



# ELHAM MAHJOOB HASSANAIN, PHD

ORGANIZATIONAL & EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

## CONTACTS

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## INDUSTRY EXPOSURE

- Education
- Political Organizations
- Information Technology & Services
- Government Relations
- Public Policy

## EDUCATION



UNIVERSITY OF SURREY  
Surrey, UK

PhD in Electrical & Electronic  
Engineering – Computer Science,  
2006

M.S. in Electrical & Electronic  
Engineering – Computer Science,  
1995



UMM AL-QURA UNIVERSITY  
Makkah, KSA

Higher Diploma in Education, 1998



RICHMOND UNIVERSITY  
London, UK

B.S. in Computer Science, 1988

## PROFILE

Exceedingly accomplished scholar and institutional representative with over 30 years of diverse academic and advisory experience in cybersecurity, digital transformation, and policy reform on a local and international scale. Recipient of numerous awards for outstanding performance and commitment to creating a significant impact. Published author in a number of local and international scientific journals, as well as a US Patent application for computerized dyslexia diagnosis, with a proven track record of turning organizations around and stimulating a collaborative culture. Visionary leader who prioritizes workplace recognition, engagement, and team spirit. Dedicated to transforming educational outcomes and innovative ideas into larger initiatives to meet the goals of the Saudi Vision 2030.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Academic



UMM AL-QURA UNIVERSITY | Makkah, KSA

Professor, Computer Science & Information Systems, 2006 – PRES

- Promoting differentiated instruction through sensory engagement and classroom flipping across group work, case scenario analysis, analytical and critical thinking
- Actively participating in a variety of administrative committees, including scientific research, conflict resolution, quality assurance, registration and academic advising, and student activities
- Instructing undergraduate and postgraduate students majoring in computer science and artificial intelligence in courses such as blockchain, social media analytics, and Computer Ethics and Society
- Peer reviewing academic staff by attending lectures and classes taught by fellow faculty members in order to improve teaching methodologies and approaches

### Achievements to Date as a Professor at Umm Al-Qura University

- Served as a referee for IT projects presented at the Makkah Programming & AI Days Award in 2021
- Appointed to the Higher Committee for Cultural Activities to carry out learning outcomes and goals through university-level cultural activities leadership
- Handpicked to represent UQU at the 1st National Dialogue Among Civilizations and the Cultural Conference held in the Capital of KSA
- Supervised 30 emerging technology graduation projects that provided useful and feasible solutions to various community needs such as dyslexia, diabetes, Hajj and Umrah, first aid, and emergency response
- Oversaw a research project for crowd management during Hajj that used AI and deep learning

### Head of Department, Computer Sciences & Information Systems, 2007 - 2010

- Led department advancement by convening round-table discussions for faculty to identify and address challenges and coordinate development efforts
- Engaged Teaching Assistants in department council meetings to showcase fresh concepts and leverage their hands-on experience
- Developed an academic roadmap for computer science students to follow to fulfill graduation requirements and avoid unnecessary graduation delays
- Benchmarked and restructured educational programs using advanced curriculum design approaches while ensuring smooth student migration
- Established a network of joint collaborations with other colleges, including a career apprenticeship program for English department graduates to help computer science students improve their language proficiency
- Stimulated the diversification of student clubs and activities to increase extracurricular participation and student engagement at the university
- Promoted fair and equal representation of male and female campus performance and achievements
- Achieved a three-year streak with no penalties for students or faculty members

## AWARDS



### Best Researcher Award

For winning the prestigious UK-GCC collaboration funding through the British Council  
University of Prince Mughrin, 2019



### 200 Most Powerful Arab Women Award

Ranked 57<sup>th</sup> most influential  
Forbes, 2014



### Best Head of Department Award

Umm Al-Qura University, 2010

## PUBLICATIONS



Published 14 scientific papers in the fields of cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, health informatics, and IoT with over 470 citations. A [Complete List of Publications](#) can be found [here](#)

## EXPERTISE

- Educational Leadership
- Program Design & Management
- Cybersecurity Best Practice Benchmarking & Implementation
- Digital Transformation
- Innovative Program Roadmap Development
- Capacity Building
- Training Design & Implementation
- Budgeting & Planning
- Curriculum Design
- Diplomatic Communication
- Policy Reform
- Legislation & Policy Drafting
- Relationship Development
- Team Leadership & Motivation
- Quality Assurance

## PROF. EXPERIENCE - CONTINUED -

### Head of IT Department, 1997 – 2001

- Built the IT Department in the female campus from the ground up, concurrent with the introduction of computers into the University, and devised a strategy to ensure the security and functionality of all hardware
- Recruited, trained, and managed a team of female IT technicians to provide IT training to thousands of employees in all academic and administrative departments
- Oversaw the installation of 400 computers on the UQU female campus and coached all administrative staff and faculty members on computer operation and effective application use within 1 academic year



### UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE MUGRIN | Madinah, KSA

#### Board Member, 2015 – 2022

- Providing expertise on academic and business development plans to improve implementation and oversight
- Advising on developing innovative and cutting-edge approaches with effective resource allocation and strategic planning

### Vice Rector & Provost of Academic Affairs, 2017 – 2019

- Designated as the first female Provost in a nonsegregated University nationwide
- Spearheaded all deanship activities, including academic program oversight, resource optimization, facility management, budgeting, and planning
- Forged a strategic alliance with Cardiff University to establish the Kingdom's first internationally benchmarked bachelor's degree in cybersecurity and orchestrated all national and international academic collaborations
- Established the interweaved professional certification and bachelor's degree programs at the college of computing
- Led Student-University partnership programs and boosted extra-curricular activities and encouraged their participation in RSA's 1st Cybersecurity Conference

### Consultant, 2014 - 2017

- Launched national and international academic and research collaboration programs, as well as academic accreditations
- Appraised all academic programs in collaboration with Connecticut University with a focus on engineering and computer science programs
- Negotiated hospitality management agreements with the Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne in order to initiate partnership programs

### Public Policy



### SHURA COUNCIL | Riyadh, KSA

#### Member, 2013 – 2017

- Appointed by a Royal decree as one of the first 30 female members in the history of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Handpicked for the foreign delegations to Australia and Pakistan, with the Head of the Shura Council to establish joint collaborations
- Participated in Saudi delegations to Japan, Russia, , and the United Kingdom as a representative of the Shura Council
- Acted as a member of the foreign affairs committee to evaluate MOFA reports and communicate with diplomatic delegations and their representations outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Served as a member of the academic and research committee to review annual higher education and research reports
- Initiated cybersecurity at the Shura council to identify national needs and threats, which resulted in the launch of numerous national programs and initiatives
- Collaborated with a special team to evaluate Saudi retirement policies and present a restructured proposal that was in line with the current situation

### Consultant, 2008 - 2013

- Evaluated initiatives and made recommendations based on research and analysis across a wide range of industries, including energy, healthcare, social insurance, and retirement, to meet national and societal needs
- Visited other countries' legislatures and served on the welcoming committee for foreign delegations and parliamentary representatives visiting Saudi Arabia
- Worked with internal delegations from a variety of industries and sectors, including healthcare professionals, policymakers, and Saudi diplomatic missions

## SKILLS

- Interdisciplinary Leadership
- Analytical & Strategic Thinking
- Problem Solving
- Communication & Networking
- Cross-functional Collaboration
- Delegation & Presentation
- Flexibility & Adaptability
- Creativity & Innovation
- Languages: Arabic, English, German

## PATENTS



System and process for dyslexia screening and management, Hassanain et al, US Patent Grant US9672618B1, 2017

## MEMBERSHIPS

- Women in Cyber Security Middle East (WiCSME)
- Hemaya Information Security Association (Hemaya)
- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)
- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)

## SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS



Education & Training Evaluation Commission | Riyadh, KSA  
[Quality Controller, 2022 – PRES](#)

- Evaluating, assessing, and inspecting National General Aptitude Test (GAT) facilities and procedures in different testing facilities



SCYBER EDU, NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AUTHORITY | Riyadh, KSA  
[Reviewer, 2022](#)

- Reviewing cyber security programs across the Kingdom based on predefined eligibility criteria



NATIONAL CENTER FOR ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION & EVALUATION (NCAAA) | Riyadh, KSA  
[Institutional & Program Reviewer, 2019 – PRES](#)

- Assisted in the evaluation of a wide range of programs for accreditation in accordance with NCAAA standards and criteria
- Selected for the first cycle of a national initiative to evaluate electrical engineering and computer science programs throughout the Kingdom



WADI MAKKAH | Makkah, KSA  
[International Relations Consultant, 2021](#)

- Assessed the strategy, documentation, presentation, and overall readiness for international alliances for 3 subsidiaries: Ventures, Knowledge, and Real Estate



G20 | Riyadh KSA  
[S20 Smart Communities Task Force Technical Lead, 2020](#)

- Moderated international discussions on digital transformation and oversaw the development of presented policy recommendations based on key findings

[Think Tank T20 Member & Policy Brief Main Author, 2020](#)

- Created a cybersecurity policy brief that advanced to the final round as a semi-finalist



BAYAN EDUCATION CHARITY FOUNDATION | Jeddah, KSA  
[Vice President of Educational Programs, 2014-2017](#)

- Reviewed the association's educational programs across the Kingdom in order to provide scholarships to deserving students based on predetermined criteria



NATIONAL OLYMPIAD FOR SCIENTIFIC CREATIVITY | Riyadh, KSA  
[Referee, 2011 – 2014](#)

- Served as a referee in national scientific competitions between schools, evaluating ideas based on a variety of criteria



MAWHIBA | Makkah, KSA  
[Consultant, 2009 – 2013](#)

- Reviewed internationally chartered documentation for gifted student programs and assessed content for language and cultural sensitivity
- Aligned summer enrichment programs in Saudi Arabia to John Hopkins University Center for Gifted and Talented Youth standards, using a predefined checklist to program design, quality, attraction, and extracurriculars
- Involved parents in decision-making to offer students real-world experiences, stimulate their creativity, and foster acceptance of information technology

FRENCH-SAUDI WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM  
Riyadh, KSA – Paris, France  
[Delegate, 2010](#)

- Served as a female ambassador for the Saudi parliament in a number of intercultural meetings hosted by HRH Princess Adila Bint Abdullah Al Saud
- Elected to the Women's Delegation for the 2010 United Nations Round Table

## CONFERENCES

- Participated in over 10 conferences, both locally and internationally, as a keynote speaker, speaker, poster presenter, and round table discussion participant, in addition to attending more than 60 conferences, workshops, forums, and seminars