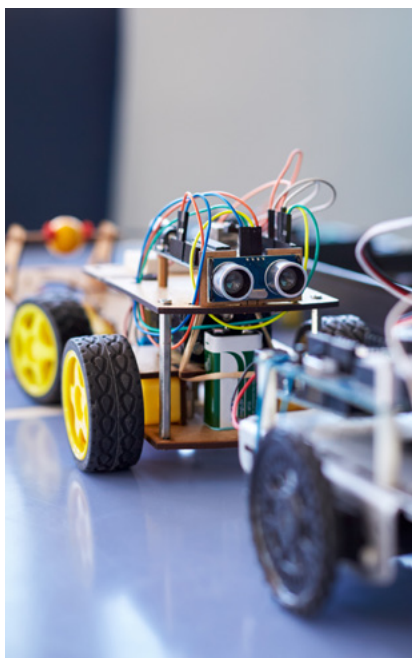
This approach has yielded tangible results. In 2024, ECMR achieved a significant milestone by serving as the Academic Partner for the DriftX International Exhibition at Abu Dhabi's Yas Marina Circuit. The invitation from the Department of Municipalities and Transport (ADMT) to fulfill this role highlighted ECMR's growing reputation and its success in becoming the 'center of choice' for academic and research collaborations in the mobility sector.

The Center's impact was further strengthened by its extensive

portfolio of projects. Between 2019 and 2024, ECMR completed 19 high-profile external consultancy and research projects, complemented by 17 ongoing internally funded projects. This robust output enabled ECMR to update its marketing materials, including a new brochure, website, and social media content, which were showcased at DriftX. These materials effectively demonstrated ECMR's capabilities to key stakeholders, many of whom are directly connected to the mobility industry.

Another key achievement was the formal establishment of ECMR's Advisory Board, comprising VIPs and decision-makers from leading public and private sector organizations. This development is expected to significantly enhance ECMR's industry support, both in terms of in-kind contributions and financial backing, while further solidifying its reputation within the sector.

These efforts collectively underscore ECMR's commitment to academic excellence, industry engagement, and strategic growth in the mobility domain.



## VISION:

To be a global leader in advancing sustainable, innovative, and inclusive mobility solutions, fostering transformative research and collaboration to shape the future of transportation ecosystems.

## MISSION:

Our mission is to achieve a safe, efficient, environment friendly and integrated transportation eco-system by facilitating interdisciplinary research, enabling inter-play of technologies, boosting disruptive ideas, bridging inter-stakeholder relationships, and disseminating state-of-the-art knowledge.

## Strategic Goals and Objectives:

ECMR's strategic goals for 2023–2024 focus on driving innovation in mobility research, enhancing student engagement, and strengthening partnerships with industry leaders. By collaborating on high-impact projects and involving students in hands-on research and consultancy, the center aims to address critical challenges in the mobility sector while fostering skill development and innovation among future professionals. Strengthening relationships with key public and private stakeholders remains a priority, facilitating knowledge exchange and collaborative opportunities. To support its growth and elevate research capabilities to international standards, ECMR is committed to retaining essential technical staff, recruiting postdoctoral researchers in traffic safety and transport engineering, and expanding its resources through strategic marketing and collaborations. These efforts will be bolstered by seeking external funding and participating in project tenders. Through these initiatives, ECMR continues to advance its mission of excellence in research, education, and partnerships in transportation and mobility.

In 2024, the Emirates Center for Mobility Research (ECMR) continued to advance its role as a key contributor to mobility research in the region and beyond. ECMR focused on expanding research collaboration, student training, and fostering impactful partnerships, building on its achievements in previous years.

## Research Projects and Student Involvement

ECMR's academic impact was reflected through its research collaborations with the industry, aside with the student involvement. In 2023, ECMR secured 10 externally-funded projects with key industry stakeholders including Abu Dhabi Municipality, ALDAR Projects LLC, Emirates Driving School, Integrated Transport Centre of Abu Dhabi, and Abu Dhabi Early Childhood Authority (ECA). ECMR has also secured internal institutional funding for 4 projects, supporting ongoing research initiatives that address critical challenges in mobility. A total of 10 graduate students actively participated in the aforementioned research projects, and 13 undergraduate students were trained, showcasing ECMR's commitment to education and talent development.

### FACULTY AND RESEARCH SUPPORT

ECMR's research efforts were supported by 20 faculty members, along with post-doctoral researchers and research assistants. These experts contributed to the center's growing reputation in the mobility research field, with a focus on innovation and technology-driven solutions.

### KEY RESEARCH PROJECTS

In 2024, ECMR organized 3 major events, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange within the academic and industrial sectors. ECMR participated as the Academic Partner of the international DRIFTx exhibition hosted by the Department of Municipalities and Transport in Abu Dhabi. As continuing its tradition of building strategic partnerships, ECMR's efforts were further enhanced by the signing of 2 new Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), the first one with Al Futtaim Automotive, and the second one with Bridgestone Mobility Solutions, to work on joint scientific and academic research activities in the fields of Automotive and telematics for smart and sustainable mobility. These MoUs pave the way for future collaborative research, consultancy projects, and talent development initiatives.

## AWARD WINNING STUDY ON COMPUTER VISION AND AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES

In 2023, ECMR received two prestigious international and national awards. The center has received the international IEEE's AIoT Excellence Award in recognition of the work done on AI-Driven Pavement Integrity Monitoring. ECMR was also granted the 1st place in the "Better Integration of Urban Planning" category at the Ministry of Energy & Infrastructure Research & Innovation Award for its study on autonomous and connected vehicles. This project, which focused on the environmental, social, and economic feasibility of autonomous transport, continues to influence our 2024 research agenda. The methodologies developed are now being applied to new projects, enabling planners and decision-makers to perform comprehensive feasibility and cost-benefit analyses for future autonomous public transport systems.

## RESEARCH COLLABORATION

ECMR is engaged in several impactful projects designed to tackle current mobility challenges and leverage cutting-edge technologies to create a safer, more efficient transportation ecosystem. One of our key initiatives is the AI for Automatic Detection of Driving Patterns, which aims to significantly improve road safety. By employing advanced AI technologies, this project focuses on detecting unsafe driving behaviors in real-time, allowing for timely interventions that can prevent accidents. Through extensive data collection and analysis, we are working to inform policy adjustments and enhance driver training programs, ultimately contributing to safer roads for all users.

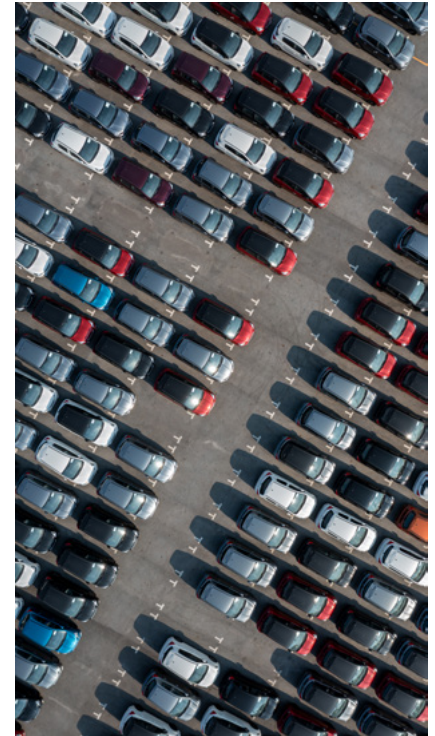
Moreover, the Autonomous Vehicles: Integrating Technology Across Modalities project explores the integration of autonomous vehicles into existing transportation systems. As autonomous technology continues to evolve, understanding how to seamlessly integrate these vehicles into current infrastructure is essential for enhancing efficiency and safety. Our research focuses on developing guidelines and strategies that facilitate this integration, ensuring that autonomous vehicles can coexist with traditional transportation methods. This initiative aims to create a future where mobility is safe, efficient, and accessible for all.

Together, these efforts position ECMR as a leader in the transportation sector, ready to tackle the challenges of the future with a commitment to research excellence and sustainable development. Our vision for 2024 has been to advance knowledge and understanding in mobility research while actively contributing to the well-being of our communities. By fostering collaborations with industry partners, government agencies, and academic institutions, we aim to create innovative solutions that address the complex issues facing urban mobility today.

Through its achievements in 2024, ECMR solidified its position as a key player in the global mobility research arena, leveraging partnerships and interdisciplinary research to shape the future of transportation systems in the UAE and beyond. ECMR remains committed to equipping the next generation of transportation experts while contributing to groundbreaking research that addresses the region's most pressing mobility challenges.

## PUBLICATIONS:

- Number of Journal Publications - 18
- Number of Conference Publications - 2



## Faculty Achievements:

### AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:

Faculty received national and international awards, including the IEEE AIoT Excellence Award and Ministry of Energy & Infrastructure's award.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP ROLES:

Faculty members serve in leadership roles in academic committees and professional organizations, contributing to their fields at national and international levels.

### STUDENTS TRAINED AT THE CENTER:

- Number of undergraduate students trained at the center - 17
- Number of graduate students involved in research at the center - 10

## Community Engagement and Service:

In 2024, ECMR organized three major events that fostered collaboration and knowledge exchange between the academic and industrial sectors. As the Academic Partner of the international DRIFTx exhibition hosted by the Department of Municipalities and Transport in Abu Dhabi, ECMR further strengthened its role in the mobility sector. Continuing its tradition of building strategic partnerships, ECMR signed two new Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs): one with Al Futtain Automotive and another with Bridgestone Mobility Solutions. These agreements will enable joint scientific and academic research in the fields of automotive and telematics for smart and sustainable mobility. The MoUs open avenues for future collaborative research, consultancy projects, and talent development initiatives.

## Financial Overview:

ECMR's funding in 2024 came from a variety of sources. The Center successfully completed six external projects, with an additional 220k AED expected to be secured through a project with Emirates Driving Company by December. ECMR also raised funds for four internal projects, which support ongoing research aimed at addressing critical mobility challenges. In addition, the Center benefits from internal support provided by the university for operational and administrative purposes.





# National Water and Energy Center (NWEC)



**DR. DALAL MATAR SAIF ALSHAMSI**  
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL WATER AND ENERGY CENTER (NWEC)

## Message from the Director

National Water and Energy Center (NWEC) aspires to be the Center of the Future in the country and the region, we are aiming to rank among the top institutions in Asia and the world.

The national prosperity and economic vitality and growth depend upon the availability of adequate future supplies of water and energy. Therefore, the UAE Government's vision for sustainable future includes the two most critical resources, water and energy - as two of its primary pillars. Following the national interest, United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) initiatives in research and innovation give high priority to the conservation and sustainability of water resources and energy.

The academic year 2023/2024 has shown that NWEC is attaining regional and global eminence by research in areas of water and energy to the region and the world.

This year saw a great advancement

in our rankings, an increase in our collaboration agreements, organizing and participating in high-level conferences, and partnering with distinguished academics and researchers.

NWEC 2023/2024 profile presents and details these significant contributions to the advancements of knowledge through research, with education increasingly growing as a vital pillar for the Middle East.

NWEC plans to become the national hub in research and entrepreneurship, as well as the primary destination for collaboration with governmental and non-governmental agencies, organizations, industry, and international agencies.

We strive to achieve top rankings while continuously enhancing our capabilities. Our goal is to be recognized as a world-class center, evolving into a leading institution that prepares future professionals across diverse fields. Our vision is to excel in leadership and innovation in research and

community services, with a strong focus on water resources, energy harvesting, storage, and efficiency.

The future is always approaching, and we must take action today to be fully prepared for what lies ahead. We are moving in the right direction, and through continuous improvement, we will stay on this path, ensuring sustained success in the years to come.





## VISION:

To achieve leadership and innovation in research and community services in water resources and energy harvesting, storage, and efficiency.

## MISSION:

To address water resources, energy, and environmental challenges in arid and semi-arid regions through innovative, integrated, interdisciplinary approaches and working closely with stakeholders. In addition, to implement scientific and applied research and operate in collaboration with concerned national, regional, and international authorities and agencies to ensure the sustainability of water resources, energy, and environmental systems. Moreover, our endeavors to improve the quality of life while preserving the natural resources and support the UAEU's visibility and reputation.



## About the Center:

The UAEU established the National Water Center (NWC) in 2012. The NWC functioned as a multidisciplinary research and consultancy center in response to the strategic needs of the country and the region. In 2016, the center obtained a professional license in several activities associated with the proper classification from the Department of Economic Development. The NWC focused on high quality and applied multidisciplinary research that addresses national and regional water resources. The Center provided high-impact research and innovative practical solutions to water-related challenges across the UAE and beyond. The NWC addressed the country's growing water needs, strengthened the knowledge base and informed water decisions at different levels. The Emirates Center for Energy and Environment Research (ECEER) was established in 2014 to support of the university's vision of conducting high quality research in "Energy and Environment" as one of the areas of national priority. Noting the dependency of water and energy on each other. The UAEU resolved the merger of ECEER to the NWC in July 2020 to become the National Water and Energy Center (NWECC).

## Objectives:

The main objective of the NWECC is to provide a robust and interdisciplinary framework that can identify suitable future development scenarios, selection criteria and intervention options resulting in more reliable, resilient, and sustainable water resources and energy uses. The NWECC aims to pursue holistic and innovative approach for research, development, and deployment of key technologies to generate solutions that contribute to all water energy related development goals. Moreover, the NWECC contributes to advancement of the body of knowledge and resolve problems related to water resources, energy, and environmental systems in arid and semi-arid regions, and particularly in UAE. The NWECC peruses to establish and consolidate its image as one of the most prestigious research centers at the international level in the areas of energy, water resources, and environment.

## Researchers and staff:

The NWECC team consists of core staff with full-time appointments and affiliated faculty members from various colleges who contribute to specific research projects as needed. International researchers may also be invited to participate in the Center's activities based on project requirements. All members possess a strong theoretical foundation and extensive practical experience. The Center is affiliated with over 50 Ph.D. and M.Sc. holders specializing in water, energy, and environment-related disciplines. Additionally, NWECC has full access to UAEU's research laboratories, including those in the College of Science, College of Engineering, College of Food and Agriculture, and others.

## Research in 2024:

The NWECC serves as a platform for researchers to share resources, exchange experiences, and strengthen collaboration both among themselves and with industry partners. It provides effective management and coordination mechanisms to foster intra-UAE collaboration, align research activities, and bridge the gap between academia and the local industry. The Center integrates innovative, cutting-edge solutions to ensure the provision of reliable, secure, and sustainable water and energy resources. Its efforts focus on improving the efficiency, sustainability, and resilience of these resources while promoting their responsible use to preserve natural resources and support the UAE's commitment to environmental sustainability.

The academic year 2023/2024 has shown that NWECC is attaining regional and global eminence by research in areas of water and energy to the region and the world. This year showed a great advancement in the NWECC rankings, an increase in the number of collaboration agreements, organization, and participation in high-level conferences, and building valued new links with distinguished academics and researchers.



## Commercial Trade License:

The NWECC holds a trade commercial license in the Abu Dhabi Emirate, issued by the Abu Dhabi Department of Economics, covering authorized activities. This license enables the NWECC and its affiliated faculty members to participate in energy-related tenders and offer consultancy services to both government and private entities. Over the past two years, the Center has successfully secured multiple externally funded projects and consultancy services from various authorities. Additionally, it manages several internally funded projects through the university's strategic program, involving Ph.D. and Master's students under the guidance of affiliated faculty members. The NWECC also maintains active collaborations with regional and international universities and organizations, further enhancing its research and consultancy capabilities.

## Externally-funded Research Projects:

1. Water resources mapping and catchment analysis for flood risk assessment towards future mitigation plans for the Fujairah Emirate. Client - Fujairah Research Center, Fujairah Environment Authority.
2. Reuse of Rejected Saltwater from Inland Desalination Plants in the Cultivation of Salinity Tolerant Feed and Trees. Client - Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority (ADAFSA).
3. Impacts of Climate Change on coastal areas and Shallow Marine Environments in UAE and Oman: the coast area of the Arabian Sea and Sea of Oman. Client - Sultan Qaboos University.
4. Consultancy services for the detailed design of ASR Sharjah. Client - Sharjah Electricity and Water Authority (SEWA).

## Internally-funded research projects:

1. Adaptive-Flight-Path Control for Airborne Wind Energy Systems Operated in Park Configurations
2. Advancing heat transfer in boilers and phase change heat exchangers.
3. Design and Development of MXenes/Zinc Chalcogenide based Heterostructures for Efficient Photocatalytic Green H<sub>2</sub> Evolution.
4. Graphene-entrapped Polymer Fibers for Air Purification Membranes.
5. Gridded rainfall data set development for climate change impact assessment using advanced computational techniques for UAE.
6. Implement Blue Carbon Strategy in Government Policies in GCC and African Region to Combat Climate Change.

7. Isolation and Characterisation of Dietary Fibre in Date Fruits (*Phoenix dactylifera* L.), Date Syrup, Pomace, and Seeds.
8. MXenes: Synthesis, Characterization, and Energy Storage Applications.
9. Okara-soymilk by-product: A protein-powerhouse from underutilized waste for sustainable development on zero hunger and reduce poverty in Africa.
10. Optimization of design-vs-cost for domestic solar water heater using nanoparticles.
11. Photocatalytic Carbon Dioxide Conversion with Sour Gas to Chemicals and Fuels Using Multifunctional Composite in a Hybrid Photoreactor.
12. Recycling carbon dioxide as a climate action to produce fuels using solar-activated titanium dioxide nanocomposites.
13. Reduction of carbon dioxide emissions using industrial waste material to combat climate change.
14. Revisiting Pollution Haven Hypothesis: The effects of Energy Transition Investments, Their Direct and Indirect Effects, And their Determinants A view from the MENA Region.
15. Seawater Splitting to Produce Hydrogen Using Solid-Waste-Derived Photocatalyst: A Remedy is Within.
16. Surface/bulk perovskite passivation strategy toward efficient and stable perovskite solar cells.
17. Sustainable Innovation in Building Insulation: Utilizing Polybutylene Succinate (PBS) and Mangrove Biomass Composite for Energy-Efficient Solutions.
18. Thermally self-chargeable supercapacitor.
19. Two Dimensional Materials from Non-layered Non-Van-der-Waals Crystals: Synthesis and Characterization.
20. Progressive Device Architectonics of Self-Charging Photo Capacitors for Sustainable Energy Storage.
21. Impacts of Climate Change on Coastal Areas and Shallow Marine Environments in UAE and Oman: the coast area of the Sea of Oman.
22. Revolutionizing Hydrogen and Graphite Production: Harnessing Solar Energy and Advanced Membrane Technology.
23. Experimental and Modelling Investigations on the Performance and Allocation of Pervious Concrete Pavements Made from Recycled Materials.
24. Performance Enhancement of Rainfall Forecasting Through Deep Learning Models Under Various Climate Change Scenarios.
25. Exploring novel protein sources and different modeling approaches for the development of nutritionally rich chicken-meat analogs.
26. Exploring ways to utilize Date Palm biomass towards achieving a circular economy, synthesis vitrimers from lignin.
27. Factors affecting the removal of pharmaceutically active compounds from wastewater using ozone micro-nanobubbles.
28. Nexus water-energy unit using thermoelectric generators, Phase change materials, and triply periodic minimal surfaces.
29. Sustainable Heterostructured Z-Scheme Photocatalyst for Green Energy Applications.
30. Development, Performance Investigation, and Artificial Intelligence Modelling of Building Energy Systems towards Net Zero Energy Buildings.
31. Broadband Magnetotelluric Data Modelling to Investigate the UAE's Fold–Thrust Belt Region.
32. Carbon dioxide to fuels and chemicals: Rational design of novel multifunctional catalysts for Direct CO<sub>2</sub> conversion to ethanol.
33. Graphene-based Coatings of Fibers for Enabling Use of Seawater Sea Sand Concrete with Fiber Reinforced Plastic (FRP) for Sustainable Construction Applications in Harsh Environments.
34. Date Palm Fiber-Halloysite nanotubes based high-performance polymer composite for roof tiling application as a sustainable innovation.
35. Holistic Control Strategy for Minimizing and Efficient Utilization of Battery Energy Storage Systems in Heaving Wave Energy Converters: Numerical and Experimental Studies.
36. Development of functional foods by using 3D printing technologies via incorporation of date paste and

date pomace (Phoenix dactylifera L.).

37. Automated Synthesis of Stable and Environmentally Friendly Two-dimensional Lead-Free Perovskite for Solar Cells Application.
38. Reducing Energy Performance Gap in Buildings in UAE: Using Post Occupancy Evaluation and Remote Sensing Technologies.
39. Sustainable Water Conservation in the Agriculture Sector through Date Palm Vermicompost Worms and Marine Microalgae in Aquaponic Systems.
40. Multifunctional MXenes-Based Ternary Composites for Photocatalytic Carbon Dioxide Reduction and Hydrogen Production.
41. Development of BioPolyurethane Based on Lignin extracted from Date Palm Wastes for Thermal Insulation and other Applications.
42. Numerical Investigation on various strategies to extend the hydrogen knock limit of a hydrogen-fueled spark ignition engine with experimental validation.
43. Turbine Blade Leading Edge Cooling Through Jet Impingement: A Novel Multiple Outlet Design.
44. Formulation of Biopolymer Nanocomposites from Date and Juice Processing Waste/by-products in the United Arab Emirates: A Sustainable Approach for Smart Food Packaging Innovation.
45. Hygroscopic zwitterionic hydrogel for PV cooling.
46. Solar-Driven Dual Clean Production from Atmospheric Water Vapor and Saline Water.

## Publications:

In 2024, the NWECE researchers published 253 papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals referenced in SCOPUS.

## Patents:

Patent No: US 11,776 B1 “Selectively Designed Hierarchical Copper-Cobalt Oxy-sulfide Nanoarchitectures for High-rate Hybrid Supercapacitors”, October 3, 2023. Inventor: Sangaraju Sambasivam.

## Internships:

The NWECE hosted 19 Internships, including 2 graduate, 17 undergraduate internships in 2024.

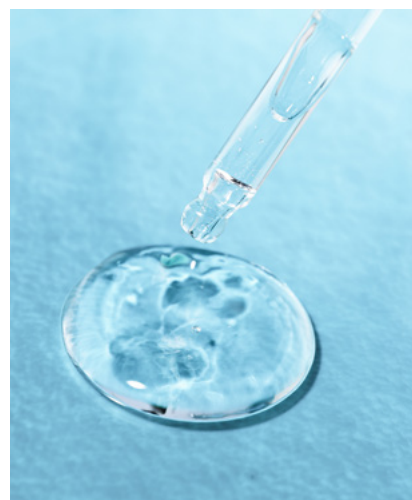
## Conferences and Seminars:

The NWECE has organized and hosted 2 major conferences, including:

- 2nd International Conference (Water Resources Management and Sustainability: Solutions for Arid Regions); Dubai, February 26-28, 2024.
- Preparing for Eighth International Symposium on Flash Floods in Wadi Systems (ISFF8); Al Ain, November 4-5, 2024.

Also, the NWECE has organized two seminars:

- Workshop - UAEU & Seoul National University
- UAE Sustainable Efforts in Achieving Water Security





## Partnerships:

The NWECE devotes every possible effort to increasing partnerships and cooperation with different international, regional, and national institutions, organizations, and governmental entities. Promoting partnerships is one of the NWECE's core strategies. Collaboration and partnerships between experts from different disciplines, as well as between academics and representatives of industry, enable the development and implementation of best practices among all the concerned parties including the public and private sectors. The NWECE targets, among others, the following key partners as instrumental in influencing water energy environment policy and decision-makers.

The strategic partners of the NWECE include, among others, Ministry of Energy and Industry (MOEI), Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCA), Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), Environmental Agency Abu Dhabi (EAD), Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority (ADWEA), Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA), Sharjah Electricity and Water Authority (SEWA), Department of Energy (DOE), Abu Dhabi Municipality (ADM), Al Ain Municipality (AAM), Ajman Municipality (AM), National Center of Meteorology (NCM), Masdar Institute (MIST); Abu Dhabi Quality and Conformity Council (QCC).

In addition, the NWECE has collaborations with international institutions such as Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, Kuwait; Sultan Qaboos University, Oman; National Oil and Gas Authority, Bahrain; Texas A & M University, USA; Exeter University, UK; Martin Luther University, Halle/ Saale, Germany; National Research Centre (NRC), Denmark; National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), USA, and many other universities. Furthermore, the NWECE collaborated with several international firms like Rizzo Associates, Pittsburg, USA; Schlumberger Water Service, France; DOOSAN, Dammam R&D Center, KSA; INPEX, Tokyo, Japan; Dornier Consulting Office, Germany. Since 2017, the NWECE developed cooperation frameworks with different UAEU colleges and departments to provide the highest level of services to stakeholders and governmental institutions. The NWECE has over 40 affiliated faculty members from different departments.

In 2024, the NWECE has established two additional partnership agreements:

- MOU with Daikin Middle East; 9/7/2024
- MOU with Africa-Eco Edge Agricultural Equipment Trading; 6/6/2024

## Financial Sustainability Plan:

The total budget for 2024 was approximately 2.0 million AED, with plans for a gradual increase to 2.135 million AED per year, which will serve as the fixed annual operating budget for the NWECE. Over time, the budget is intended to rely increasingly on external funding secured through research projects and consultation services.





# Big Data Analytics Center



**DR. HANY ALASHWAL**

DIRECTOR OF THE BIG DATA ANALYTICS CENTER (BIDAC)



## Message from the Director

It is my pleasure to share with you the mission and objectives of the Big Data Analytics Center (BIDAC), which has been established to meet the technological and scientific challenges of our time. BIDAC is an interdisciplinary research center dedicated to directly addressing these challenges. Our primary focus is to employ key strategies that include: stimulating research and innovation in data science; supporting research and development to uncover interesting patterns within data; and ultimately enhancing the performance and productivity of both academia and industry. Furthermore, we

aim to increase the value of data through well-considered policies that promote data exchange and efficient management. Simultaneously, we are committed to improving the national education and training landscape in the field of data science to nurture the next generation of data science professionals. Our ambitious mission at BIDAC is to make a lasting impact through groundbreaking research and services in the area of Big Data analytics. Together, we can shape the future of data science, foster innovation, and drive positive changes.

### VISION:

From Big Data to Big Impact.

### MISSION:

To ingrain a sustained impact through groundbreaking Big Data analytics research and services.

In response to both technological and scientific challenges as well as the shortage of highly skilled data scientists and analysts which have been acknowledged by various industries and governmental bodies, the Big Data Analytics Center (BIDAC) was established as an interdisciplinary research center. The BIDAC focuses on key strategies such as stimulating research and innovation in data science, supporting research and development to explore and understanding the merit of data and the resulting knowledge, enhancing government and private sector performance and productivity, increasing the value of data through policies that enhance data exchange and management, and improving the national education and training landscape.



## Goals:

- Stimulate research in the big data analytics field
- Engage with the community
- Raise the level of knowledge and skills in big data analytics

## Primary Objectives:

- Delivery of leading and excellent research contributions to Big Data Analytics.
- Boost the government and private sector performance and the rate of productivity.
- Interdisciplinary training of highly skilled and excellent researchers and leaders in the big data analytics area, advanced/predictive analytics, data-intensive computing.
- Provision of a unique highly stimulating environment and opportunities for making a substantial academic and commercial impact as well as developing awareness and breadth of knowledge for both students and staff by assembling a multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral team of academic, commercial, and public institutions.
- Promote interactions between industry practitioners and academic researchers.
- Foster private-public collaboration.

## BIDAC Units:

### THE DATA SCIENCE UNIT

focuses on emerging data-driven approaches, utilizing the latest AI and machine learning technology to develop new business models and “data” products and services.

### THE BIG DATA TECHNOLOGY UNIT

covers the underpinning mathematical, statistical, and computer science research concerned with big data platforms, new scalable approaches for capturing, storing, managing, analyzing, and visualizing large-scale, complex, and diverse data.

### THE ADVISORY BOARD

is vital to the development of the BIDAC research agenda and leadership. The board is responsible for the overall well-being of the center. It provides guidance and strategic input on how the center can best meet the university, industry, and government needs.

### THE SCIENTIFIC BOARD

provides the Centre with independent, impartial scientific advice on an ongoing basis and feedback and ideas to accelerate the Centre’s development and the strategic direction. Activities also include providing suggestions towards scope and choice of research topics and themes being pursued in the context of the latest developments and opportunities in the field.

## ONGOING PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY BIDAC:

- Development of machine learning and deep learning algorithms for imbalanced and one-class classification problems.
- Curricular Analytics – Based Approach to Enhance the Performance and The Graduation Rate of UAEU Students.
- Intelligent Clustered Body Language Analysis of Healthcare Patients.
- Comprehensive Kinetic Modelling of The Antibacterial Behaviour of Camel Milk Compared to Bovine Milk.
- I-IoTVet: A Testbed for Intelligent Internet-of-Things Vetting.
- Applying New PaRadigms in Communications and IntEractions Through Smart Mobile Objects for Capturing and Predicting QuaLity of LifE in Individuals and SoCieTies (REFLECT).
- Developing Deep Learning Models for Reverse Vaccinology.
- Big Data Security Analytics for the Scalable Generation of Cyber Threat Intelligence.
- Post-Doc Real-time adaptive brachytherapy treatment planning system based on multi-modality image guidance for cervical cancer.
- Efficient Recommendation of Visualizations for Exploring Time Series Data.
- Cybersecurity Fusion Centre: A Scalable Generation of Cyber Threat Intelligence.
- Developing Multimodal Explainable Framework using Neural Networks for the Classification and Early Prediction of Alzheimer's Disease.

## Publications:

31 papers were published in the year 2023 with 9 papers (approximately 29%) published in Q1-rated academic journals. 26 Papers were published so far in the year 2024 with 12 papers (approximately 46.15%) published in Q1-rated academic journals.

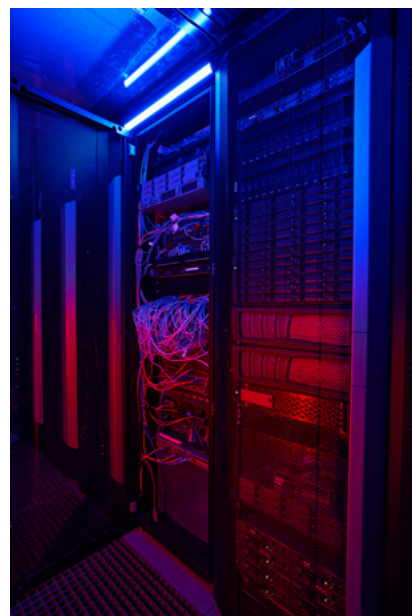
## Commercial Services:

Big Data Analytics Center has a registered commercial name (Analytica for Artificial Intelligence and Technology Solution) under Department of Economic- Abu Dhabi with license No. CN- 3900422. Services provided:

- Statistical Services Consultancies.
- Innovation & Artificial Intelligence Research & Consultancies.
- Information Technology Consultancy

## Workshops:

During the Academic year 2023-2024 Big Data Analytics Center has successfully conducted a workshop titled "AI-Driven Precision medicine" in the innovation month. The workshop also included a student's tutorial in which 25 students participated.



## Internship:

BIDAC offers an attractive and highly successful internship program. So far, more than 37 students from all over the globe have enrolled in which 8 students are enrolled in internship program of the academic year 2023-2024. The internship program focuses on projects related to data visualization, data science, and machine learning. Our work involves utilizing various models, including ensemble learning, deep learning, and convolutional neural networks, particularly applied to medical datasets and MRI imagery.

## Big Data Analytics Center and Library Service for UAEU students and researchers:

Between December 1, 2022, and November 15, 2023, the DGX supercomputer showcased robust GPU activity, totaling 40,066 hours across 105 tasks in four departments. The Computer Science & Software Engineering department led with a substantial 31,590 GPU-hours, highlighting its intensive computational demands. Geosciences researchers contributed 2,812 GPU hours, and the Information Systems & Security department accounted for 1,344 hours. This comprehensive overview underscores the diverse GPU compute resource usage patterns, emphasizing the significance of computational resources in meeting the research needs of distinct departments within the University. It serves as valuable insight for optimizing resource allocation and enhancing overall efficiency.

## Research projects involving undergraduate and graduate students.

- Development of machine learning and deep learning algorithms for imbalanced and one-class classification problems.
- Comprehensive Kinetic Modelling of The Antibacterial Behavior of Camel Milk Compared to Bovine Milk.
- Intelligent Clustered Body Language Analysis of Healthcare Patients.
- Curricular analytics-based approach to enhance the performance and the graduation rate of United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) students.
- Efficient Recommendation of Visualizations for Exploring Time Series Data.
- Big Data Security Analytics for the Scalable Generation of Cyber Threat Intelligence.

## Internal and External Partners:





# The UAEU Science and Innovation Park (SIP)



**DR. SHAWQI KHARBASH**  
CEO SCIENCE AND INNOVATION PARK

## Message from the Director

In today's fast-paced and constantly evolving world, cultivating innovation and entrepreneurship skills is vital for successfully navigating and excelling in business environments dominated by technological advancements and innovative solutions. The UAEU Science and Innovation Park (UAEU SIP) stands as a beacon of creativity and innovation, serving as a catalyst for transforming ideas into impactful products and projects with both economic and social value.

Entrepreneurship plays a pivotal role in advancing ideas, research, and inventions by bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. At UAEU SIP, we nurture the entrepreneurial spirit within the university community and amplify the impact of their work through

the development of innovative projects, the launch of startups, and partnerships with strategic stakeholders to commercialize research outcomes.

Over the past year, UAEU SIP supported 19 early-stage startups by providing a range of services and engaging with more than 30 speakers, facilitators, and mentors from industry and strategic partners. Ten startups were supported in showcasing their projects at domestic and international events and exhibitions. Notably, two startups achieved significant recognition in the Sandooq Al Watan Pitching Competition held in November 2024, securing first and third place. Additionally, UAEU SIP startup Tyar won the AI and Advanced Technologies category in the Entrepreneurship Challenge

Festival organized by the Ministry of Education. Out of 321 projects and entrepreneurial ideas, Tyar was among the 15 winners, reflecting its excellence and innovation.

Furthermore, during the academic year 2023/2024, UAEU SIP engaged over 1,800 participants, including university students, faculty members, staff, and external community members, in various activities, workshops, and events. These initiatives underscore our commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship across diverse groups and creating meaningful opportunities for collaboration and growth.

Together, we continue to empower innovators and entrepreneurs to turn ideas into impactful realities, shaping a brighter future for our community and beyond.



## VISION:

To be a nationally and globally recognized hub that fosters innovation and entrepreneurship, driving the advancement of a knowledge-based economy.

## MISSION:

The mission of the UAEU Science and Innovation Park is to lead innovation and encourage an entrepreneurial environment in the UAE. It seeks to do so by creating an active and productive link between national and international stakeholders; by supporting the production and commercialization of innovative products; and by helping to develop tomorrow's business leaders.



## Goals:

The UAEU Science and Innovation Park will address national weaknesses in global competitiveness in terms of innovation, market share and entrepreneurship. This will be done by enhancing start-up skills, understanding what constitutes acceptable risk taking, networking, use of modern technology and improving innovative processes.

The UAEU Science and Innovation Park (UAEU SIP) is committed to supporting national efforts to enhance global competitiveness in innovation, market share, and entrepreneurship. This will be achieved through initiatives aimed at developing startup skills, promoting an understanding of acceptable risk-taking, fostering networking opportunities, leveraging modern technologies, and improving innovative processes.

## Areas of Focus:

UAEU SIP seeks to create, support, and strengthen strategic partnerships and collaborations between UAEU and both national and international stakeholders, with a focus on the following key areas:

### LEADERSHIP:

To inspire, engage, mentor, and guide Emirati students, UAE university graduates, and investors to play a leading role in fostering a knowledge-based economy. This will be accomplished through the development of comprehensive training and mentoring programs.

### COMMERCIALIZATION:

To support the transformation of innovative ideas, products, and inventions into marketable solutions by equipping emerging business talent with essential skills, startup support, and expert guidance.

### PARTNERSHIPS:

To serve as a bridge connecting stakeholders by establishing and nurturing a robust network of national and international partners.

Through these efforts, UAEU SIP aims to drive innovation, foster entrepreneurship, and contribute to the development of a sustainable, knowledge-based economy in the UAE.

## Structure:

The UAEU Science and Innovation Park consists of four sections in addition to the CEO office: Business Incubation Section, Marketing and Communications Section, Logistics & Operations Section, and Industry and Business Section.

## **BUSINESS INCUBATION SECTION:**

Business Incubation Section aims at improving the performance of early-stage startup nurturing talent and entrepreneurial skills, and provision of entrepreneurial training programs. Business Incubation creates favorable conditions for the newly established startup and for the expansion of often fragile new young companies. Business Incubation leverage available amenities and resources such as office space, ideation space and co-working space to support young companies and early-stage startup in the pre-implementation phase.

## **MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS SECTION:**

Marketing and communications section is responsible for creating and maintaining a positive public image and ensuring effective communication internal and external stakeholders including students, faculty, colleges, research center, industry, public and private agencies, ... etc. The marketing and communication section is responsible for developing and executing marketing strategies to promote UAEU SIP activities, events, startups and strategic partnership with external stakeholders. This section also is responsible for developing content for social media, websites, newsletters, and other communication channels, and collaborating with other sections and department in UAEU to ensure cohesive messaging.

## **LOGISTICS & OPERATIONS SECTION:**

The Logistics and Operations section is responsible for the management of day-to-day operations necessary to ensure a physical environment supports UAEU Science and Innovation and its internal and external stakeholders' needs and requirements including but not limited to providing support in facility management, health and safety, events management logistics, assets management, reception and access control service, transportation, and other related supporting services. The section collaborates with other sections and departments to ensure cohesive and consistent alignments with UAEU procedures and process.

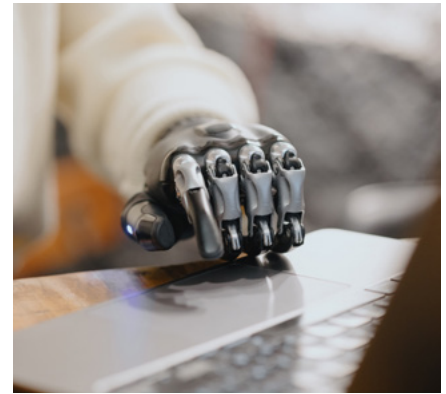
## **INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS SECTION:**

The industry and business section is dedicated to create and strengthening strategic partnerships and collaborations between UAEU and national and international corporations. It will also support companies, government agencies, industry, funding agencies, inventors and investors interested in multidisciplinary involvement with the UAEU. The section will also support in connecting students, faculty, research centers, inventors and startups with companies interested in advancing their relationships with UAEU through research, grants, gifts, and programmatic support.

## **Spaces In The Innovation Hub**

### **MAKER SPACE:**

New machines like 3D printers and laser cutters are revolutionizing how we make things. The Maker Space has all the equipment you might need and you can use it for free. First you need to learn how it all works so look at the courses to see which one suits you best. Courses normally last 2 or 4 hours and happen in the Maker Space.



### **APP FACTORY:**

Writing games, useful apps, setting up web pages, these are all things you can do for free with a few hours of training. The App Factory is a place where this happens; you can get trained on the software tools that will help you create what you want. Courses normally last 2 or 4 hours and happen in the App Factory.

### **MACHINE LEARNING:**

New in the world of software is 'machine learning. This is where you train a computer to perform tasks that you'd expect a human would have to do. For example, to look at a picture and work out what is in the picture or to answer questions you speak to it. You can get an introduction to this revolution in computing at the Machine Learning lab by attending one of these free courses.

### **AL BAYT MITWAHID AREA:**

Our Community Space is where you can socialize, relax and regroup with your classmates on your best ideas. Our are is designed for you to experience Virtual reality, to catch up on reading between classes, and somewhere to have lunch with your friends.

## Core Programs at SIP

### STARTUP PROGRAM:

Entrepreneurial development program to validate product ideas, develop a working prototype or model, engage with potential customers, and pitch to judges and potential investors. This program is integral in providing local startups with the assistance they need to take their ideas to the next level.

### SCALE UP PROGRAM:

Action-oriented program that focuses on how to successfully "Manufacture Start-up Success". A program that supports early-stage start-ups through a process of intense, rapid, and immersive training and coaching aimed at accelerating the life cycle of young innovative start-ups, compressing years' worth of learning-by-doing into just 12 weeks. Through this program the startups are provided with the necessary local financial assistance and guidance needed to maintain their businesses after receiving their seed funds.

### CHALLENGE FOR INNOVATION - C4I:

Annual training program that provides participants with knowledge and skills to write and pitch a business plan in one week. It is a unique chance educate the applicants about the business environment, innovation culture and entrepreneurship. In addition, Challenge for Innovation will help applicants developing skills and competences much needed for their professional fulfilment, such as problem solving, critical thinking, teamwork, autonomy, creativity, written and oral communication.

- Design Thinking/Ideation
- The Lean Methodology/BMC
- Financial Model & Market Sizing
- Pitch Deck & Public Speaking
- Brainstorming
- Prototyping
- Wireframing
- Go-to-Market

The program was supported by several partners from the government entities and industry who contributed to young entrepreneurs training experience, market insight and valuable technical guidelines. The partners provided 28 speakers & facilitators and 7 mentors from various backgrounds supporting and providing crucial insights to the trainees. The partners list include:

- Department of Health
- Abu Dhabi Chamber
- Bayer
- Engie
- Pure health

## UAE Science and Innovation Park Activities & Achievements

### UAEU SCIENCE AND INNOVATION PARK INNOVATION CHALLENGE PROGRAM

UAEU Science and Innovation Park Innovation Challenge Program aligns with the university's dedication to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. The program emphasizes the lean startup methodology to turn creative concepts into tangible business solutions. The approach involves a selection bootcamp, development sprints, industry events, and a Demo Day. These elements collectively aim to nurture startups contributing to strategic sectors such as Renewable Energy, Water Resources, Education, Health, Technology, Transportation, and Space Exploration.

The Innovation Challenge was launched in April 2024 with a total of 102 registrations, 30 were accepted and currently and 19 startups are actively engaging in the program. The challenge program consists of four Bootcamps with the accepted startups that produced 11 prototypes or MVP to demonstrate the concept.

The program consists for various learning components delivered to the participants:

In addition, UAEU Science and Innovation Park Innovation engaged with different entities to support the early-stage startups. These entities include:

- IFFCO
- HUB71
- Abu Dhabi SME Hub
- GITEX
- Builder.ai
- Johnson & Johnson
- Dubai SME
- Ma'an authority for social contribution.

Highlight of activities and achievements

- 100+ students' registration
- 19 early-stage startups
- 28 speakers and facilitators
- 10 startup participated in

- domestic and international venues and exhibitions
- 10+ partners
- 3 Startups in Berlin trip
- Demo Day with more than 100+ attendees
- 7 Startups attended GITEX

## Outreach Programs and Community Service:

### INNOVATION HUB POWERED BY GOOGLE:

Innovation Hub activities and programs target young school students in the new technologies field and entrepreneurship. This year, we delivered a range of programs and workshops to over 150 students, collaborating with both internal and external partners. The following are list of programs conducted at Innovation Hub:

- Space Enrichment Program
- Innovation Exhibition
- Summer Youth Camp 2024
- NextGen Tech Camp
- The Future of Space Technology in Al Ain

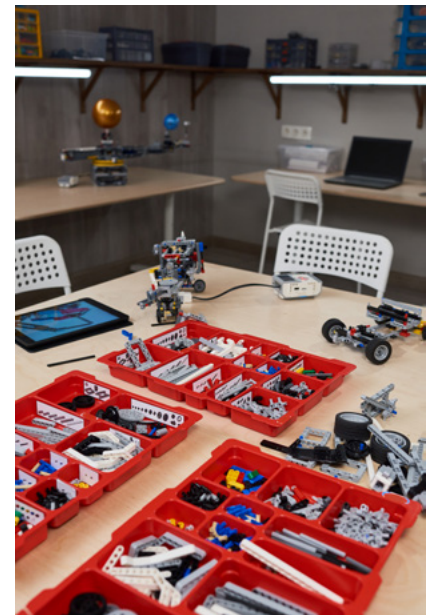
Highlight of activities and achievements:

- 5 major activities
- 150+ participants

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH, HOSTED AND ORGANIZED EVENTS:

UAEU SIP organized and hosted series of impactful events, workshops, and outreach activities which have strengthened and supported the community. In addition, these activities reinforced our commitment to innovation and entrepreneurship. Over Academic year 2023/2024, UAEU SIP successfully hosted, organized, and conducted several workshops, events, visits that brought together students, faculty, alumni, industry professionals and other stakeholders. The following is non-comprehensive list of activities hosted or organized by UAEU SIP

- Innovation Month Opening Ceremony
- Month of Innovation - 2024
- Star Innovator Program - Innovation Month
- UAEU SIP Open Day
- 3D Modeling Workshop
- UAEU Innovation Challenge
- Expo -UIA COP28 – reception of faculty and students
- Summer NextGen Tech Camp - 1
- Summer NextGen Tech Camp - 2
- Innovation Exhibition
- Visit IFFCO
- Visit In5
- Visit Hub71
- Visit of the Delegates from Starta
- Visit of the Delegates from Abu Dhabi Customs
- Visit of National Space science Agency - Bahrain
- Visit to Mohammed Bin Rashid Center for government innovation
- GITEX Participation
- Hosting Math Club Event – College of science
- Hosting Physics Club Event – College of Science



These activities provided invaluable opportunities for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and inspiration among all participants. Overall, more than 1800+ participants including university students, faculty members, staff, UAE community and external visitors involved in different activities.



# Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)



**DR. SAED ALRABAEI**  
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING (CETL)

## Message from the Director

Welcome to the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) at UAEU. As Director, I am pleased to share our mission of empowering educators and cultivating a culture of excellence in teaching and learning. Through innovative instructional design, AI-enhanced teaching strategies, and evidence-based professional development, we aim to promote

engaging and effective learning experiences for all. Our dedicated team works collaboratively to provide resources and support tailored to meet the diverse needs of educators. Together, we strive to build a vibrant academic community that prioritizes collaboration, fosters innovation, and upholds the highest standards of excellence in education.



### Vision:

To empower the UAEU teaching community to innovate and excel, fostering a dynamic environment that promotes lifelong learning and student success.

### Mission:

To enhance learning at UAEU by providing educators with professional development, evidence-based teaching practices, and innovative strategies, while fostering collaboration, innovation, and continuous improvement in teaching and learning.



## Values:

- Importance of teaching and learning is an integral part of UAEU culture and requires dual focus on innovation and effectiveness.
- Innovative and inspired teaching, which results in effective and successful student learning.
- Research-informed and evidence-based teaching not only shapes CETL activities and practices but also makes teaching practices rigorous and robust.
- Innovative teaching takes many forms that span from colored pens on white boards to full online courses.
- Effective and efficient teaching assessment aims at enhancing teaching experiences and practices.
- Top UAEU management support is essential to foster a culture of innovation in teaching and learning.
- Teaching community benefits from sharing effective and innovative teaching practices.

## Organizational Units:

### FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

This unit plans, develops, and manages the delivery of workshops, seminars, discussion panels, and forums to promote teaching & Learning excellence. All faculty and instructors are encouraged to join the FPD s activities. FPD s functions include:

- To provide certificate-based Faculty Professional Development programs in emerging teaching pedagogies supported by up-to-date instructional technologies.
- To develop and manage the delivery of Certificate in Teaching Excellence (CiTE) to both new and current faculty.
- To develop and manage the delivery of continuous certificate faculty professional development activities.
- To prepare and certify PhD Students to become e-instructors via UAEU s PhD Teaching Academy Program (jointly with The College of Graduate Studies).

### INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN:

This unit supports faculty initiatives including online and blended learning and innovative course designs and teaching methods to enhance teaching and learning. ID's functions include:

- To lead the UAEU s Online and Blended learning course offerings
- To develop e-Learning course modules and contents
- To provide innovative instructional design and pedagogy
- To manage the Course Transformation Process
- To provide academic support to the UAEU s teaching community.
- To propose new and emerging instructional technologies.
- To promote Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) within UAEU teaching and learning.

### TEACHING SCHOLARSHIP & ASSESSMENT UNIT:

This unit promotes discovery, reflection, and evidence-based methods to research on effective teaching and student learning. This unit oversees measuring the faculty satisfaction and course transformation effectiveness. This unit functions include:

- To Promote Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL)
- To Assess and measure teaching effectiveness and efficiency
- To measure the effectiveness of course transformation and online/blended course offerings
- To provide faculty mentoring
- To provide faculty peer evaluation of teaching.
- To measure faculty satisfaction.

### THE PHD STUDENTS TEACHING ACADEMY PROGRAM (STAP)

With the support of the College of Graduate Studies (CGS), the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) launched a pioneering version of the PhD Students Teaching Academy Program, also known as "The PhD Academy". This rigorous blended program is rooted in Constructivist Learning Theory (CTL) and utilizes a flipped classroom approach. It provides foundational education theory and, more importantly, hands-on experience that cultivates the necessary critical and creative thinking of Ph.D. students hoping to pursue teaching careers in academia. Graduates of The Ph.D. Teaching Academy should be able to confidently and effectively engage large and small classes, utilizing a range of teaching and learning pedagogies, instructional technologies, and internationally recognized best practices.

## Technological Advancements and Resources:

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### THE CETL'S STUDIO:

is equipped with state-of-the-art SONY Alpha cameras, offers top-tier resources for video production, green mat recordings, high-quality photography, and more. It is perfectly suited for creating a wide range of content, from engaging educational materials to visually compelling presentations, and beyond. Designed to meet the diverse needs of both faculty and students, the studio provides a professional environment where ideas can truly come to life.

### H5P:

allows users to create, share, and reuse interactive HTML5 content through an intuitive web platform, including quizzes, presentations, games, and videos, without coding skills. H5P integrates seamlessly with Blackboard, helping educators enhance courses with interactive elements that foster active learning and improve knowledge retention.

### BLACKBOARD ULTRA COURSE:

is a streamlined, modern version of the traditional Blackboard LMS. It features a clean, user-friendly interface designed for an improved teaching and learning experience, offering enhanced tools for collaboration, grading, and course management.

### THE BLACKBOARD AI DESIGN ASSISTANT:

is a feature within the Blackboard LMS that leverages artificial intelligence to help educators create, organize, and improve course content. It provides suggestions, automates repetitive tasks, and assists with the design of engaging learning experiences.

### BLACKBOARD ANALYTICS FOR LEARN:

is an advanced analytics platform integrated with Blackboard LMS that provides comprehensive insights into student engagement and performance. By aggregating data from multiple sources, including Student Information Systems (SIS), it empowers instructors, academic leaders, and advisors to monitor course activities, identify at-risk students, and implement data-driven interventions. The platform's pre-configured dashboards, customizable reports, and early alert mechanisms enable timely responses to enhance student outcomes, optimize course quality, and refine teaching strategies. Additionally, historical and predictive analytics support data-driven decision-making, helping institutions improve retention, operational efficiency, and overall performance.

### CLASS COLLABORATE:

is an online collaboration tool built to facilitate interactive learning experiences by combining video conferencing with classroom management features. It provides capabilities such as live video communication, breakout rooms, attendance tracking, and interactive whiteboards, enabling educators to conduct engaging and organized virtual sessions. Class Collaborate supports real-time collaboration and integrates well with Blackboard LMS, offering a seamless experience for both instructors and students in virtual learning environments.

### LINKEDIN LEARNING:

is an online learning platform. It provides video courses taught by industry experts in software, creative, and business skills.



### PANOPTO:

is a video platform designed for educational and corporate environments that facilitates the recording, management, and distribution of video content. It provides tools for lecture capture, video content management, and live streaming, allowing instructors and institutions to easily create and share video materials for teaching and learning. Panopto's search capabilities enable users to find specific content within videos, making it highly effective for students seeking targeted information. The platform integrates with Blackboard LMS, providing seamless access for students and educators while enhancing the digital learning experience.

### **THE FACULTY ORGANIZATION:**

serves as a one-stop resource center for instructors, offering access to a wide range of materials, including e-learning resources, instructional videos, tutorials, workshops, and webinars. It is designed to support faculty in enhancing their teaching practices, staying up-to-date with the latest e-learning technologies, and fostering a community of continuous professional development. By providing these comprehensive resources, the Faculty Organization helps instructors effectively navigate and utilize e-learning tools, ultimately enriching the educational experience for both educators and students.

### **THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION:**

provides students with essential resources related to the Blackboard LMS, Lockdown Browser, and Class Collaborate. These resources help students effectively navigate and utilize key e-learning tools, ensuring they have the support needed to succeed in their online and hybrid learning environments. By offering access to guides, tutorials, and support services, the Student Organization empowers students to make the most of their educational experience

### **ADVANCING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AT UAEU IN 2024**

The fall semester of 2023 marked a transformative period in educational development at UAEU, setting the stage for impactful teaching and learning practices.

### **THE PHD STUDENTS TEACHING ACADEMY PROGRAM (STAP).**

This innovative program graduated 31 doctoral candidates (Cohorts 8 & 9) following a rigorous 10-session pedagogical journey enriched by semester-long mentorship under experienced faculty. By integrating educational theory, gamification, and hands-on classroom practice, the PhD Academy offered participants a dynamic platform to apply their learning in real-world contexts. This holistic approach enabled candidates to refine foundational teaching skills, preparing them to become transformative educators for future generations. The program's high standards were matched by exceptional performance from its participants, who demonstrated confidence, competence, and a forward-looking vision for instruction at UAEU. As the program evolved, in the Fall semester 2024 CETL has implemented the integration of personalized, interactive Generative AI solutions, further empowering participants to excel both within and beyond the classroom.

The PhD candidates (cohorts 8 & 9) from "The PhD Academy" continue to exceed expectations, displaying confidence, competence, and an inspiring vision for the future of instruction at UAEU.

### **FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (FPD): ELEVATING INSTRUCTIONAL STANDARDS.**

CETL hosted a series of Faculty Professional Development workshops aimed at enhancing the teaching capabilities of UAEU faculty and instructors. Key topics included:

- Essentials to Start Your Course
- Essentials to Run/Deliver Your Course on Blackboard

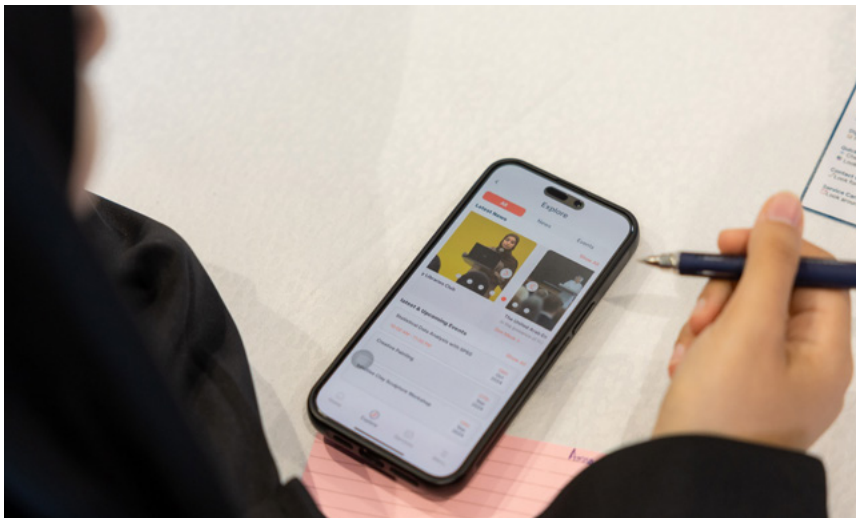
Each session attracted an average of 14 participants, fostering continuous growth in teaching practices and instructional effectiveness across the university.

### **QUALITY MATTERS (QM):**

is instrumental in ensuring the quality of our online and blended courses through a rigorous, research-based review process. By using QM's set of standards and peer review system, we evaluate the alignment between learning objectives, instructional materials, and assessments to ensure high-quality course design. The QM rubric enables our educators to enhance the effectiveness of their courses, meet recognized standards of excellence, and continuously improve the learning experience. This commitment to quality helps us create a more learner-centered and effective educational environment for our students.

## REVITALIZING PEER EVALUATION OF TEACHING (PET)

As part of its commitment to teaching excellence, CETL implemented the first phase of a two-step action plan to modernize the Peer Evaluation of Teaching (PET) program. This revamped initiative enhances transparency and reliability in teaching assessments by adhering to international standards and best practices. The updated PET program not only recognizes faculty achievements in teaching but also fosters a culture of collaborative reflection and peer review. By systematically identifying best practices and areas for improvement, this initiative ensures the sustained quality of instruction at UAEU. The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning remains dedicated to empowering educators and fostering academic innovation, aligning with UAEU's vision of excellence in higher education.



## Community Engagement and Service

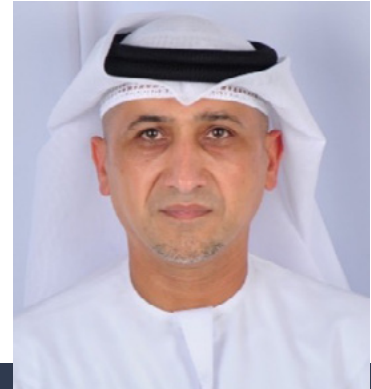
### PARTNERSHIPS WITH EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS:

CETL became a found member of the Arab Consortium of Teaching and Learning Centers. These members are tasked with establishing a collaborative platform to share resources, tools, and best practices in teaching and learning while driving innovation and excellence across the Arab region. They define the consortium's vision, mission, and strategic priorities, lead research on pedagogical advancements, and organize events to foster knowledge exchange. Additionally, they endorse governance frameworks, contribute to capacity-building efforts, and champion initiatives that integrate technology and address regional educational challenges. Through these efforts, they aim to transform teaching and learning practices and elevate educational standards.

### IMPACT ON THE LOCAL OR GLOBAL COMMUNITY:

By blending educational theory with practical application, CETL has significantly impacted educational development efforts at UAEU and beyond, equipping future educators to become transformative figures in their fields.

# Human Capital Research Center Center (HCRC)



**DR. RASHED ALSAHMI**

DIRECTOR, HUMAN CAPITAL RESEARCH CENTER (HCRC)

## Message from the Director



Reflecting on the 2023-2024 academic year, I am deeply grateful for the progress and impact the Human Capital Research Center (HCRC) has made. At the heart of our achievements is a team whose dedication and vision have helped turn ambitious goals into meaningful results. This year, we've had the privilege of working closely with partners who share our belief in building a resilient, forward-thinking workforce. Together, we have provided insights that guide decision-makers and educational institutions in preparing for the future. Our most recent publications have shed light on key areas such as labor market trends, human capital development, and educational program alignment—insights that

are already influencing policies and shaping strategic directions in both academia and industry. The center's ongoing projects are not only advancing knowledge but are also closely aligned with national goals, offering decision-makers the guidance needed to meet market demands with a prepared and capable workforce. Looking ahead, we are eager to build on these achievements, strengthen our partnerships, and continue providing research, insights, and support that empower informed decision-making. With gratitude to all who support our mission, I am confident that HCRC will continue to serve as a vital resource for the UAE's future workforce needs.

### Vision:

The Center serves as a Research Hub that focuses on accelerating the advancement of knowledge and economic growth through research, publications, recommendations, and engagement and collaboration that enhance human capital and education to meet the current and future labor market needs.

### Mission:

The Center serves as a Research Hub focused on advancing knowledge and supporting economic growth through research, publications, recommendations, and engagement and collaboration that enhance human capital development and education, ensuring alignment with the current and future labor market needs.



The Human Capital Research Center (HCRC) was officially launched in the third quarter of 2022 through a collaborative agreement with the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs and UAE University. This launch marked a significant milestone in advancing transformational projects aligned with the core objectives of the UAE government. HCRC aims to analyze global employment trends, identify future labor market needs, and engage in foresight studies. Through rigorous scientific research, the center provides valuable insights into both academic and professional disciplines. These efforts contribute to sustainable and inclusive growth on both local and global levels, helping shape the future workforce and align education with market demands.



### Key objectives of the Center include:

- **Labor Market Analysis:** Providing insights and research findings to support decision-makers and policymakers in understanding current and future labor market trends, ensuring informed workforce development strategies.
- **Human Capital Enhancement:** Offering research-based guidance to help educational institutions and organizations align their strategies with evolving labor market demands, facilitating the preparation of a workforce that meets future needs
- **National Competency Development:** Addressing skill gaps and fostering the development of highly skilled national talents.
- **Educational Program Alignment:** Collaborating with educational institutions to provide insights and recommendations for adjusting curricula and teaching methodologies to better prepare students for the evolving demands of the labor market.

### Key Achievements:

The 2023-2024 academic year marked significant progress for HCRC as it continued to drive impactful research, expand collaborations, and implement innovative projects focused on critical areas such as human capital development, labor market trends, and skills alignment.

### Grants and Projects

HCRC has successfully secured AED 340,000 to fund key projects focused on building and managing talent in advanced digital skills. The center continues to expand its national and international collaborations, engaging in various research initiatives that align with its core research themes:

#### NATIONAL COLLABORATIONS:

HCRC has established partnerships with key government and private sector entities in the UAE, including:

ABU DHABI CHAMBER

AL WISSAM LEGAL TRANSLATION

DUBAI GOVERNMENT HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

EMIRATI TALENT COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL (NAFIS)

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

SECURITIES AND COMMODITIES AUTHORITY

## INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS:

On a global scale, HCRC collaborates with esteemed academic and research institutions to advance human capital research:

BEIJING JIAOTONG UNIVERSITY, CHINA

GOETHE UNIVERSITY FRANKFURT, GERMANY

HUSK BUSINESS SCHOOL, CHINA

HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

IÉSEG SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT, FRANCE

NEOMA BUSINESS SCHOOL, FRANCE

## MAJOR ONGOING AND NEW RESEARCH PROJECTS AND THEIR OUTCOMES:

The center is actively engaged in several significant research projects that align with national and global priorities in workforce development, sustainability, and emerging technologies. Below are key ongoing projects and their current progress:

- **Sustainable Employability of UAE Graduates** – A research grant proposal has been submitted under the UAEU/UOS Research Program (2024-2025) with a proposed budget of AED 339,000. The study examines factors influencing the long-term employability of business administration graduates in the UAE.
- **AI in Education and Research** – A study investigating the adoption and resistance to AI-powered tools in academic settings, focusing on their impact on learning behaviors and institutional policies.
- **AI in Higher Education** – A study exploring the role of AI tools in academic settings, focusing on student engagement, learning outcomes, and ethical considerations in education. This project is funded by the College of Business and Economics.
- **Sustainable Knowledge Sharing at the Workplace** – A systematic review exploring environmentally sustainable knowledge-sharing practices in organizations, identifying future trends and best practices.
- **Expatriate Workforce and Employment Relationships** – An empirical study examining the impact of psychological contract breaches on expatriate employees, with implications for human resource management and talent retention strategies.
- **Private Sector Employment in the GCC** – A research project analyzing perceived barriers to workforce participation in the private sector, offering policy recommendations to enhance national workforce integration.
- **Emiratization and National Workforce Development** – A systematic review assessing best practices and future directions for Emiratization policies and workforce localization strategies.

## Global Contributions

HCRC remains a key contributor to global academic discussions on human capital development, labor market trends, and employability. The center's research provides valuable insights that support decision-makers and educational institutions in shaping future workforce strategies. HCRC's work continues to have a broad impact.

## Looking Ahead

In the coming year, HCRC aims to expand its research output, secure additional research grants, and continue producing impactful studies on talent management, artificial intelligence, and workforce development. By maintaining a strong focus on applied research, HCRC will ensure its work continues to drive meaningful change in both academia and industry.

## In summary

HCRC's achievements in AY 2023-2024 reflect its dedication to advancing research, fostering collaboration, and creating meaningful impact within both academic and industry sectors. The center expresses gratitude to all partners and collaborators for their continued support. Looking ahead, HCRC will build on this success, contributing to workforce development and addressing future global challenges.

# The Emirates Center for Happiness Research (ECHR)



**DR. MUNA AL MANSOORI**

DIRECTOR, EMIRATES CENTER FOR HAPPINESS RESEARCH

## Message from the Director

As we reflect on the remarkable journey of the past year, I am proud to share the many achievements and milestones of the Emirates Center for Happiness Research during 2023/2024. This year has been one of both significant accomplishments and meaningful challenges, each contributing to our growth and impact in ways that continue to shape the future of wellbeing in the UAE and beyond. From pioneering research on family well-being and mental health to fostering interdisciplinary collaborations, our center has worked relentlessly to advance the understanding of happiness and well-being. These efforts underscore our unwavering commitment to excellence, innovation, and creating positive societal change. This year, we focused on impactful research initiatives that have the potential to transform lives. Notable projects included studies on employee well-being, community engagement with urban walkability, and resilience in the face of adversity. Through these

initiatives, we have contributed to strengthening both individual and collective well-being, integrating academic insight with actionable, community-centered solutions. Our workshops, collaborations, and public forums have helped solidify our role as a trusted source of knowledge, providing practical tools and insights for personal and collective growth. The challenges we faced only fueled our determination to push forward, always seeking to inspire positive change and promote a holistic approach to well-being. This approach is deeply rooted in the rich cultural heritage and core values of the UAE, guiding our work with integrity and purpose. As we look ahead, we remain committed to building a brighter, more resilient future for our society. Together, we can continue to transform lives, promote well-being, and create a world where every individual has the opportunity to thrive.



## Vision:

To be a leading center in Happiness and Well-Being research and a major contributor in promoting wellbeing in the nation and around the world.

## Mission:

To enhance the UAE government's commitment to happiness and well-being by conducting cutting-edge research in this field. Also, disseminating its findings nationally and globally, monitoring and assessing the nation's happiness indices and promoting virtues of well-being in the community.

## Goals:

- To conduct research in the field of happiness and well-being.
- To assess the UAE's happiness indicators.
- To develop capacity-building and professional consultancy programs.

## Organizational Structure:

The Center is led by a Director reporting to the Vice Chancellor and the Board of Trustees. The Director is advised by the Scientific Advisory Board. The Center comprises of two main units:

### RESEARCH & ASSESSMENT IN HAPPINESS UNIT,

which has the following goals:

- To coordinate the services offered by the Happiness' Assessment and Studies Unit
- To provide intellectual supports to the Director for maintaining high quality of research/assessments and dissemination exercises;
- To identify new opportunities in research collaboration and funding opportunities;
- To ensure that all services offered are fully assessed to provide comprehensive reports on the work undertaken and offer improvement plan if needed.



### CAPACITY BUILDING AND CONSULTANCY UNIT,

which has the following goals:

- To coordinate the services & activities offered by the Unit;
- To disseminate knowledge of mindfulness, happiness and positivity via different media and training/retreat programs;
- To develop and implement specific outreach plans/programs to cultivate positivity & happiness;
- To ensure that all center services are accessible to all the segments of the community;
- To monitor the quality and the delivery of the related programs and related events;
- To ensure that all consultancy services are offered by specialized academics/professionals

Each unit is managed by full-time specialized academics supported by dedicated administrators and a full-time statistician. Additionally, the center collaborates with psychology and social work interns from UAE University as needed to enhance its operations and services.



## Advancing Well-being in Alignment with UAE Vision 2024

The Emirates Center for Happiness Research (ECHR) continues to play a pivotal role in supporting the United Arab Emirates' vision of fostering well-being within society. Guided by the nation's strategic priorities, the center has collaborated with local and international ministries, organizations, and entities to promote the concept of happiness and well-being across various domains.

### EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH

ECHR conducts rigorous research and analysis to provide valuable insights into the fields of positive psychology and well-being, focusing on individuals living in the UAE. Notable research collaborations in 2024 include:

- **Indoor Air Quality, Heat Stress & Well-being in Urban Cities:** A mixed-method study conducted in partnership with Hong Kong, China.
- **Female Connect:** A project celebrating the achievements of women entrepreneurs.
- **Well-being Among Children and Families:** A joint study with The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK).
- **Father's Involvement in the Perinatal Phase:** In collaboration with the Public Health Institute.
- **Involving Emirati Citizens in deep Thermal Retrofitting of existing public housing through digital twins in Metaverse.**



### CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES

ECHR has organized several events aimed at advancing happiness and well-being skills. Highlights include the following 14 events:

- **Be Happy Workshop (September 7, 2023).** The ECHR conducted this Workshop in collaboration with the Department of Occupational Welfare. Human resources held this workshop for the UAEU staff and faculty members.
- **World Mental Health Day (October 10, 2023)** The ECHR conducted this event in collaboration with the department of Psychiatry at the college of Medicine and Health sciences to cover workshops on various topics of wellbeing and mental health.
- **Psychology Fair (April 27, 2023).** The ECHR conducted this event in collaboration with the department of Cognitive Sciences department to help students present their work relating to behavioral neuroscience.
- **Practices for Positive Day (March 9, 2023).** The ECHR hosted a workshop for the UAEU staff and faculty members.
- **Healthy Mind, Healthy Life (March 20, 2023).** The ECHR hosted this event as part of the celebration of the International day of Happiness focusing on workshops on art, food and sports and wellbeing.
- **Say No to Bullying Day (November 19, 2023).** The ECHR organized this event for students of the MBK school to help them get the awareness on how to avoid bullying at school.
- **Coffee meetup brainstorming session (January 30, 2023).** The ECHR organized the brainstorming session allowing faculty members from various department to share their research ideas and create opportunities of mutual collaboration.
- **Females Connect: Celebrating Our Women entrepreneurs (August 28, 2024).** The ECHR organized this event in collaboration with the College of Business and Economics as part of Emirati Women Day.



- Encouraging Walkability in Emirati Communities: A Proposed Mechanism to Bridge the Gap between Theory, Practice and Community Attitudes. (February ??, 2024). ECHR successfully applied multiple mixed methods for assessing walkability theory and practice as well as engaging the local community in defining more relevant Walkability Scoring measures that resonate with the actual needs and aspiration of the lay Emirati people.
- Seminar on Well-being in University Life (September ??, 2024). Focused on enhancing students' self-confidence and resilience, this seminar prepared participants to tackle future challenges while fostering a positive academic environment.
- "Towards Success & Well-being" Lecture Series (October 2, 2024). Covering critical topics such as time management, stress reduction, and study techniques, these lectures equipped students with tools to enhance academic performance and well-being.
- Happiness and Well-being Documentary Project (April 23, 2024). In collaboration with the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Media & Creative Industries department, this project showcased student-created documentaries promoting well-being through innovative and creative storytelling.
- Our children - our future: their protection is our responsibility (October 28, 2024). The Institute of Public Health, College of Medicine and Health Sciences in collaboration with the ECHR organized this event to raise the awareness about child maltreatment.
- Managing stress during educational journey and beyond (October 30, 2024). The ECHR in collaboration with the Department of Cognitive Sciences organized this event as part of the World Mental Health Day.



## Professional Consultancy

The center provides strategic advisory services to government bodies and organizations on enhancing workplace well-being. Notable engagements in 2024 included ongoing consultancy with the Abu Dhabi Civil Defense Authority to improve organizational happiness and workplace culture.

## Education Courses

The "Introduction to Happiness and Well-being" course for UAEU students remains one of ECHR's flagship initiatives. This program equips students with scientific strategies to understand and cultivate happiness in various aspects of life, including academic, professional, and social spheres.

The Emirates Center for Happiness Research remains committed to advancing the UAE's well-being agenda through evidence-based practices, innovative initiatives, and impactful collaborations.

# Center for Public Policy and Leadership (CPPL)



**DR. ALI AL AHBABI**

DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND LEADERSHIP

## Message from the Director

I would like to welcome you to the UAEU Center for Public Policy and Leadership. Our center is focused on advancing excellence in public policy, governance, and leadership, and we are committed to supporting decision-making processes throughout the United Arab Emirates. In a rapidly changing world, effective policymaking and strategic governance are essential to sustaining growth, enhancing resilience, and fostering innovation. Our mission is to empower decision-makers through research-driven insights and cutting-edge solutions that address pressing national and regional challenges. At the UAEU Center for Public Policy and Leadership, our belief is that collaboration is crucial for progress. Our goal is to create impactful policies and programs that strengthen our national capabilities by working closely

with government bodies, strategic partners, and international institutions. Through targeted research and professional training, we are committed to developing leaders who embody the values of innovation, resilience, and foresight, aligning with the UAE's ambitious vision for the future. We are proud to contribute to the nation's journey towards a knowledge-driven economy and a society enriched by effective, transparent governance. Looking ahead, we are excited to expand our initiatives and deepen our partnerships to create even greater positive impact. Whether through research, consultation, or leadership development programs, the UAEU Center for Public Policy and Leadership stands ready to address the evolving needs of our community and nation.



### Vision:

To establish the center as an influential player in excellence and innovation in public policy, governance, and leadership by supporting the decision-making process in the United Arab Emirates.

### Mission:

To contribute to the formulation and evaluation of national public policies through scientific research, aiming to strengthen human and institutional leadership capacities in the United Arab Emirates.

## Strategic Goals:

- Conduct research and studies related to public policy and leadership based on scientific evidence, addressing the national challenges of the United Arab Emirates.
- Strengthen collaborative partnerships with academic, research, and governmental institutions at the local, regional, and international levels.
- Contribute to enhancing human capacity building within Emirati institutions.
- Activate the center's activities and engagements at the local, regional, and international levels.

## Center Objectives:

- To provide research and advisory services on public policy issues to decisionmakers in the United Arab Emirates.
- To contribute to enhancing national capacities by offering effective professional programs.
- To develop a quality strategy in the field of public policy that reflects the leadership vision of decision-makers in the United Arab Emirates.
- To enhance collaboration between UAE University and strategic partners within and outside the country.

## Facilities and Infrastructure:

The UAEU Center for Public Policy and Leadership is located in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Substantial renovations have been implemented in the Center to reflect the national identity of the UAE.

### RESEARCH AND INNOVATION:

ECHR has organized several events aimed at advancing happiness and well-being skills. Highlights include the following 14 events:

### EXTERNALLY AND INTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS:

“Designing a national strategy of Emirati Identity” - sponsored by the Ministry of Culture and UAEU, 2023. (1,440,000 AED). This initiative focuses on reinforcing the national identity of the United Arab Emirates. The CPPL is actively formulating the core elements of the strategy by defining its overall framework, creating a vision, structuring the strategy, monitoring key areas, and pinpointing recommended policies and initiatives that will support its execution. Additionally, they are establishing scientific indicators to evaluate Emirati national identity. The project team comprises university faculty and various external experts.

### INTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS:

“Sustainable Development Goals from Theory to Practice Using Spatial Data Infrastructure: A Case Study of UAEU Undergraduate Students” 2022-ongoing (40,000 AED)

## EXTERNALLY FUNDED PROJECTS:

- “Emirati Youth: Reality and Aspirations” - sponsored by Juvenile Awareness and Care Association in the Emirates. by December 2023, (140,000 AED)
- A concept paper entitled: “The Significance of Vocational Education in Promoting the National Security”, Ministry of Education, by February 2023. (30,000 AED)



## RESEARCH PROJECTS INVOLVING UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS:

The Center has carried out 3 projects involving undergraduate and graduate students:

- “Sustainable Development Goals from Theory to Practice Using Spatial Data Infrastructure: A Case Study of UAEU Undergraduate Students”.
- Adaptation to climate change challenges in UAE: an artificial intelligence (AI) approach for the prediction of groundwater salinity changes, Policy research.
- A Panel Discussion entitled: “Impact of Cultural Indicators on Shaping Inclusive, Dynamic and Sustainable Cities” within the UAEU road map to COP28 and beyond.

## Internship Program:

In 2023-2024, the Center has provided internship programs to 10 undergraduate students.

## PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS:

In 2023-2024, the Center researchers have published 2 papers:

1. Alkaabi K, et al (2023)  
Sustainable Development Goals from Theory to Practice Using Spatial Data Infrastructure: A Case Study of UAEU Undergraduate Students. Sustainability. 15(16), 12394.
2. Aljanahi, M., Yaghi, A. & Al Ahbabi, A. (2024). Review of Literature on Emirati Women With Disabilities, Their Education, and Career Prospects, Journal of International Women's Studies, Vol.c26, issue. 6, Article 6, pp. 1-19.



## DEVELOPING NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIPS:

- Working on developing a strategic partnership with the Emirates Policy Center (ranked first in the Arab World and second in the Middle East and North Africa region in the annual Global Go to Think Tank Index Report).
- CPPL has become a member of the UAE Coordinating Committee for the Think28 Platform.
- Developing the CPPL relationship with the National Defense Collage, Ministry of Defense, Abu Dhabi.
- Developing the CPPL relationship with a College of War, the Ministry of Defense, Abu Dhabi.
- Engaging in the process of developing relationships with Rabdan Academy in Abu Dhabi. We have discussed a possible collaboration in research and national security studies).
- The UAEU Center for Public Policy and Leadership has signed (October 28, 2024) an MOU with Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy and the Institute of Environment and Sustainability, National University of Singapore to enhance our strategic and academic relationships in different areas, such as hosting executive education programs and joint research projects.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

In 2023-2024 the CPPL has conducted 15 community engagement and service events and activities, including:

1. A public lecture entitled: "Innovation in Workplace environment", UAEU, February 2nd 2023, delivered by Dr. Mohammed Aljanahi, Department of Government and Society.
2. A Brainstorm session entitled: "Innovation in Education", UAEU, February 6th 2023, delivered by Dr. Mona Aljanahi, College of Education.
3. A public lecture entitled: "Leadership Character in the Art and Novels", UAEU, March 20th 2023, delivered by Noora Altenaiji, College of Humanities and Social Sciences.
4. A public lecture entitled: "Deforestation and Sustainable Charcoal Production in Africa", delivered by Dr. Anne Bartlett, Department of Government and Society, UAEU, March 20th 2023.
5. Participating with Prof. Mariet Westermann (NYU-Abu Dhabi Vice Chancellor) in presenting an introductory video in a lecture entitled: "Learning to Lead and Win in The New World", given by Steve Cockram, Majlis Mohamed Bin Zayed, Abu Dhabi, April 18th 2023.
6. A lecture entitled: "The Geopolitical Challenges of Arab Gulf States", College of War, the Ministry of Defense, Abu Dhabi, October 5th 2023, delivered by Dr. Ali Al Ahbabi.
7. A lecture entitled: "Strategic Thinking", College of War, the Ministry of Defense, Abu Dhabi, 2023, delivered by Dr. Ahmed Almulla.



8. A lecture entitled: “The Role of Public Policy in Promoting Sustainability”, as a part of the series of discussion sessions “Sustainability Talk”, within the initiatives of the UAE University for the year of sustainability 2023 and in support of the National efforts of COP28, Sheikh Zayed Corner, Main Library, October 23rd 2023.
9. Participating in a panel discussion entitled “The Emirati Thinkers and Media” within the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research in the Global Congress on Media, November 15th 2023.
10. Seminar on “Building Urban Resilience: Understanding Climate Change and Mitigating Vulnerability to Rain Flood”, organized by the College of Humanities and Social Science and UAEU Center for Public Policy and Leadership, Wednesday May 15th 2024, UAEU.
11. A lecture entitled: “US-China Rivalry and Its Impact on the Middle East”, College of War, the Ministry of Defense, Abu Dhabi, October 16th 2024, delivered by Dr. Ali Al Ahbabi.
12. A lecture entitled: “Climate Change and Its impact on Political and Economic Stability”, College of War, the Ministry of Defense, Abu Dhabi, October 17th 2024, delivered by Dr. Ahmed Al Mulla.
13. A participant in the Government Accelerators Project” for Emirati National Identity Strategy, Prime Minister’s Office, September 30th – October 3rd 2024.
14. A participant in “National Identity Retreat”, the Annual Meetings of the UAE Government, November 4th 2024.
15. A participant in a delegation headed by Ahmed Al Raeesi, the Acting Vice Chancellor, to visit the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore and INSEAD Business School to discuss potential collaboration with UAEU.







**DR FATIMA AL BREIKI**  
DIRECTOR, UAEU LIBRARIES DEANSHIP

## Message from the Director

I am pleased to present the UAEU Libraries Annual Report for the academic year 2023-2024, highlighting our progress, achievements, and the challenges we navigated. Over the past year, we have made significant strides in enhancing access to knowledge, supporting research excellence, and strengthening our partnerships both nationally and internationally.

One of our key accomplishments has been securing transformative agreements with major academic publishers such as Taylor & Francis and Elsevier. These agreements have not only expanded access to high-impact journals but have also empowered UAEU researchers to publish open access, increasing the visibility and global reach of their work.

Furthermore, our commitment to innovation has driven us to enhance our digital services and research support. With a vast collection of print and electronic resources, cutting-edge data

management services, and an active institutional repository, UAEU Libraries continue to be a cornerstone of academic success for students and faculty.

Despite these achievements, we recognize the challenges ahead. The rapid evolution of digital research tools, growing demand for open-access publishing, and the need for continuous staff development are areas that require sustained efforts. Our strategic direction remains focused on adapting to these changes while fostering an inclusive and knowledge-driven environment.

I extend my gratitude to the dedicated library staff, faculty, students, and our strategic partners for their unwavering support. We look forward to another year of growth and excellence in serving the UAEU community.



### Mission:

The UAEU Libraries are dedicated to supporting the university's teaching, learning, and research endeavors by providing access to high-quality information resources, innovative services, and cutting-edge technologies. We aim to cultivate a knowledge-driven environment that fosters academic excellence, intellectual growth, and lifelong learning within the UAEU community.

### Vision:

To be a leading academic library in the region, recognized for excellence in information services, digital transformation, and research support. We aspire to be at the forefront of knowledge creation and dissemination, empowering students, faculty, and researchers with the resources and tools needed to drive innovation and societal impact.

## Our Values

UAEU Libraries are guided by a set of core values that reflect our commitment to excellence, innovation, and service:

- **Academic Excellence** – Supporting research and learning by providing access to world-class resources and services.
- **Innovation & Digital Transformation** – Continuously enhancing our services through the adoption of emerging technologies.
- **Collaboration & Partnerships** – Strengthening relationships with academic institutions, publishers, and community stakeholders.
- **Integrity & Professionalism** – Upholding the highest ethical standards in information services and research support.
- **User-Centered Service** – Placing students, faculty, and researchers at the core of our decision-making and service development.
- **Lifelong Learning** – Promoting continuous knowledge growth for students, researchers, and the wider community.

## Libraries Deanship's Structure

The UAEU Libraries Deanship operates under a structured governance model to ensure efficient management and service delivery. The organizational structure is designed to support library operations, research services, digital transformation, and academic collaboration.

## UAEU Libraries: A Gateway to Knowledge

UAEU Libraries serve as a vital hub for knowledge, offering a wide range of resources and services that support learning, teaching, and research activities across the university. Our commitment to academic excellence extends beyond providing information; we strive to foster innovation and promote entrepreneurship at both national and international levels.

## Our Objectives

To fulfill our mission and vision, UAEU Libraries focus on the following key objectives:

- **Enhancing Access to Knowledge** – Expanding access to physical and digital collections, ensuring seamless availability of high-quality resources.
- **Advancing Open Access and Research Support** – Facilitating open-access publishing and supporting researchers in data management and academic publishing.
- **Strengthening Digital Infrastructure** – Developing advanced digital platforms and tools to improve resource discoverability and user engagement.
- **Promoting Information Literacy** – Offering training and workshops to empower students and faculty with critical research and information skills.
- **Encouraging Community Engagement** – Organizing outreach programs, events, and partnerships that promote collaboration and knowledge sharing.
- **Improving Library Services** – Continuously refining library operations, including circulation, reference services, and research consultations.
- **Developing Staff Expertise** – Investing in professional development programs to ensure library staff remain at the forefront of library sciences and technology.



ENHANCING RESEARCH THROUGH TRANSFORMATIVE AGREEMENTS

UAEU Libraries have taken significant steps to support open-access publishing and increase the global visibility of faculty and student research. By negotiating transformative agreements with major academic publishers, UAEU researchers can now publish their work in prestigious journals without incurring Article Processing Charges (APCs) or with substantial financial support. These agreements help promote open science, increase research impact, and facilitate knowledge dissemination on an international scale.

KEY PUBLISHER AGREEMENTS

As part of its commitment to advancing research accessibility, UAEU Libraries have entered into APC agreements with several leading publishers, providing UAEU researchers with open-access publishing opportunities:

Publisher	APC-Free Articles Allowed (2023-2024)
American Chemical Society (ACS)	Unlimited
Association for Computing Machinery (ACM Digital Library)	Unlimited
Cambridge University Press	Unlimited
Oxford University Press	Unlimited
Elsevier	188
Taylor & Francis	52
Wiley	39

Through these agreements, UAEU researchers can publish in high-impact, peer-reviewed journals without financial barriers, thereby increasing the accessibility and global recognition of their work.

STRATEGIC BENEFITS OF THESE AGREEMENTS

- **Increased Research Visibility:** Open-access publishing ensures that UAEU research reaches a wider audience, enhancing its academic and societal impact.
- **Financial Support for Researchers:** By covering APCs, these agreements remove financial obstacles, enabling more faculty and students to publish high-quality research.
- **Enhanced Institutional Reputation:** Strengthening UAEU’s standing as a research-intensive university by increasing its presence in global academic literature.
- **Access to Cutting-Edge Research:** These agreements not only support publishing but also provide UAEU students and researchers with enhanced access to top-tier journals and databases.

With the expansion of these agreements, UAEU Libraries remain committed to fostering a culture of open-access publishing, supporting faculty and students in maximizing their research impact. Looking ahead, the libraries will continue to explore additional publisher agreements and negotiate improved terms to further support the university’s growing research ecosystem.

Community Engagement and Outreach Programs (2024)

UAEU Libraries are committed to strengthening ties with the local community through diverse outreach programs, workshops, and awareness initiatives. These programs aim to promote information literacy, scientific research skills, and equitable access to library resources for a broad audience, including students, government employees, and people of determination.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH: EMPOWERING SCHOOL STUDENTS

In collaboration with the Department of Education, UAEU Libraries organized a series of workshops targeting high school students to enhance their awareness of academic research skills, reliable sources, and library services. These sessions were conducted at:

- Al Zaydia Secondary School (Zakhir)
- Al Shaim School (Umm Ghafa)
- Mubzara Al Khadra School (Hafeet)
- Al Jahili School
- Umm Al Emarat School

These workshops provided students with hands-on training in scientific research methodologies and emphasized the importance of credible academic sources, preparing them for future higher education challenges.

### **STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY TIES THROUGH GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS**

To increase library membership beyond the university and extend access to digital and print resources, UAEU Libraries collaborated with several government and public institutions to provide specialized training sessions for their employees. These institutions include:

- Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority
- Abu Dhabi Judicial Department
- Al Ain Municipality
- Family Development Foundation
- Zayed Higher Organization for People of Determination

These collaborations aim to enhance professional knowledge, improve research efficiency, and provide government employees with access to high-quality academic resources.

### **WORKSHOPS AND INITIATIVES FOR PEOPLE OF DETERMINATION**

UAEU Libraries actively promote accessibility and inclusiveness through specialized programs catering to people of determination. In partnership with the Zayed Higher Organization, the library conducted brainstorming sessions and awareness workshops tailored to their unique needs. These initiatives are focused on:

- Raising awareness about accessible library services
- Providing training on digital and research tools adapted for people of determination
- Encouraging active participation in library programs and activities

These workshops provided students with hands-on training in scientific research methodologies and emphasized the importance of credible academic sources, preparing them for future higher education challenges.

### **IMPACT AND ENGAGEMENT IN 2024**

- 29 workshops conducted
- 1,001 participants benefited

### **IMPACT AND ENGAGEMENT IN TARGET GROUPS:**

- Government employees from key organizations
- High school students from Al Ain region
- People of determination in collaboration with specialized institutions

By expanding community engagement initiatives, UAEU Libraries reinforce their role as a knowledge hub, ensuring that academic resources and research expertise extend beyond campus and positively impact the wider UAE society.

## **Strengthening Partnerships and Collaborations**

UAEU Libraries recognize the power of collaboration in advancing academic research, enhancing knowledge exchange, and improving access to high-quality resources. Through strategic partnerships at the national level, the libraries continue to foster dynamic research and a learning environment that benefits students, faculty, and researchers.

The UAEU Libraries strengthened its network through formal agreements with **Fujairah Digital Library in 2023, Khorfakkan University Library in 2024, and "Ibtikar" platform – Mohammed Bin Rashid Centre for Government Innovation in 2024** reinforcing the importance of **resource sharing, interlibrary collaboration, and collective research support**. These partnerships aim to:

- **Facilitate Knowledge Exchange** – By working closely with academic institutions across the UAE, UAEU Libraries ensure a seamless flow of knowledge, best practices, and research expertise among faculty and students. Joint training programs, shared workshops, and expert consultations are being introduced to enhance the learning experience.
- **Expand Access to Research Materials** – Through these agreements, researchers and students gain enhanced access to books, journals, digital archives, and specialized databases housed within partnering libraries. This ensures that valuable academic resources are not restricted to a single institution but are leveraged for the collective benefit of the UAE's academic community.



- **Strengthen Digital Resource Sharing** – The collaborations involve integrating digital repositories and e-resource platforms, allowing scholars to explore a wider collection of research publications, theses, and specialized data sets without limitations of physical boundaries.
- **Encourage Joint Research Initiatives** – UAEU Libraries actively support interdisciplinary and inter-institutional research by facilitating collaboration between faculty and researchers across partner universities. This includes coordinated research projects, funding opportunities, and shared access to data-driven insights.
- **Enhance Student and Faculty Engagement** – By organizing academic events, knowledge-sharing sessions, and collaborative learning initiatives, the partnerships ensure greater engagement among students and faculty members across institutions.

### FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN PARTNERSHIPS

Building on these successful agreements, UAEU Libraries are committed to expanding their partnerships with more universities, research centers, and government entities to further strengthen academic collaboration in the UAE and beyond. Future initiatives will focus on:

- Enhancing **LIWA interlibrary loan network** to streamline book lending and document sharing.
- Organizing **the UAE libraries symposium** to facilitate discussions on the evolving role of libraries in the digital era.
- Enhancing **AI-driven research services** by integrating advanced technologies for better resource discovery and data analysis.

By fostering strong institutional partnerships, UAEU Libraries continue to position themselves as a leader in academic resource sharing, digital transformation, and research excellence.

## Advancing Information Literacy Initiatives

Information literacy is a cornerstone of UAEU Libraries' mission to empower students, faculty, and researchers with the skills needed to navigate, evaluate, and effectively use information in their academic and professional pursuits. Through structured training programs, workshops, and hands-on learning experiences, UAEU Libraries have significantly expanded their information literacy efforts over the past two years.

### GROWTH IN INFORMATION LITERACY ENGAGEMENT

Year	Sessions Conducted	Participants Engaged
2023	112	2,327
2024	314	5,382

This represents an 180% increase in the number of sessions and a 131% rise in user participation from 2023 to 2024, demonstrating the growing demand for information literacy programs within the UAEU community.



### KEY AREAS OF FOCUS IN INFORMATION LITERACY

- **Academic Research Skills:** Helping students and researchers effectively search, retrieve, and cite academic resources.
- **Digital Literacy & AI in Research:** Introducing emerging technologies, AI tools, and digital platforms for enhanced research capabilities.
- **Data Management & Open Science:** Training on research data organization, curation, and compliance with open-access policies.
- **Preventing Plagiarism & Ethical Research Practices:** Educating users on citation management tools, proper attribution, and academic integrity.



EXPANDING OUTREACH AND IMPACT

To further enhance access to information literacy training, UAEU Libraries introduced:

- **On-Demand Virtual Workshops:** Interactive sessions available online to accommodate diverse schedules.
- **Integrated Classroom Support:** Collaborations with faculty to embed information literacy within coursework.
- **Customized Training for Researchers:** Specialized sessions catering to faculty members and graduate students.
- **Multilingual Learning Resources:** Materials available in both Arabic and English to ensure inclusivity.

By expanding and refining these programs, UAEU Libraries continue to play a critical role in equipping the university community with essential research and information skills, ensuring their academic and professional success. Looking ahead, the libraries plan to introduce AI-driven learning analytics to personalize information literacy training and further enhance engagement.

EXPANDING DIGITAL ACCESS AND RESEARCH SUPPORT

With a strong digital presence, UAEU Libraries provide seamless access to an extensive collection of books, journals, and databases. Our digital services continue to evolve, offering:

- Resource Sharing & Lending Services
- LibChat & LibGuide for instant research assistance
- Information Literacy Programs
- Manuscript Editing Services
- Engagement through Events and Outreach Initiatives

Key Statistics for 2023-2024

LIBRARY COLLECTION

Material Format	Title Holdings Quantity
Books & eBooks	851,868
Journals/magazines	130,177
Videos	103,367
Other	6,704
Total	1,092,116

LIBRARY COLLECTION

Year	E-Journal	E-Book
2023	115,920	38,229
2024	61,435	26,370

INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY

485,134  
DOWNLOADS  
2023-2024)

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

116 STUDENTS  
CONTRIBUTED  
1,354 VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTION

OVER 1,250 BOOKS  
AND JOURNALS  
FROM THE DR.  
JAMAL S. SUWAIDI  
COLLECTIONS  
HAVE BEEN ADDED  
TO THE LIBRARY  
AS A SPECIAL  
COLLECTION

Financial Overview, Challenges, and Future Targets

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN LIBRARY SERVICES (2023-2024)

UAEU Libraries have strategically allocated their financial resources to enhance academic research, digital transformation, and community engagement. Key investments include:

- **Digital Resources & Subscriptions:** Securing agreements with leading publishers (Elsevier, Wiley, Taylor & Francis, Oxford, ACS, AMC, and Cambridge) to provide UAEU researchers with open-access publishing opportunities. The following table shows the amounts spent in 2024 for these agreements:

Subscription	Price (Original Currency)	Price in AED
Elsevier	AED 5,747,716.80	AED 5,747,716.80
Wiley	USD 350,000.00	AED 1,285,467.75
Taylor & Francis	AED 1,067,900.40	AED 1,067,900.40
Oxford	USD 95,000.00	AED 348,912.67
Cambridge	AED 137,336.61	AED 137,336.61
American Chemical Society (ACS)	USD 175,757.00	AED 645,514.16
Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)	USD 8,000.00	AED 29,382.12
Total	USD 175,757.00	AED 9,262,230.51

- **Technology & Infrastructure:** Advancing AI-powered research tools, digital repositories, and smart library services. The following table shows the amounts spent FY 2024.

Category	Amount Spent (AED)
Technology & Infrastructure	533,905



- **Information Literacy & Training:** Expanding workshops and faculty/student engagement programs to boost research skills. The following table shows the amounts spent FY 2024.

Category	Amount Spent (AED)
Information Literacy & Training	61,057

- **Library Events & Outreach:** Strengthening collaborations through symposia, national agreements, and global knowledge-sharing initiatives.

Category	Amount Spent (AED)
Library Events & Outreach	47,865.70

- **Collection Development:** Acquiring new digital and print materials.

Category	Amount Spent (AED)
Collection Development	24,373,243

## PERFORMANCE & UTILIZATION HIGHLIGHTS

- Expanded digital library services led to increased e-book and journal downloads.
- Over 485,134 downloads from the institutional repository FY 2023 and 2024.
- 180% increase in information literacy sessions, engaging 131% more participants.
- 800+ APC-free publishing opportunities secured through transformative publisher agreements.

## FINANCIAL TARGETS FOR 2025 AND BEYOND

- Expand Digital Research Tools & AI Integration – Enhance AI-powered library services, data visualization, and research analytics.
- Improve Library Spaces & Smart Learning Zones – Develop collaborative learning areas and advanced digital workstations.
- Strengthen Research Data Management Services – Support open-access publishing and institutional repositories.
- Secure External Funding & Partnerships – Increase collaboration with government entities and industry partners.
- Enhance Community Engagement Initiatives – Launch new literacy and outreach programs for broader public access.

## KEY CHALLENGES & MITIGATION STRATEGIES

- Rising Costs of Academic Resources: Managing databases and journal subscription costs through cost-sharing models and funding advocacy.
- Balancing Digital & Physical Services: Expanding hybrid models to meet evolving student needs.
- Low Engagement with Digital Services: Implementing targeted awareness campaigns for underutilized research tools.
- Keeping Pace with Technological Advancements: Investing in staff upskilling and AI-driven service enhancements.
- Sustainability of Open-Access Publishing: Exploring grants and collaborative funding models to maintain APC-free publishing.
- Expanding Partnerships: Strengthening regional and international collaborations to enhance research sharing and interlibrary lending.

By aligning financial resources with strategic objectives, UAEU Libraries continue to evolve as a future-ready knowledge hub, ensuring sustained academic and research excellence.

Despite challenges like rising academic resource costs and digital service engagement, UAEU Libraries have made significant strides in digital transformation, research support, and community engagement.

UAEU Libraries: Key Achievements (2023-2024)

1. DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION & RESEARCH SUPPORT

- Zero Bureaucracy Program Implementation: Streamlined meeting room reservations and library membership requests, enhancing user efficiency.
- Official Launch of LibCal Platform: Facilitated online room bookings and scheduling of library services.
- Expansion of Digital Research Support: Introduced AI-driven tools, and an enhanced institutional repository to support academic success.
- ScholarWorks Repository Growth: Added 354 new master’s theses and PhD dissertations to UAEU’s digital repository.
- Initiation of Virtual Faculty Lectures: Collaborated with publishers to provide online instructional sessions for faculty members.

2. RESEARCH & OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

- Transformative Publisher Agreements: Secured APC-free publishing agreements with seven major publishers, expanding open-access opportunities: American Chemical Society (ACS), Association for Computing Machinery (ACM Digital Library), Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Elsevier, Taylor & Francis, and Wiley.
- Library Research Support: Provided manuscript review and plagiarism detection services for 358 research publications.
- Strategic Partnership with "Ibtekr": Collaborated with the Mohammed Bin Rashid Centre for Government Innovation to drive innovation in library services.

3. COLLECTION GROWTH & RESOURCE EXPANSION

- Library Holdings Growth: Achieved a 36% annual increase, reaching 1,092,116 total holdings by the end of 2024.
- Acquisitions from Book Fairs:

Year	Book Fair	Titles	Sessions Conducted	Participants Engaged
2023	Abu Dhabi International Book Fair	488	636	59,998.45
	Sharjah International Book Fair	938	1098	112,788.89
	Al Ain Book Fair	158	254	17,951.39
2024	Abu Dhabi International Book Fair	911	1,101	123,319.97
	Sharjah International Book Fair	1,088	1,408	156,927.67
	Al Ain Book Fair	51	77	8,271.19

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & INFORMATION LITERACY

- Expanded Information Literacy Programs: Conducted 93 sessions for the Basic Library Instructions Course (Humanities & STEM), leading to an 180% increase in sessions and 131% rise in participation.
- Specialized Training for Government Institutions: Organized 29 targeted workshops for:
  - People of Determination (in collaboration with Zayed Higher Organization).
  - High School Students (Al Ain region).
  - Government employees (Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority, Judicial Department, Al Ain Municipality, Family Development Foundation).
- Library Awareness & Education Initiative: Led outreach programs to promote library services and enhance user engagement.
- Professional Development for Library Staff: Participated in two specialized library training workshops led by Dr. Rabhi Olayan.

## 5. FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS & FUTURE GOALS

- Significant investments in digital resources, AI-powered tools, and information literacy training, strengthening library services and research capabilities.
  - Volunteer & Donation Contributions: 116 students contributed 1,354 volunteer hours, and the library received over 3,300 donated books.
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### Future Goals:

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- Enhancing AI-driven library services and expanding research data management tools.
- Upgrading library spaces with smart learning zones for collaborative research and study.
- Securing external funding & new partnerships to drive continued growth and innovation.

By integrating cutting-edge technology, strategic partnerships, and user-focused services, UAEU Libraries continue to pioneer advancements in academic research, open-access publishing, and community engagement.

### A Future-Ready Library

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UAEU Libraries remain committed to advancing research, supporting academic excellence, and fostering a collaborative learning environment. By embracing digital transformation and strengthening partnerships, we continue to address the evolving needs of the university community in an increasingly digital world.

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# UAEU's Publication Rate Continues to Rise

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**2742**

Number of  
Publications



**61**

Number of  
Filed Patents



**80.25 M AED**

Internal Research  
Grant Funds

**70.6%**

Percentage of journal publi-  
cations in Q1-rated academic  
journals

**36**

Number of Granted  
Patents

**35.97 M AED**

External Research  
Grant Funds

**422**

Number of Internally funded  
projects

**39**

Number of Externally  
funded projects

**75.3%**

of Publications result from  
International Collaborations

**103**

H5 index

**1081**

Number of Publications  
addressing the United Nations'  
Sustainable Development  
Goals

**244**

Number of Internal Student  
Research projects

**2.07**

Field-weighted cita-  
tion impact

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# UAEU's Research - Intensive Aims

The transformation into a research-intensive university marks a significant milestone in the evolution of United Arab Emirates University (UAEU). This transition represents a commitment to advancing knowledge, fostering innovation, and contributing substantially to the global academic landscape. Research-intensive universities are characterized by their dedication to cutting-edge research across diverse disciplines, their emphasis on fostering a vibrant intellectual community, and their pivotal role in shaping the future through groundbreaking discoveries and inventions.

UAEU is becoming, more than ever before, a dynamic institute with a wide range of interdisciplinary scholarly activities. UAEU has launched its new Research and Innovation Strategy (RIS) for the cycle 2023-26 to transform its research ecosystem, and to find innovative solutions to 21st-century problems both at home and abroad.

This new RIS comprises 14 projects under 5 key strategic goals that have been developed in collaboration with the university stakeholders and partners in the community. This comprehensive strategy underlines the UAEU's commitment to generating a positive social impact and advancing the knowledge-based economy of the UAE.



## Research Centers at UAEU

UAEU has established research centers in all areas of strategic importance including Space Science and Technology, Health Science, Energy & Water Resources, Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology, Mobility, Big Data Analytics, and Artificial Intelligence. The University is now offering M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs in all these fields of study aiming at increasing the number of graduate students and the research capacity and productivity. The main aim of the research centers and the graduate programs is to support the research mission and vision of the university to become a research-intensive university and a preferable destination to study for talented students both from the UAE and globally.

## Research and Scholarly Achievements

The research outcomes and scholarly achievements of UAEU have increased significantly during the last few years. The total number of publications in journals listed in SCOPUS has increased from 951 publications in 2017 to more than 2742 publications in 2024, with nearly 75% of the papers published in the top 25% of journals.

Faculty members and students of UAEU continue to make remarkable achievements in conducting innovative scholarly activities, which can be observed through the number of patent applications and granted patents. UAEU faculty and students filed 61 patent applications in 2024, and 36 patents were granted in 2024.

## UAEU's Research Transformation: A Commitment to Global Innovation

The United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) is advancing its position as a research-intensive institution, dedicated to addressing global challenges through innovation and scientific discovery. Guided by its Research and Innovation Strategy (RIS) for 2023-2026, UAEU is tackling 21st-century issues across diverse fields through strategic initiatives. Research centers in areas such as Space Science, Health Science, Sustainability, Quality of Education, and Artificial Intelligence foster a dynamic academic environment that attracts global talent. These efforts have led to significant achievements in publications, patents, and international recognition, reflecting UAEU's commitment to academic excellence and societal impact.

At the core of UAEU's mission are six Strategic Research Themes that drive interdisciplinary efforts to create sustainable solutions, advance technology, and enhance societal well-being. These themes span critical areas, including Water and Energy Sustainability and Health and Medical Sciences, and emphasize pioneering innovations with global implications.

## Strategic Research Themes

### HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES (HMS):



UAEU is at the forefront of health innovation, focusing on improving human health and quality of life. UAEU's health research focuses on tackling critical challenges

such as obesity, oncology, and infectious diseases, addressing pressing global and regional health concerns. Studies on adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as preterm births, aim to improve maternal and neonatal health. Cutting-edge innovations like cuffless blood pressure monitoring devices enhance patient comfort and accuracy, while ongoing work on infectious disease prevention and cancer therapies exemplifies UAEU's dedication to advancing healthcare for a healthier society.

### SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SST):



UAEU's space science and technology research drives sustainable economic growth by fostering collaboration between government, private, and academic

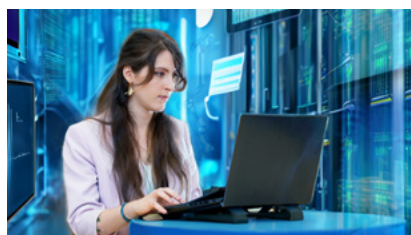
sectors. Key areas include earth observation, planetary science, and spacecraft data analysis, with a focus on addressing issues like land cover changes and climate monitoring. These initiatives contribute to advancing the UAE's position as a leader in space exploration and STEM-based education.

### **WATER, ENERGY, FOOD, AND AGRICULTURE SUSTAINABILITY (WEFAS):**



UAEU researchers are addressing global sustainability challenges by developing innovative solutions in water, energy, food, and agriculture systems. Enhancements in rainfall prediction models for arid regions, sustainable residential energy consumption, and the production of jet fuel from halophytes reflect UAEU's commitment to environmental stewardship. Collaborative efforts in plant-based meat development and sustainable agriculture further demonstrate the university's leadership in building a resilient and sustainable future.

### **DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AND SECURITY (DTS):**



UAEU is shaping the future of smart and secure systems through research in digital technology and cybersecurity.

Projects include the development of autonomous transportation technologies to improve road safety and reduce accidents, alongside efforts to create a secure digital infrastructure. These advancements are tailored to support societal needs and drive economic growth in an increasingly connected world.

### **MATERIAL SCIENCE AND MANUFACTURING (MSM):**



UAEU's research in material science emphasizes sustainability and innovation. Projects include developing sustainable materials for energy storage in batteries and pioneering additive manufacturing techniques. Efforts to recycle thermoplastics and utilize waste materials in heritage restoration highlight the integration of environmental sustainability into industrial and cultural applications. These advancements align with global goals for reducing carbon footprints and promoting efficient manufacturing practices.

### **EMERGING HUMANITIES, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC ISSUES (EHSEI):**



UAEU addresses societal challenges through research on topics like inclusive school leadership, career adaptability, and the impacts of emerging social and

economic issues. Entrepreneurship and innovation are central to this theme, with initiatives fostering creative solutions and supporting economic diversification in the UAE. Strategic research for COP28 focuses on global climate action and sustainability, ensuring UAEU's contributions to international dialogues on climate resilience and sustainable development are informed by multidisciplinary approaches.



## **UAEU is investing heavily into the research programs**

### **INTERNALLY-FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS:**

Amount of Internal Funding of Research Projects: **80.25 Million AED**

Number of All Internally funded projects: **422**

Number of Major Internally funded projects: **178**

Number of Internal Student Research projects: **244**

### **EXTERNALLY-FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS:**

Amount of External Funding of Research Projects: **35.97 Million AED**

Number of Externally Funded Projects: **39**



## COLLABORATIONS:

- In 2023-2024, UAEU and Khalifa University of Science and Technology have selected 4 joint projects for funding under Khalifa University and UAE University Joint Research Awards, highlighting the collaboration between the two leading institutions to drive groundbreaking research and innovation in STEM fields.
- UAEU actively contributes to international scientific efforts in climate action and clean energy through its collaboration with Symbiosis International University in India. A total of five projects have been funded under this partnership, each involving a team of six members: two students and one faculty supervisor from each university

## CONFERENCES AND MAJOR EVENTS:

- The National Water and Energy Center hosted the 2nd International Conference on Water Resources Management and Sustainability: Solutions for Arid Regions, bringing together 320 researchers from 72 countries.
- The United Arab Emirates University hosted the Times Higher Education Forum on "Accelerating Action on SDG 6," featuring extensive participation from experts and leading international institutions specializing in clean water and sanitation.

## UAEU Community Engagement Activities:

The United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) has actively engaged in numerous community initiatives, focusing on sustainability, education, and well-being. These activities align with the university's commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its roadmap toward COP28 and beyond. Below are some key highlights:

### 1) SUSTAINABILITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

UAEU organized multiple sessions, such as "Empowering Community Members to Achieve Sustainability: Food Waste Management at the Household Level," held at Lulu Hypermarket in Al Ain. These campaigns educated residents on minimizing food waste and adopting sustainable practices.

### 2) YOUTH AND EDUCATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Workshops and discussions, like the "Sustainability Talk" series, were aimed at fostering sustainability knowledge among students and the broader community. The College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine held awareness campaigns on food waste reduction, engaging school students and promoting sustainable agriculture.

### 3) COLLABORATIONS FOR SOCIAL IMPACT

Through partnerships with entities like Canadian Hospital, UAEU hosted events such as "Biological Addiction and its Psychological Impact on Women's Health," emphasizing mental health and societal well-being.



## 4) WORKSHOPS AND FORUMS

UAEU contributed to the national dialogue on climate resilience through workshops like "The Role of Public Policies in Promoting Sustainability" and panel discussions on environmental challenges, underscoring the importance of community participation in achieving sustainable development.

## 5) CULTURAL AND SOCIAL CLUB ACTIVITIES

UAEU's Cultural and Social Club hosted events, including tree-planting initiatives and seminars like "The Role of Community in Achieving Sustainability," which inspired active participation in environmental conservation.

## 6) YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND INCLUSIVITY

Activities such as the Annual Running Race and community-inclusive sports events promoted health and inclusivity. Seminars addressing women's empowerment in agriculture and innovative practices also reinforced UAEU's focus on social equity.



Stable International Rankings 2024



290

World Rank

6

Arab Region Rank

20

Subjects Ranked



301-350

World Rank

7

Arab Region Rank

10 out of 11

Subjects Ranked



1

UAE



3

Arab World



In 2024, UAEU ranked in the 801-900 group in the Academic Rankings of World Universities, ARWU (Shanghai Global Ranking).

ARWU BEST RANKED SUBJECTS:

101-150

Water Resources

151-200

Agricultural Sciences

151-200

Finance

201-300

Food Science & Technology

201-300

Clinical Medicine

301-400

Public Health

301-400

Economics

301-400

Education

THE Impact Rankings 2024

201-300

Overall Impact Ranking

201-300

SDG1: No Poverty

101-200

SDG2: Zero Hunger

401-600

SDG3: Good Health and Wellbeing

13

SDG4: Quality Education

401-600

SDG5: Gender Equality

101-200

SDG6: Clean Water and Sanitation

62

SDG7: Affordable and Clean Energy

401-600

SDG8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

101-200

SDG10: Reduced Inequalities

301-400

SDG 13: Climate Action

10

SDG17: Partnership for the Goals

QS Sustainability Rankings 2024

2

UAE

76

ASIA

394

GLOBALLY

# UAEU and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals

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UAEU plays a significant role in the UAE's pursuit of the SDGs through research that provides practical solutions to technical issues such as clean water, green mobility, renewable energy, and agriculture sustainability. Based on the United Arab Emirates declaration of 2023 as the Year of Sustainability, the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) has promoted the concept of sustainability in all sectors and significantly increased the number of SDG research projects for undergraduate students. Within the second cycle of the program (2022/23), the university announced the funding of 104 research projects with the participation of 468 students from various colleges. UAEU published 1293 publications in 2024 addressing UN Sustainable Development Goals. According to Times Higher Education Impact Ranking 2024, UAEU has been ranked in 11 Sustainable Development Goals, notably ranked within 20 globally for SDG 4, and SDG 17.

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## Publications by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

Sustainable Development Goals	Publications
SDG 1: No Poverty	22
SDG 2: Zero Hunger	71
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	459
SDG 4: Quality Education	100
SDG 5: Gender Equality	34
SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	108
SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	263
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	95
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	146
SDG 10: Reduced Inequality	75
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	108
SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	92
SDG 13: Climate Action	142
SDG 14: Life Below Water	31
SDG 15: Life on Land	37
SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	43

## Impact on Climate Change

The UAEU plays an active role in achieving and keeping pace with the sustainable development goals (SDGs) of the United Nations by supporting initiatives and projects seeking to achieve this ambitious vision.

Many initiatives and research activities, related to SDGs, are currently in place within the different colleges and research centers of UAEU to support the national strategy for climate neutrality to reach the target of zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The United Arab Emirates University has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment to implement the UAEU roadmap towards COP28 and beyond (2023-2026). UAEU roadmap focuses on three key areas: research and innovation, empowering youth, and enhancing local and international partnerships. The UAEU Roadmap to COP28 and Beyond includes efforts that are

in line with the UAE Net Zero by 2050 strategic initiative and the COP28 agenda. The Post- Doctoral Fellowship Program on Climate Actions established in UAEU aims to enhance and support the activities of the country to achieve its commitments towards the net zero initiative. The fellowship program provides seed money to recruit a highly qualified Post-Doctoral researcher, explore, test, and implement research ideas for resilient, inclusive, and sustainable solutions under the mentorship of a faculty member at UAE University.

The UAEU has launched its "Green Research Projects," aimed at funding and supporting research projects that focus on sustainability and climate change. The university shared that it has funded 20 research projects, which address sustainability and climate change mitigation and include topics related to technologies of renewable energy technologies, natural resource management, and sustainable agriculture.

As part of UAEU's roadmap for COP28 and the Year of Sustainability agenda, the United Arab Emirates University, in collaboration with the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Sheikha Fatima Initiative to Empower African Women, has developed a program to empower rural women in Senegal through knowledge and practical training in sustainable agricultural practices. New and innovative contributions or methods to improve existing solutions and achieve sustainability and climate neutrality are welcomed. The UAEU Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program on Climate Actions aims to fund five research grants over the period 2024-2025. Each proposal will be internally and externally evaluated.

## The Division of Students' Affairs at UAEU

The United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) is dedicated to fostering the holistic development of its diverse student body by offering a comprehensive range of essential programs and services designed to enhance academic success, personal growth, and career readiness.

The mission of the Division of Students' Affairs is to support the University's core objectives by creating a stimulating and supportive learning environment. A wide array of co-curricular activities and initiatives are offered to nurture highly employable graduates by fostering self-awareness, assisting in selecting appropriate majors, cultivating essential employability skills, and improving career preparedness.

Through the provision of essential services, guidance, and opportunities, the Division of Students' Affairs aims to remove barriers and facilitate students' educational journeys. The Division remains committed to ensuring that every student receives the necessary support and encouragement to reach their full potential.

### Departmental Highlights:

#### REGISTRATION DEANSHIP

An integrated automated system was implemented to facilitate the installment payment of tuition fees for students. This system allows students to choose flexible repayment periods, improving on-time payment rates. It also reduces the burden of large lump-sum payments, encouraging students to fulfill their financial obligations.

A system was developed to allow students to access their financial accounts directly and quickly online. Students can now monitor their financial account details at any time, enabling them to view outstanding amounts and ensure timely payments. This enhances transparency and helps students with better financial planning.

Effective measures were implemented to significantly reduce outstanding receivables, which decreased from 61 million to 37 million—an overall reduction of 39%. This improvement was achieved through enhanced follow-up on overdue payments and the implementation of effective collection strategies, such as continuous communication with students and offering flexible payment options.

#### GENERAL SUPERVISION OFFICE

Installed ten fingerprint devices for entry and others for exit, along with increasing the number of automated doors at Al Ain reception for female students, to reduce congestion and facilitate the process of female students entering the university campus.

Enhanced campus security by installing security cameras at the Al Ain gate and female students' parking lot.

Established a General Supervision Office on the male campus and appointed 11 female staff members to oversee and monitor the behavioral aspects of male students within the campus and its various facilities.

Provided the office with four (4) golf carts for transporting people of determination and medical cases, which has significantly contributed to offering better services on the university campus.



#### CENTER FOR CAREER PLACEMENT AND ALUMNI (CCPA)

The United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) has shown consistent progress, moving from rank 296 in 2023 to rank 290 in 2024, and further advancing to rank 261 in 2025 in the Employer Reputation category. This progress reflects increasing recognition by employers, highlighting the university's success in graduating highly competitive talents in the job market.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, the national survey of UAE University graduates was conducted to measure the strategic indicator of the university: the "Employment Rate Within Nine Months of Graduation." The response rate exceeded 77%, and the semi-annual employment rate indicator increased from 59.91% in 2023 to 62.85% in 2024 (mid-year).



## Expansion of the Career Readiness Program – the “Jahiz Program”

This program is a structured pathway designed to develop professional skills, aiming to support students throughout their academic journey to ensure they are ready for the job market. The program seeks to bridge the gap between academic education and the labor market through a series of workshops and professional events held throughout the academic year.

The Jahiz team organized 118 workshops and professional events, attracting over 13,000 participants from UAE University students, supported by the involvement of 44 faculty members who delivered professional workshops as part of the program.

In collaboration with faculty members and in partnership with industry stakeholders, the team conducted resume writing sessions and mock interview workshops. These sessions provided students with opportunities to receive professional feedback on their resumes and participate in mock interviews with HR specialists, offering practical preparation and direct feedback. The sessions were conducted over five days, engaging more than 400 UAE University students and featuring the participation of six leading companies from the country's industrial sector.

## Increasing Partnerships with Employment and Internship Training Entities

The Division has worked diligently to strengthen its relationships with employers in both the public and private sectors. Collaboration with employment partners has significantly enhanced job opportunities for UAEU graduates:

- The center held more than 100 meetings and visits with new employers from government, semi-government, and private sectors, either in person or virtually. These meetings aimed to explore areas of collaboration, such as boosting employment opportunities for UAEU graduates, promoting the university's career events and training opportunities, and participating in the "Jahez" program.
- The team attended major annual recruitment events in the UAE, including the Zayed Job Fair in Abu Dhabi, the Manufacturers' Exhibition in Abu Dhabi, and the Ru'ya Careers Expo in Dubai. These efforts resulted in adding over 100 new contacts to the center's employer database for 2024, bringing the total number of employer contacts to an impressive 1,100.
- The center documented and enhanced partnerships with leading national initiatives, such as the "Nafis" program and the Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation. These collaborations support Emiratisation efforts and address unemployment gaps among Emiratis in the private sector. As a result, more connections with private-sector employers were facilitated, providing greater employment opportunities for UAEU students.

## Expanding Career Events and Networking Sessions with Various Sectors

- The CCPA at UAE University organized a series of events to enhance student and graduate engagement with employers, fostering connections, and facilitating career opportunities. Over 5,600 students and graduates participated in events such as Employer Networking Sessions and the annual Career Fair, which attracted more than 100 employers across government, semi-government, and private sectors. These events provided a platform for students to explore diverse career paths and gain insights into market demands, with many resulting in immediate employment opportunities. Notably, the 2024 Career Fair hosted over 4,000 students and 45 employers, including strategic partners like ADNOC and Abu Dhabi Police, offering direct access to job opportunities and highlighting labor market needs.
- The center also conducted targeted initiatives such as career workshops and on-campus job interviews in collaboration with leading organizations. Workshops, both virtual and in-person, introduced students to various sectors and programs, while on-campus interviews facilitated recruitment for employers like ADNOC, EDGE Group, and Majid Al Futtaim. These efforts resulted in significant employment outcomes,

including the hiring of 54 graduates by ADNOC and 87 by Majid Al Futtaim. Additional partnerships with entities such as the Abu Dhabi Accountability Authority and Royal Health Group further enriched these opportunities, solidifying the center's role in bridging the gap between education and employment.

## Increasing Job Opportunities and Training Programs for UAEU Students and Graduates

The Career Center and Alumni Affairs intensified efforts to provide job opportunities and training programs for UAE University graduates. Through enhanced strategic collaboration, the center successfully increased the number of available positions for graduates from 3,100 in 2023 to over 4,800 job openings and training programs. Data indicates that 3,500 job opportunities and 1,300 training programs were announced by 230 organizations across the public and private sectors for UAEU students and graduates.

The center also partnered with several prestigious employers to organize on-campus interview sessions. These sessions proved effective in facilitating immediate employment for recent graduates across various fields, while also fostering sustainable relationships with key sector partners. These collaborative efforts extended beyond job placement, contributing to building strong connections and laying the groundwork for future cooperation.

## Students' Life Deanship

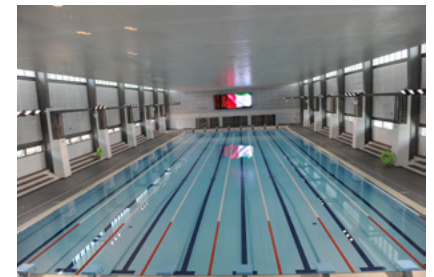
### RESIDENTIAL LIFE SECTION

University residences underwent significant enhancements during the past year. Key accomplishments include:

- Opened Al Muwajji Residence and welcomed more than 330 students during the first semester of the academic year 2024/2025
- Substantial investments were made to upgrade a number of facilities, including the installation of new furniture, air conditioning units, and mattresses. Additionally, one residence gym, sports hall, and common area was modernized to provide a more comfortable and functional living environment.
- A diverse range of recreational, cultural, and training programs were organized to foster a vibrant and enriching campus life. These initiatives aimed to promote holistic development and prepare students for future success.
- Significant efforts were made to improve the overall living conditions in some of the residences. Landscaping was enhanced, cleanliness standards were elevated, and rigorous maintenance protocols were implemented to ensure a pristine and welcoming environment.
- To optimize service delivery, a unified complaints system through email was established, enabling prompt resolution of student concerns. Furthermore, transportation services were improved to enhance convenience and accessibility.

### CAMPUS LIFE SECTION

The Campus Life Section enhanced student life through active participation in numerous competitions, including:



Competition	Description	Student Achievement
"Junk Art" Competition, April 2024, Abu Dhabi	aimed at encouraging creative and sustainable thinking by transforming used materials into inspiring artworks to promote the circular economy and unlock the value of waste	2nd place
Asian University Powerlifting Cup 2023 in Sharjah	An international university championship in powerlifting for male and female students hosted by the University of Sharjah.	5 Medals, 2 Gold, 1 Silver and 2 Bronze
Abu Dhabi Sports Championship, Nov 2023 -Mar 2024	An annual sports championship for Abu Dhabi universities, organized by the Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK), featuring both team and individual sports for male and female students. A total of 17 universities from Abu Dhabi participated in the championship. Additionally, 160 athletes from UAE University competed in the championship across 12 different individual and team sports.	68 Medals, 33 Gold, 20 Silver and 15 Bronze
Serbian Indoor Athletics Championship, Dec 2023	An annual indoor athletics championship organized by the Serbian Athletics Federation	1 Gold Medal
The Fourth Annual UAE Universities Beach Volleyball Championship / Males, Feb 2024	UAE University organized the 4th annual beach volleyball championship for male students, with the participation of 8 teams from various universities across the country.	1 Gold Medal
Zayed Charity Run, Nov 2024	An annual race organized by the Abu Dhabi Sports Council in various distances and categories."	1 Gold Medal W
American University of Sharjah Powerlifting Championship, Nov 2024	An annual competition organized by the American University of Sharjah, featuring powerlifting events for male and female students, with the participation of universities from across the UAE.	5 Medals, 2 Gold, 3 Silver and 1 Bronze
American University of Sharjah First University Sports Festival, Nov 2024	Sports championship organized by the American University of Sharjah for female students.	Gold Medal (Soccer) 2nd place (Swimming)

## Student Happiness Center

1. The student services that were streamlined as part of the Government Zero Bureaucracy initiative:
  - Health card issuance service
  - Financial aid service
  - Counseling and wellbeing service
  - Provide Medical Care Service for Students
  - Providing laptop and iPad to financial ailing students
  - Providing assistive equipment and software support services to students of determination
  - Providing Academic Materials for Students of determination
  - Obtain residence visa and necessary documents for international students
2. A total of 21 students (5 male, 16 female) residing in the housing units received 6 hours of specialized first aid training from Response Plus. This training equipped students with essential first aid skills to handle emergencies until professional help arrives. The certificate obtained through this program is valid for two years, after which participants must undergo retraining to maintain their proficiency.
3. The university has partnered with the Heart Medical Center to offer specialized counseling services focused on mental health and well-being. This collaboration will provide awareness programs, individual and group counseling, and promote a culture of mental health on campus, fostering a healthier university community.
4. Activities held:

Number of Activities	Attendance	Purpose
44 Various Activities	1,450	Awareness and educational activities for all digital services, including 13 specialized activities for students of determination
11 Stakeholders meetings	148	Fostering positive and collaborative relationships with students
"Inclusion and Diversity for Students of Determination" Conference.	300	In collaboration with the College of Education, a total of 16 workshops were held with the attendance of 14 partners serving students of determination
"Salamatek Program" initiative for students with chronic illnesses	27 Visits	An educational program teaching students how to cope with illness, featuring doctor and nurse visits, patient monitoring, and informative handouts.

### 5. Students Voluntary Work

Category	2022	2023	2024
Number of Volunteering Activities	266	290	273
Number of Hours	52,336	59,377	45,712
Number of students	2,740	2,451	2,253
Average Hours per Volunteer	19	24	20

# تصفير البيروقراطية الحكومية ZERO GOVERNMENT BUREAUCRACY

Under the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, a program titled "Zero Government Bureaucracy Program" has been launched. This initiative aims to develop and simplify government procedures by eliminating, reducing, simplifying, and merging unnecessary government procedures and requirements to improve the efficiency of government work. In this context, the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) intends to play an active role in implementing this program by involving the university community in identifying all forms of bureaucracy associated with its administrative and academic operations.

The university aims to involve the UAEU community in the "Zero Government Bureaucracy Program" considering them a key element in the program's success, by proposing innovative and practical ideas, assessing the effectiveness of these ideas, and working on improving the quality of the implemented amendments.

## EXPECTED IMPLEMENTATION RESULTS:

- Accelerating the process of providing government services by reducing routine procedures, eliminate redundancies, and minimizing overlap in transactions, ensuring efficiency and effectiveness in processes.
- Improving the clarity in government process by utilizing digital systems that enable process real-time tracking and provide easily accessible information to stakeholders, including faculty, students and staff.
- Increasing customers satisfaction rate with government services, through timely and efficient service delivery, thereby enhancing trust between the government and customers.

## Milestones

### LAUNCHING OF "BE A PARTNER FOR ZERO BUREAUCRACY PROGRAM"

The Zero Bureaucracy (ZB) team at UAEU actively monitored and assessed innovative ideas from the university community aimed at reducing bureaucratic inefficiencies. Contributions were evaluated based on their potential impact, their feasibility for implementation within the university's current infrastructure, with outstanding proposals selected as winners. These achievements were formally recognized in a ceremony officiated by the Vice Chancellor, who honored the contributors for their forward-thinking solutions. Following the recognition, efforts were undertaken to develop and implement the winning ideas, ensuring meaningful enhancements to administrative and academic operations. This initiative reflected the university's commitment to streamlining procedures and supporting the broader objectives of the Zero Government Bureaucracy Program, which focuses on improving efficiency, fostering innovation, and enhancing satisfaction with government services.





## HOSTING THE "ZERO BUREAUCRACY PROGRAM PARTNERS FORUM"

In August 2024, UAE University (UAEU) hosted a "Partner Forum" under the Zero Bureaucracy Government Program, gathering key governmental leaders and digital transformation experts. The event highlighted best practices and success stories in minimizing bureaucracy within public administration. Acting Vice Chancellor Dr. Ahmed Al Raeesi delivered the opening remarks, emphasizing the role of partnerships between academia and government in enhancing efficiency and achieving shared objectives.



Presentations underscored the importance of reducing administrative complexity through innovative technologies, with contributions from officials across government sectors and academia. Discussions included strategies from the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Interior, showcasing advancements in service efficiency and operational optimization. In addition, e& Enterprise has shared their insight and the role of industry in supporting such initiative.



UAEU also shared its experiences in simplifying administrative processes, which have improved student satisfaction and institutional effectiveness. The forum concluded with a recognition ceremony for participants, fostering knowledge exchange to support future progress in governance simplification.

## ZERO BUREAUCRACY PROGRAM: ENHANCING GOVERNMENT PROCEDURES

As a core initiative at UAE University, the Zero Bureaucracy Program has made significant strides in improving government service delivery by reducing procedural complexities. The primary objective of the program is to streamline and simplify processes within governmental operations, ensuring more efficient use of time and resources while enhancing overall service quality. This initiative is not only a critical step toward optimizing administrative efficiency but also a demonstration of UAEU's commitment to fostering innovation in public sector governance.

### Key Achievements:

In 2024, a total of 20 bureaucratic procedures were identified and approved for simplification. These processes were systematically evaluated and entered into the Project Management Office (PMO) evaluation system for comprehensive assessment and impact measurement. The results of the zeroing procedures have been outstanding, reflecting a clear success in meeting the program's objectives.

- Number of hours before zeroing: 36,200.5 hours
- Number of hours after zeroing: 10,615.25 hours
- Total hours saved: 25,585.25 hours
- Rate of reduction: 70.60%

This achievement demonstrates a 70.60% reduction in the time spent on administrative procedures, directly contributing to enhanced efficiency within governmental operations.

## Community Events

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In 2024, UAE University launched the Community Program for Zero Bureaucracy, a comprehensive initiative aimed at transforming government service delivery. This program consists of a series of lectures and workshops designed to engage and empower the local community, promoting awareness and participation in reducing bureaucratic inefficiencies. By simplifying processes and eliminating unnecessary steps, the initiative strives to enhance the overall quality of life and meet the needs of service users more effectively.

### THE PROGRAM HAS FOUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVES:

- importance of streamlining bureaucratic processes.
- **Developing Skills:** Training workshops focused on building professional and technical competencies that contribute to more efficient service delivery.
- **Encouraging Participation:** Actively involving community members in suggesting innovative solutions and improvements to reduce bureaucratic complexity.
- **Fostering Collaboration and Partnership:** Strengthening ties among various stakeholders to ensure that the program's goals are met through collective effort and cooperation.
- By involving the community in these initiatives, UAE University seeks to foster a culture of proactive participation, ensuring a smoother and more efficient government service experience for all.

### LEADERSHIP DIPLOMA IN ZERO BUREAUCRACY

The Leadership Diploma in Zero Bureaucracy is designed to equip leaders with the essential skills and knowledge to foster an organizational culture that supports a proactive, agile workforce committed to eliminating unnecessary bureaucracy. The program is aimed at creating a shift toward streamlined, efficient processes while encouraging innovation and leadership that supports service delivery and organizational adaptability.

### KEY COMPONENTS OF THE PROGRAM

- **Introduction to a Culture of Zero Bureaucracy:** Explore strategies to embed a mindset focused on efficiency and proactive problem-solving.
- **Designing an Excellent Customer Experience:** Learn the techniques to align organizational systems to prioritize the customer journey.
- **Agile Organizational Cultures as the Foundation for Bureaucracy Busting:** Understand how adaptability and responsiveness can drive organizational change.
- **Scrum Teamwork as a Key Methodology for Zero Bureaucracy:** Explore Scrum methodologies to foster collaboration and improve team performance.
- **Understanding Service Processes:** Gain insight into service design and process management to streamline delivery.
- **Applying AI in Improving Business Processes:** Learn how artificial intelligence can support operational transformation.
- **Agile Innovation:** Promote innovation through agile frameworks to respond to dynamic market demands.
- **Employee Engagement:** Strategies to motivate and empower employees to foster ownership and collaboration.
- **Psychological Safety and Voice – Speaking Up to Eliminate Bureaucracy:** Explore how creating safe spaces for communication can lead to better problem-solving and organizational change.
- **The Proactive Employee – Cultivating a “Can Do Mindset”:** Foster proactivity and responsibility among employees to overcome bureaucratic barriers.
- **The Role of the Leader – Inclusive Leadership:** Equip leaders with strategies to lead inclusively and empower teams toward shared goals.
- **Setting Up Teams for Achieving Rapid Results (Action Learning):** Learn techniques to create dynamic, results-driven teams focused on achieving organizational objectives efficiently.

This diploma combines leadership principles, agile methodologies, innovation strategies, and practical tools for proactive problem-solving to empower leaders to combat inefficiencies and foster an organizational culture that values adaptability, collaboration, and customer-centric service delivery.

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## GEN ED COURSE: ZERO BUREAUCRACY – DEVELOPING THE WORKFORCE OF THE FUTURE

This course aims to equip learners with a comprehensive understanding of bureaucracy in service delivery. The CLOs focus on understanding the principles and challenges of traditional bureaucracy, analyzing the impact of bureaucratic processes on customer service and identifying solutions, exploring Zero Bureaucracy concepts and Customer Empathy in Service Design, and developing future-ready workplace skills focused on eliminating bureaucracy. Through this course, learners will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate and improve service delivery in a bureaucratic environment. The course will be offered at UAEU College of Business, starting Spring 2025.

# Enhancing Community Wellbeing

The UAE University, as a federal institute, is committed to addressing the needs of the country and making a positive impact on the well-being and prosperity of the UAE society and local communities. Consequently, the university has actively engaged in local communities through a range of activities, partnerships, and initiatives. These efforts include community service, volunteering activities, and educational outreach, which all contribute to community well-being.

A research team from the UAE University and Umm Al-Qura University developed an intelligent system to predict the possible risks associated with highly crowded areas during the Hajj and Umrah seasons. The University organized a 2-hour Food Waste Awareness campaign for the Al Ain community in the LULU hypermarket, Kuwaitat. Among others, a research team from the University developed a fractional-order numerical mathematical model for influenza disease.



# Academic Relationships

## Global Relations

UAEU has a set of strong and effective partnerships with international partners. In 2021-2022 new international collaborations were created with highly-ranked academic institutions as measured by QS and THE.



### Belarus

Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radio-electronics

### China

Zhejiang University  
Tsinghua University  
Beijing Studies University  
Ningxia University  
Guangzhou University  
China University of Petroleum

### Denmark

University of Southern Denmark

### France

IESEG School of Management  
NEOMA Business School  
Montpellier Business School  
Institute Français du Pétrole (IFP)

### Finland

Vaasa University of Applied Sciences

### Germany

Technische Universität Dresden  
Jacobs University  
Schmalkalden University of Applied Sciences  
Technische Universität Berlin  
Philipps-Universität of Marburg  
Hochschule Osnabrück -  
University of Applied Sciences  
Goethe University Frankfurt  
Freie Universität Berlin  
Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology

### Iraq

University of Basrah

### Ireland

Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

### Italy

Sant' Anna School of Advanced Studies  
(Scuola Superiore Sant' Anna)

### Japan

Hokkaido University  
Fujita Health University  
University of Tokyo  
Waseda University

### Jordan

Middle East University

### Kazakhstan

L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National  
University  
Karaganda State Technical University

## Malaysia

Universiti Putra Malaysia  
Islamic Science University of Malaysia (Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia)  
University of Malaya  
The International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF)  
University Sains Malaysia

## Oman

Sultan Qaboos University

## Poland

Jagiellonian University

## South Korea

JEJU National University  
Ewha Womans University  
Korea University  
Hankuk University of Foreign Studies  
Dankook University  
Hanyang University

## Spain

University of Castilla-La Mancha  
Autónoma  
University of Madrid Carlos III  
University of Madrid

## Switzerland

University of Geneva

## Thailand

Prince of Songkla University

## Turkey

Eastern Mediterranean University

## Ukraine

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

## United Kingdom

City, University London  
University of Cambridge  
University of Oxford  
of Kyiv

## United States of America

University of La Verne  
Georgia State University  
Northern Illinois University  
University of Florida  
University of Massachusetts Boston  
University of Southern Maine  
University of California, Davis  
Central Connecticut State University  
University of Michigan  
University of Georgia  
Western Michigan University  
University of North Carolina, Charlotte  
Purdue University  
College of William and Mary





The United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) is proud to be one of fifteen founding members of the Asian Universities Alliance (AUA), launched at Tsinghua University, Beijing, on 29 April 2017, the Chinese Year of the Fire Rooster, coinciding with Tsinghua's 106th Anniversary.

On November 14, 2022, the "Asian Universities Alliance AUA" Executives Meeting was held at the United Arab Emirates University, in the presence of representatives from 9 Asian Universities and with the online participation of 6 universities. Prof. Ghaleb Al Breiki, Acting Vice Chancellor, and Chairman of the (2022- 2023) Session of the AUA, said that this Meeting aimed to achieve a better life by finding innovative solutions to global challenges. He pointed out that the UAE University continues to encourage and support joint research cooperation programs among Asian Universities and the AUA-funded Fellowship Program.

On March 12 – 18, 2023, UAEU hosted the AUA Youth Forum under the theme "Uniting for a Sustainable Future: Asian Youth in Action", with the participation of 43 students from 13 AUA member universities. The AUA serves as a platform that fosters academic dialogue and collaboration for joint research regarding energy challenges solutions. The Asian Youth Forum also provided a group of programs to enhance students' understanding of the challenges of energy and sustainable development within a program full of activities and scientific, cultural, and academic events that promote awareness of sustainable issues. Since AUA's establishment in 2017, the UAEU has been playing a significant role in research and academic cooperation on topics of strategic importance to the country, such as space sciences, transportation, energy, water, technology, and others.

Chulalongkorn University, Thailand  
 King Saud University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
 Peking University, China  
 United Arab Emirates University, United Arab Emirates  
 University of Colombo, Sri Lanka  
 The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, China  
 National University of Singapore, Singapore  
 Seoul National University, South Korea  
 Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia  
 The University of Tokyo, Japan  
 Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India  
 Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan  
 Tsinghua University, China  
 Universiti Malaya, Malaysia  
 University of Yangon, Myanmar

# Financial Review

The Financial Review analyzes UAEU's financial performance for the year ended 31 December 2023 and summarizes UAEU's financial strategy and the outlook.

## Context

During 2023, UAEU successfully sustained its operations by continuing to implement innovative and flexible approaches to meet student needs and adapting to the evolving business environment. The University recovered to full capacity, with a focus on optimizing resource allocation and financial management. Federal funding, based on the student funding formula, was managed through strategic cost control measures, ensuring that UAEU operated efficiently within its financial means. These efforts have provided a strong foundation for future growth and stability.

## Going Concern

The Board of Trustees confirms that it has reasonable expectation that UAEU has adequate resources to continue in operation for the near future. For this reason, it continues to adopt a going concern basis for the preparation of the financial statements. In reaching this conclusion, the Board of Trustees has reviewed UAEU's sustainability and is satisfied that the initiatives, plans and processes in place will help UAEU move towards achieving its strategy. It is satisfied that academic initiatives take account of the environment in which the University is operating as an institution and are financially sustainable. The following are the key elements that give the Board of Trustees assurance in this area:

- regular reviews of UAEU's performance using several key strategic performance indicators in areas that are relevant to institutional sustainability
- a strategic focus on funding diversification and cost optimization required to generate financial resources to enable UAEU's current and future operations
- regular review of UAEU's strategic and operational risks by the Audit and Risk Committee

## Income

Total income for the year 2023 amounted to AED 1,665 million, reflecting an increase of AED 42 million compared to 2022. This growth is primarily attributed to the rise in student enrollment during the year.

Key income streams are summarized below:

Income Source	Actual 2023	Actual 2022	Movement
Contribution from Federal Government	1,481	1,400	81
Contribution from Government of Abu Dhabi	16	41	(25)
Contributions related to Restricted Funds and PPE	101	119	(18)
Other Income	67	63	4
<b>Total Income (AED million)</b>	<b>1,665</b>	<b>1,623</b>	<b>42</b>

## Expenditure

The actual amount spent on salaries and other employees' costs totaled AED 881 million, which is AED 4 million lower than in 2022.

Actual general and administrative expenditure amounted to AED 529 million, marking an increase of AED 85 million compared to 2022. This increase is attributed to the growth in student numbers and an enhanced focus on research activities.

Key expenditure movements are highlighted below:

Expenditure Category	Actual 2023	Actual 2022	Movement
Staff Costs	881	885	(4)
General and administrative expenses	529	444	85
Expenditure related to restricted funds	97	114	(17)
Depreciation & write-off of P&E	126	144	(18)
Finance cost on Service Concession Arrangement	101	119	(18)
Arrangement	32	36	(4)
<b>Total Expenditure (AED million)</b>	<b>1,665</b>	<b>1,623</b>	<b>42</b>

## Balance Sheet

Total assets decreased by AED 184 million, primarily driven by a reduction of AED 113 million in Property & Equipment, a decrease of AED 44 million in Accounts Receivable, and a decline of AED 26 million in Cash and the Federal Government Account.

Total liabilities decreased by AED 184 million, largely due to a reduction of AED 28 million in Service Concession Arrangement Liabilities, an AED 82 million decrease in Deferred Government Grants, a reduction of AED 34 million in Restricted Fund balances, and a decrease of AED 40 million in Trade and Other Payables.

Balance Sheet (AED million)	Actual 2023	Actual 2022	Movement
<b>Assets</b>	<b>4,102</b>	<b>4,286</b>	<b>(184)</b>
Non-Current Assets	3,538	3,651	(113)
Current Assets	564	635	(71)
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>4,102</b>	<b>4,286</b>	<b>(184)</b>
Non-current liabilities	3,608	3710	(102)
Current liabilities	494	576	(82)

## Cash Flow

Net cash flows used in operating activities decreased by AED 91 million, primarily due to a reduction in the notional contribution from the Government of Abu Dhabi and restricted funds. Net cash flows used in investing activities decreased by AED 23 million, largely due to the timing of multi-year capital projects. Additionally, net cash flows used in financing activities decreased by AED 51 million, driven by reduced payments related to the Service Concession Arrangement. Overall, the net unfavorable change in cash and cash equivalents from 2022 to 2023 amounted to AED 21 million.

Statement of Cash Flows (AED million)	Actual 2023	Actual 2022	Movement
Net Cash Flows used in Operating Activities	50	141	(91)
Net Cash Flows used in Investing Activities	(12)	(35)	23
Net Cash Flows used in Financing Activities	(59)	(110)	51
Change in Cash Balance	(21)	(4)	(17)
Cash Balance as of 1 January	270	274	(4)
Cash Balance as of 31 December	249	270	(21)

## Outlook

The UAE's economy is on a solid growth path, with strong momentum in the non-oil sector driving expansion. Government-led economic and social initiatives are strategically positioning the country for sustained, long-term growth, according to Standard & Poor's. These measures are expected to foster ongoing economic resilience and diversification, supporting a vibrant and prosperous future for the UAE.

UAEU leadership is confident in its ability to mitigate any risks to the University's operations and business. With a solid framework in place, UAEU remains well-prepared to manage its assets and liabilities effectively. Leadership will continue to monitor developments closely to ensure the University is positioned for continued success and stability in the future.

The key strategic risks which may impact financial sustainability are:

- failure to meet domestic and international student recruitment targets
- failure to maintain the estate as functionally suitable and have an appropriate information strategy and control of data
- failure to ensure proper conduct of business and be able to respond to severe business disruption events

These will be mitigated through implementation of the initiatives identified in the UAEU's Strategy including a key focus on Achieving Financial Sustainability through a focus on funding diversification, financial management and cost optimization.

## **United Arab Emirates University**

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