

UAE  
UNIVERSITY



THE 5<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNUAL  
UNDERGRADUATE  
RESEARCH  
CONFERENCE  
ON APPLIED COMPUTING  
(URC 2013)

RESEARCH | INNOVATE | PROSPER

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

MAY 1 & 2, 2013 / ZAYED UNIVERSITY / DUBAI CAMPUS

HOSTED BY  
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION  
ZAYED UNIVERSITY  
DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



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**Dr. Sulaiman Al Jassim**  
Vice President  
Zayed University



**Dr. Larry Wilson**  
Provost  
Zayed University



**Dr. Leon Jolian**  
Dean, College of Technological Innovation  
Zayed University



**Dr. Qusay H. Mahmoud**  
Conference Chair  
Professor, University of Ontario Institute of Technology



## Wednesday, May 1

<b>8:00am – 9:00am</b>	<b>Registration</b> Continental Breakfast and Poster Setup
<b>9:00am – 9:15am</b>	<b>Welcome</b>
<b>9:15am – 10:00am</b>	<b>Keynote: Dr. Ahmed Dabbagh</b> Technology Development Manager, Ankabut
<b>10:00am – 11:00am</b>	<b>Panel Discussion: Research, Innovation and Commercialization</b>  <b>Moderator:</b> Dr. Leon Jololian (Zayed University) <b>Members:</b> Dr. Shayma Alkobaisi (UAE University) Suad Al Shamsi (emaratech) Hans Christensen (Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority) Rony El-Nashar (SeedStartup) Novel Tjahyadi (Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority)
<b>11:00am – 11:30am</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>11:30am – 12:30pm</b>	<b>Poster and Oral Presentations (5 Parallel Sessions)</b> <i>see the detailed program for room numbers</i>
<b>12:30pm – 2:00pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>2:00pm – 2:45pm</b>	<b>Keynote: Suad Al Shamsi</b> Chief Software Manufacturing Officer, emaratech
<b>2:45pm – 3:45pm</b>	<b>Poster and Oral Presentations (5 Parallel Sessions)</b> <i>see the detailed program for room numbers</i>
<b>3:45pm – 4:00pm</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>4:00pm – 5:00pm</b>	<b>Oral Presentations (5 Parallel Sessions)</b> <i>see the detailed program for room numbers</i>



## Thursday, May 2

<b>8:00am – 9:00am</b>	<b>Registration</b> Continental Breakfast and Poster Setup
<b>9:00am – 9:45am</b>	<b>Keynote: Dr. Michael Allen</b> Assistant Provost for Faculty Affairs and Research, Zayed University
<b>9:45am – 10:30am</b>	<b>Open Forum with Students</b>
<b>10:30am – 11:00am</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>11:00am – 12:00pm</b>	<b>Poster and Oral Presentations (4 Parallel Sessions)</b> <i>see the detailed program for room numbers</i>
<b>12:00pm – 1:30pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>1:30pm – 2:30pm</b>	<b>Poster Presentations</b>
<b>2:30am – 3:00pm</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>3:00pm – 3:30pm</b>	<b>Awards and Closing Remarks</b>



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*Keynote*  
Speakers



### **Ahmed Dabbagh, Ph.D.**

A pioneer in the field of e-learning platform and resources, Dr. Ahmed Dabbagh has an experience of 18 years in senior technical and academic positions. Currently, Dr. Ahmed Dabbagh is Manager of Technology & Services Development at the UAE Advanced Network for Research and Education “Ankabut”. His main role is to enhance collaboration between the different Higher Education Institutions over UAE, by using the state-of-the-art technology to connect and communicate and to create a common sense in research and education, like eLearning, eLibrary and Grid Computing. Dr. Dabbagh is leading the UAE initiatives in Grid-Cloud Computing and the Certification Authority. Prior to joining Ankabut, Dr. Dabbagh was the Director of the Academic e-Services Department at Ajman University of Science and Technology, UAE. Dr. Dabbagh was working in France & Germany for several years in the domain of micro-controllers and a wide range of micro-processors architectures ranging from 16 bits up to 64 bit with the very known Semiconductors industry like Thomson, STMicroelectronics, Siemens, Motorola,.... Apart from being the co-author of 2 books, namely: Intellectual Property for Electronic Systems: An essential introduction, IEC2007 and Cognitively Informed Intelligent Interfaces: Systems Design and Development, he is also the holder of 6 International patents (3 European, 2 American and one in Japan). Dr Ahmed Dabbagh has been actively associated with IEEE’s Computer Society, VSI and various other organizations. Besides e-learning his other areas of specialization include microelectronics, telecommunications and many more. Dr. Dabbagh gained a Master of Science “D.E.A.” in Images and Signal Processing from the University of Rennes in 1991 and a PhD in Telecommunications from the University of Rennes, France, in 1995.



### **Suad Al Shamsi, M.Sc.**

Suad Al Shamsi is the Chief Software Manufacturing Officer at emaratech, the leading technology consulting company in the UAE. Suad has an extensive technical knowledge in various areas such as mobile computing, semantic web, speech recognition, business process modeling, SOA, web service. As the Chief Software Manufacturing Officer, Suad is responsible for empowering the organization with innovation, production releases and deployment based on the current technological trends and business demands. Suad holds an MSc with honors in Informatics from British University in Dubai (BUiD) and B.S. with honors in Information Systems from Zayed University (ZU), UAE.





### **Michael Allen, Ph.D.**

Dr. Michael Allen is Assistant Provost for Faculty Affairs and Research at Zayed University, having previously served for five years as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He has also held positions at the University of Auckland (New Zealand), the University of California at Berkeley, Brigham Young University, and the University of Victoria (British Columbia, Canada). He has extensive experience in international education, and has traveled widely both for his own research and to build programs and partnerships between universities. Trained as a historian, Dr. Allen received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Washington and his Master's degree from the University of California at Berkeley. He holds undergraduate degrees in both History and Asian Studies from Brigham Young University. Dr. Allen is a specialist on East Asian history in the 19th and early 20th centuries, and has traveled numerous times to China, Japan, and Korea (both North and South). Most of his research has focused on Korea in the 19th and 20th centuries. He also has a deep interest in world history, and his publications include books and articles on nationalism in East Asia, intellectual history, historiography, and the history of the world since 1500.



# *Panel* Discussion

## **Research, Innovation and Commercialization**

The region is emerging as a hub for education and research & innovation. Universities are striving to enhance their applied research portfolios, and establish rewarding industry-academia collaborations. This panel will address and discuss the challenges faced by academics interested in establishing applied research programs, the opportunities seen by industry, and possible solutions and successful research innovation and commercialization strategies and models. Distinguished members of this panel will explore answers to questions, such as: (1) why research and innovate, and what incentives exist for that? (2) what does it take to transform a teaching university into a centre of excellence for research? (3) what are some of the available sources for research funding in the region? (4) how to go about commercializing research? and (4) how to foster collaboration between industry and academia? plus other related questions from the audience.



### **Leon Jololian, Ph.D.**

Dr. Leon Jololian is the Dean of the College Technological Innovation at Zayed University. Prior to his current position, he was the Acting Dean (2007-2008) and the Assistant Dean (2007-2008) of the College of IT at Zayed University. Dr. Jololian earned his Ph.D. (2000) in Computer Science from New Jersey Institute of Technology, in Newark, New Jersey, a Masters in Computer Science (1991) from Polytechnic University, in Brooklyn, New York, a masters degree in Electrical Engineering (1982) from Georgia Institute of Technology, in Atlanta, Georgia, and a Bachelors degree in Electrical Engineering (1980), from Manhattan College, in Riverdale, New York. Dr. Jololian has held faculty positions at William Paterson University, University of Alabama at Birmingham, and New Jersey City University (tenured faculty). He has also held the positions of Director of Computing at New Jersey Institute of Technology and Vice President for Research and Development at Thor Technologies in New York. Dr. Jololian's research interests include software component architecture and object-oriented technology.



### **Suad Al Shamsi, M.Sc.**

Suad Al Shamsi is the Chief Software Manufacturing Officer at emaratech, the leading technology consulting company in the UAE. Suad has an extensive technical knowledge in various areas such as mobile computing, semantic web, speech recognition, business process modeling, SOA, web service. As the Chief Software Manufacturing Officer, Suad is responsible for empowering the organization with innovation, production releases and deployment based on the current technological trends and business demands. Suad holds an MSc with honors in Informatics from British University in Dubai (BUiD) and B.S. with honors in Information Systems from Zayed University (ZU), UAE.



### **Shayma Alkobaisi, Ph.D.**

Shayma Alkobaisi is an Assistant Professor at the College of Information Technology (CIT) in the United Arab Emirates University. She received her MS and Ph.D. degrees in Computer Science from the University of Denver in 2005 and 2008, respectively. In 2009, she was selected as a member of the Advisory Council to the Science and Technology Program at Emirates Foundation for Philanthropy, Abu Dhabi and in 2010 she was appointed manager of that program for one year. She is currently serving as the Enterprise Systems and E-Commerce tracks Coordinator at CIT. Her research interests include Uncertainty Management in Spatiotemporal Databases, Online Query Processing in Spatial Databases, Geographic Information Systems, Computational Geometry and Health Informatics.



### **Hans Christensen**

Hans Christensen - a veteran in incubation development - was appointed in March 2012 as the Director of Silicon Oasis Founders; a wholly owned technology incubator center by Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority (DSOA). Prior to joining DSOA, Hans founded and ran two technology companies in South America for 5 years. Later he served as the director of the Siemens Information Communications Networks' incubator in Munich Germany. Hans played an instrumental role in building-up and transforming the incubator into a successful incubator through his business acumen, foresight and leadership. He successfully managed to spin-off its main venture, i250, which was his 3rd company and which was financed through renowned venture capitalists and lead in his capacity of CEO a 22-member team. Hans holds a Bachelor of Science Diploma in Economics and Finance from Bentley University – Waltham, MA, USA.



### **Rony El-Nashar, MBA**

Rony El-Nashar is the Founder and Managing Partner of SeedStartup, an international startup accelerator & seed-stage venture capital fund with a global approach and an emphasis on diversity. Prior to launching SeedStartup, Mr. El-Nashar was heading the direct investments function at Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development where he was a member of all funding committees and provided funding of over AED 430m for over 300 early-stage startups across a variety of industries. Mr. El-Nashar holds an MBA from London Business School in addition to a Masters degree in Computer Engineering from Florida Atlantic University and a Bachelors in Computer Engineering from the University of Florida. Mr. El-Nashar was also recently selected by AI Monitor as one of the top 25 influencers in the Middle East's technology scene.



### **Novel Tjahyadi**

Novel Tjahyadi is a global citizen with 15+ years of entrepreneurial and professional experiences in 7 different countries. He is the co-founder and “jack-of-all-trades” of Gulfware and Textello, technology companies based in Dubai. The companies offer innovative Enterprise Mobility solutions and serve clients in more than 10 countries in less than two years after their inceptions. Having held cross-functional management positions within Energy and IT domains, he currently focuses his works around start-ups, entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystems. He has been invited as mentor, judge and speaker in a number of events in the region. Most recently, he has been championing Innovation programs at Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority (DSOA). He earned his degrees in Mechanical Engineering, IT and MBA from Indonesia, UK and Spain respectively. In his spare time, he enjoys running, doing sports, reading, music and spending quality time with his family. He completed his first full marathon recently in Dubai in January 2013.



## **URC 2013 ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

Unless otherwise noted, all organizers are with the College of Technological Innovation, Zayed University, UAE.

### **General Chair**

Leon Jololian

### **Conference Chair**

Qusay H. Mahmoud, University of Ontario Institute of Technology (Canada)

### **Program Co-Chairs**

Zakaria Maamar

Huwida Said

Mario Guimaraes

### **Publicity Co-Chairs**

Fauzi Kamoun

Omar AlFandi

Farkhund Iqbal

Abdallah Tubaishat

### **Registration Co-Chairs**

Mona Bader

Izzeddin Asad

### **Awards Co-Chairs**

Ibrahim Baggili

Andrew Marrington

Munir Majdalawieh

### **Local Arrangements Co-Chairs**

Hamda Al Ali

Hind AlDosari

Emad Bataineh

Nagaraj Chandrashekran

Huwida Said





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