

The purpose of this circular is to briefly introduce leading researchers in sciences, engineering and computing and informatics and highlight aspects of their research experience and achievements. The following researchers are introduced in this circular, with more researchers to be introduced (IA) in upcoming circulars:

- Prof. Mohammad S. Obaidat
- Prof. Nouar Tabet
- Prof. Raed A. Al-Qawasmeh
- Prof. Mohamed Maalej
- Prof. Salim Messaoudi
- Prof. Muataz A. Hussien
- Dr. Chaouki Ghenai
- Dr. Abdul Hai Alami
- Dr. Rachik Soualah

## Prof. Mohammad S. Obaidat

**Professor Mohammad S. Obaidat** is an internationally known academic/researcher/scientist/ scholar. He received his Ph.D. degree in Computer Engineering with a minor in Computer Science from The Ohio State University, Columbus, USA. He has received extensive research funding and published To Date (2019) about One Thousand (1,000) refereed technical articles-About half of them are journal articles, over 70 books, and over 65 Book Chapters. He is Editor-in-Chief of 3 scholarly journals and an editor of many other international journals. He is the founding Editor-in Chief of Wiley Security and Privacy Journal.

Among his previous positions are Advisor to the President of Philadelphia University for Research, Development and Information Technology, President and Chair of Board of Directors of the Society for Modeling and Simulation International, SCS, Senior Vice President of SCS, Dean of the College of Engineering at Prince Sultan University, Chair and tenured Professor at the Department of Computer and Information Science and Director of the MS Graduate Program in Data Analytics at Fordham university, Chair and tenured Professor of the Department of Computer Science and Director of the Graduate Program at Monmouth University, Tenured Full Professor at King Abdullah II School of Information Technology, University of Jordan, The PR of China Ministry of Education Distinguished Overseas Professor at the University of Science and Technology Beijing, China and an Honorary Distinguished Professor at the Amity University- A Global University. He is now the Founding Dean of the College of Computing and Informatics at The University of Sharjah, UAE

He has chaired numerous (Over 160) international conferences and has given numerous (Over 160) keynote speeches worldwide. He founded or co-founded four international conferences. He has served as ABET/CSAB evaluator and on IEEE CS Fellow Evaluation Committee. He has served as IEEE CS Distinguished Speaker/Lecturer and an ACM Distinguished Lecturer. Since 2004 has has been serving as an SCS Distinguished Lecturer. He received many best paper awards for his papers including ones from IEEE ICC, IEEE Globecom, AICSA, CITS, SPECTS, DCNET International conferences. He also received Best Paper awards from IEEE Systems Journal in 2018 and in 2019 (2 Best Paper Awards).

He also received many other worldwide awards for his technical contributions including: The 2018 IEEE ComSoc-Technical Committee on Communications Software 2018 Technical Achievement Award for contribution to Cybersecurity, Wireless Networks Computer Networks and Modeling and Simulation, SCS prestigious McLeod Founder's Award , Presidential Service Award, SCS Hall of Fame –Lifetime Achievement Award for his technical contribution to modeling and simulation and for his outstanding visionary leadership and dedication to increasing the effectiveness and broadening the applications of modeling and simulation worldwide. He also received the SCS Outstanding Service Award. He was awarded the IEEE CITS Hall of Fame Distinguished and Eminent Award. He is a Life Fellow of IEEE and a Fellow of SCS.

For more info, visit: <http://www.sharjah.ac.ae/en/academics/Colleges/CI/Pages/dw.aspx>



## Prof. Nouar Tabet

**Prof. Nouar Tabet** is in Physics Department, College of Sciences, University of Sharjah as a faculty member since January 2019. He served as Rector (Chancellor) of the University of Constantine, Algeria, Vice Chancellor for Research and Post Graduate Studies and Director of External Relations of the University of Constantine. He completed his Ph.D and MSc at the University of Orsay-Paris Sud, France, and his BSc. in Physics at the University of Constantine, Algeria.

His research interests are in the area(s) of Photovoltaics, Solar cells, nanomaterials and Surface Science. He actively collaborates with researchers from the Center of Advanced Materials Research (CAMR), RISE-UoS, and PV Laboratory at EPFL, Switzerland. He served as Lead Editor of AJSE, Special Theme on Science and Engineering at the Nanoscale, 2010, Guest Editor of "International Journal of Nanoparticles, 2013, Special Issue on Semiconductors: Microstructure and Properties", Co-Editor AIP Conference Proceedings of "Nanotechnology and Its Applications", 2007, and authored a book on Nanotechnology (in Arabic), 2013 and Chief Editor of a book on "Photovoltaic for desert climates", to be published by IET.

He Co-chaired the First International conference on Nanotechnology, Sharjah, 2007, and the 11th BIAMS International Conference, 2012.

His research achievements include: 110 journal publications, 3 patents, 1 authored book, 2 Edited Conference Proceedings, more than 25 conference publications and 80 Communications, 3.5 Million USD Grants; over 2700 citations; 27 H-Index. He received Al Marai Prize for Innovation in Physics, the Research Excellence Award of KFUPM, and Distinguished Services awards for the college of Science, KFUPM.

For additional information see

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## Prof. Raed A. Al-Qawasmeh

**Prof. Raed A. Al-Qawasmeh** is a Professor of Organic chemistry in the Department of Chemistry, College of Science, University of Sharjah as a faculty member since 2019. He completed his/her Ph.D. at Tuebingen University- Germany, MSc. in Natural Product Chemistry at The University of Jordan and BSc. of Chemistry from The University of Jordan. From 2005-2018, he was a faculty at the Department of Chemistry, The University of Jordan. Prior to that, Prof. Al-Qawasmeh worked in the Biotchenolgy sector in Canada as a research scientist and project leader in the field of drug discovery and development.

His research interests are in the area(s) of Synthetic methodology of novel heterocyclic chemistry, Natural Product chemistry and Drug design and discovery. He actively collaborates with researchers from Chemistry, Biology, Pharmacy and medicine.

50 journal publications, one books/book chapters, 15 conference publications, 10 patents, supervised 16 graduate students (master and Ph.D levels).

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## Prof. Mohamed Maalej

**Prof. Mohamed Maalej** is a Professor of Materials and Structural Engineering in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE), and Vice-Dean of the College of Engineering at University of Sharjah (UoS). He had previously held various administrative appointments within the College of Engineering, including Department Chair, Vice Dean and Acting Dean during the period between 2007 and 2017. Prior to joining the UoS in 2006, he served as a Faculty Member of the CEE Department at the National University of Singapore for 7 years (1999-2006). He also worked within the Canadian Network of Centers of Excellence on Intelligent Sensing for Innovative Structure at the University of Toronto, Ontario, as a Postdoctoral Fellow from 1996 to 1999.

Prof. Maalej received his BSc (1989) in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University, his MSc (1991) in Civil Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his PhD (1994) in Civil Engineering from the University of Michigan, USA, where is he had also served as a Research Fellow from 1994 to 1995. His research interests are in the areas of high performance fiber cementitious composites and their structural applications. He is a member of the Sustainable Construction Materials and Structural Systems Research Group within the UoS Research Institute of Sciences and Engineering (RISE).

Prof. Maalej worked on a number of industry- and government-sponsored projects on topics including, fracture testing technology for advanced ceramic and cementitious matrix-based composites, constitutive modeling and material characterization of foams and hybrid III dummy soft tissue materials in automobile applications, smart



wraps for corrosion repair and monitoring, structural health monitoring and intelligent processing of sensor data, repair and strengthening of RC structures using externally-bonded FRP composites, and Engineered Cementitious Composites for and impact and blast-resistant structures.

His research achievements include: 58 articles in international refereed journals, 40 conference/workshop articles/presentations, 3 books/book chapters, and one Patent. His publications are well cited, with more than 3500 citations as per Google Scholar Data, a [Google Scholar](#) h-index of 32 and [SCOPUS](#) h-index of 29.

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### **Prof. Salim Messaoudi**

**Prof. Salim Messaoudi** is a Professor of Applied Math. in the Department of Mathematics, college of Sciences, University of Sharjah as a faculty member since 2019. He completed his Ph.D. and MSc at Carnegie-Mellon University, USA and his BSc. at the University of Sciences and Technology, Algiers, Algeria. He is a member of MASEP research group and a researcher in RISE.

His research interests lies in the areas of Applied Mathematics and Mathematical Physics. He actively collaborates with researchers from Many parts of the world such as USA, France, Algeria, Brazil. He serves as editor in 6 Math. Journals and many conference Scientific and Organizing Committees.

His research achievements include: 170 journal publications, 2 research books, 5 book chapters, more than 70 conference publications/presentations. He supervised 11 MSc and 14 PhD students. He has a total number of 3051 citations and his H-Index is 28.

As a result of his achievements, he appeared in the highly cited list in 2014 and 2015. He was elected as member in the African Academy of Sciences in 2014 and received the following awards: KFUPM Distinguished Professor Award (2015, 2018), King Abdullah Translation Award (20014), KFUPM Excellent Research Award (2003, 2009 & 2014), KFUPM Best Project Award (2006, 2009 & 2015) and Shoman Arab Young Researchers (2005).



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### **Prof. Muataz A. Hussien**

**Prof. Muataz A. Hussien** is a Full Professor at the Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering Department at Sharjah University. Prior to that, he was a Full Professor at College of Science and Engineering (CSE), Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) and Senior Scientist at Qatar Environment and Energy Research Institute (QEERI), Qatar Foundation. He made notable, contribution to the creation of novel nanomaterial that has seen applications in membrane fabrications, water treatment and desalination, heat transfer and polymer composite. He is the inventor of 51 granted/field USA patents. His publication record includes over 170 peer-reviewed articles and conference proceedings with with total citations of about 4700 and 34 h-index.

He organized, chaired, and co-chaired various international conferences, workshops, and seminars on nanomaterials, water, biotechnology, and energy. Moreover, he was the advisor/co-advisor of 18 Ph.D. students and 24 Master Students. He was honored with a number of prestigious awards, including among many, the Excellence Research Award from King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals, 2013, Saudi Arabia and Best team award from Qatar Environment and Energy Research Institute (QEERI), 2016, Qatar. Over the last 14 years, he developed an innovative approach for teaching for both undergraduates and graduate level.



### **Dr. Chaouki Ghenai**

**Dr. Chaouki Ghenai** is an Associate Professor in the Sustainable and Renewable Energy Engineering Department, College of Engineering, University of Sharjah as a faculty member since 2015. He is currently the chairman of the Research Funding Department at the office of Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies. He completed his Ph.D. and MSc. at the University of Orleans, Orleans, France and BSc. at the University of Constantine, Constantine, Algeria. He is the coordinator of the Sustainable Energy Development Research Group at the Research Institute for Science and Engineering (RISE).



His research interests are in the area(s) of renewable energy (bioenergy, solar, wind, and fuel cell), energy efficiency (building, transportation, industry), combustion (solid, liquid and gas fuels), biofuels, alternative fuels (biogas, syngas, bio-oil, biodiesel, hydrogen), clean combustion technologies, waste to energy (pyrolysis, gasification, anaerobic digestion), sustainability, eco-design, energy-water nexus, energy planning and climate change mitigation assessment, modeling and simulation of micro grid power systems and air pollution. He actively collaborates with researchers from USA, Canada, France, Jordan, and UAE. He serves/served as editor, chair and member of several technical committee and reviewers of technical journals and conferences.

His research achievements include more than 100 research papers in technical journals, book chapters, books and conferences with about 770 citations and an H-index of 16. He secured over 1.5 million AED in research grants, and received the University of Sharjah Research Award in 2018, the Sharjah Sustainability Awards in 2018, 2019, and the Dubai Award for Sustainable Transport in 2019.

For additional information see:

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### **Dr. Abdul Hai Alami**

**Dr. Abdul Hai Alami** is currently an Associate Professor at the Sustainable and Renewable Energy Engineering Department at University of Sharjah since 2012. He served as associate department chair for the SREE department, as well as acting chair and acting dean for the College of Engineering during Summer Semesters. He completed his Ph.D. at Queen's University in Canada, MSc. at the University of Jordan in Jordan and BSc. at Jordan University of Science and Technology also in Jordan. He is the coordinator of the Functional Materials Research group, the Center for Advanced Materials Research Center, and a researcher in RISE.



The current research interests of Dr. Alami are: Synthesis and characterization of mesoporous materials for third generation photovoltaic solar cells, Solar thermal energy utilization and augmentation (optical surface modification for selective solar absorbers, evaporative cooling of PV modules) and Novel ways of mechanical energy storage (buoyancy force, superconductors in flywheels and modular compressed air: CAES).

He actively collaborates with researchers from the Civil Engineering Department, Industrial Engineering Department, Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering Department, Dentistry Department and Biotechnology Department at the University of Sharjah. Also, the Department of Physics as well as the Mechanical Engineering at the American University of Sharjah. He serves/served as a technical committee chair for the ICCMME conference series.

His research achievements include: (40 journal publications, 2 books/book chapters, 20 conference papers. He has received more than a million dirhams in internal and external grants.

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## Dr. Rachik Soualah

**Dr. Rachik Soualah** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Applied Physics and Astronomy at University of Sharjah as a faculty member since 2016. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Heidelberg in Germany. Prior to joining the UoS, he worked as Postdoctoral Fellow at the International Center for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) and INFN in Trieste (Italy), and the European Organization for Nuclear and Particle Research (CERN) in Geneva (Switzerland).



His research interests are probing the fundamental structure of the universe by investigating the fundamental particles and their behavior. His work is particularly focused on the particle phenomenology of well-motivated physics Beyond the Standard Model (BSM) theories which incorporate the Majorana Nature of the Neutrino mass, the origin of the Baryon Asymmetry in the Universe and Dark Matter searches at the existing and future colliders such as CERN-Large Hadron Collider in Geneva, International Linear Collider (ILC) in Japan and the Future Circular Collider (FCC) in Geneva. Additionally, as an ATLAS member, he is working on the physics of the Higgs and Top quark sectors using the ATLAS detector, the world's largest and most complex scientific experiment, located at the CERN Large Hadron Collider.

Currently, his main focus is on the neutrino physics where he collaborates actively with researchers from both theory and experimental directions from CERN, ICTP and other well-known collaborators. As a phenomenologist and an active member at the ATLAS collaboration (a leading collaboration in the field), he has co-authored over 625 journal publications in total. All his research works are published in top journals with high impact factors.

He has obtained many international awards and secured several competitive research grants (Italy, Germany, Norway and Switzerland). He was one of the main organizers of the First Sharjah International Conference on Particle Physics, Astrophysics and Cosmology (FISICPAC). Last year, he delivered a plenary talk at one of the most prestigious scientific conferences: The 2019 Electroweak Interactions and Unified Theories of the 54th Rencontres de Moriond in La Tuile, Italy. He was awarded recently the ICTP Associateship, as an active scientist from the developing countries, for the upcoming five years. He is also a member of many international physics communities. Since he joined the University of Sharjah, he has been actively promoting Particle Physics as a cutting-edge research direction and a new field at the department and UoS. He regularly involves students in his research works from an early stage; as one of his ongoing endeavor to raise awareness about particle physics in the education sector.

For additional information see:

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### **Contact Information**

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Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research & Graduate Studies

University of Sharjah

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### Prof. Mohammad S. Obaidat

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### **Prof. Nouar Tabet**

**Prof. Nouar Tabet** is in Physics Department, College of Sciences, University of Sharjah as a faculty member since January 2019. He served as Rector (Chancellor) of the University of Constantine, Algeria, Vice Chancellor for Research and Post Graduate Studies and Director of External Relations of the University of Constantine. He completed his Ph.D and MSc at the University of Orsay-Paris Sud, France, and his BSc. in Physics at the University of Constantine, Algeria.

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### **Prof. Raed A. Al-Qawasmeh**

**Prof. Raed A. Al-Qawasmeh** is a Professor of Organic chemistry in the Department of Chemistry, College of Science, University of Sharjah as a faculty member since 2019. He completed his/her Ph.D. at Tuebingen University- Germany, MSc. in Natural Product Chemistry at The University of Jordan and BSc. of Chemistry from The University of Jordan. From 2005-2018, he was a faculty at the Department of Chemistry, The University of Jordan. Prior to that, Prof. Al-Qawasmeh worked in the Biotchenolgy sector in Canada as a research scientist and project leader in the field of drug discovery and development.

His research interests are in the area(s) of Synthetic methodology of novel heterocyclic chemistry, Natural Product chemistry and Drug design and discovery. He actively collaborates with researchers from Chemistry, Biology, Pharmacy and medicine.

50 journal publications, one books/book chapters, 15 conference publications, 10 patents, supervised 16 graduate students (master and Ph.D levels).

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### **Prof. Mohamed Maalej**

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Prof. Maalej received his BSc (1989) in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University, his MSc (1991) in Civil Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his PhD (1994) in Civil Engineering from the University of Michigan, USA, where is he had also served as a Research Fellow from 1994 to 1995. His research

interests are in the areas of high performance fiber cementitious composites and their structural applications. He is a member of the Sustainable Construction Materials and Structural Systems Research Group within the UoS Research Institute of Sciences and Engineering (RISE).

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### **Prof. Salim Messaoudi**

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### **Dr. Chaouki Ghenai**

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### **Dr. Abdul Hai Alami**

**Dr. Abdul Hai Alami** is currently an Associate Professor at the Sustainable and Renewable Energy Engineering Department at University of Sharjah since 2012. He served as associate department chair for the SREE department, as well as acting chair and acting dean for the College of Engineering during Summer Semesters. He completed his Ph.D. at Queen's University in Canada, MSc. at the University of Jordan in Jordan and BSc. at Jordan University of Science and Technology also in Jordan. He is the coordinator of the Functional Materials Research group, the Center for Advanced Materials Research Center, and a researcher in RISE.

The current research interests of Dr. Alami are: Synthesis and characterization of mesoporous materials for third generation photovoltaic solar cells, Solar thermal energy utilization and augmentation (optical surface modification for selective solar absorbers, evaporative cooling of PV modules) and Novel ways of mechanical energy storage (buoyancy force, superconductors in flywheels and modular compressed air: CAES).

He actively collaborates with researchers from the Civil Engineering Department, Industrial Engineering Department, Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering Department, Dentistry Department and Biotechnology Department at the University of Sharjah. Also, the Department of Physics as well as the Mechanical Engineering at the American University of Sharjah. He serves/served as a technical committee chair for the ICCMME conference series.

His research achievements include: (40 journal publications, 2 books/book chapters, 20 conference papers. He has received more than a million dirhams in internal and external grants. For additional information see:

[http://www.sharjah.ac.ae/en/academics/Colleges/eng/dept/sre/Pages/ppl\\_detail.aspx?mcid=3](http://www.sharjah.ac.ae/en/academics/Colleges/eng/dept/sre/Pages/ppl_detail.aspx?mcid=3)

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### **Dr. Rachik Soualah**

**Dr. Rachik Soualah** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Applied Physics and Astronomy at University of Sharjah as a faculty member since 2016. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Heidelberg in Germany. Prior to joining the UoS, he worked as Postdoctoral Fellow at the International Center for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) and INFN in Trieste (Italy), and the European Organization for Nuclear and Particle Research (CERN) in Geneva (Switzerland).

His research interests are probing the fundamental structure of the universe by investigating the fundamental particles and their behavior. His work is particularly focused on the particle phenomenology of well-motivated physics Beyond the Standard Model (BSM) theories which incorporate the Majorana Nature of the Neutrino mass, the origin of the Baryon Asymmetry in the Universe and Dark Matter searches at the existing and future colliders such as CERN-Large Hadron Collider in Geneva, International Linear Collider (ILC) in Japan and the Future Circular Collider (FCC) in Geneva. Additionally, as an ATLAS member, he is working on the physics of the Higgs and Top quark sectors using the ATLAS detector, the world's largest and most complex scientific experiment, located at the CERN Large Hadron Collider.

Currently, his main focus is on the neutrino physics where he collaborates actively with researchers from both theory and experimental directions from CERN, ICTP and other well-known collaborators. As a phenomenologist and an active member at the ATLAS collaboration (a leading collaboration in the field), he has co-authored over 625 journal publications in total. All his research works are published in top journals with high impact factors.

He has obtained many international awards and secured several competitive research grants (Italy, Germany, Norway and Switzerland). He was one of the main organizers of the First Sharjah International Conference on Particle Physics, Astrophysics and Cosmology (FISICPAC). Last year, he delivered a plenary talk at one of the most prestigious scientific conferences: The 2019 Electroweak Interactions and Unified Theories of the 54th Rencontres de Moriond in La Tuile, Italy. He was awarded recently the ICTP Associateship, as an active scientist from the developing countries, for the upcoming five years. He is also a member of many international physics communities. Since he joined the University of Sharjah, he has been actively promoting Particle Physics as a cutting-edge research direction and a new field at the department and UoS. He regularly involves students in his research works from an early stage; as one of his ongoing endeavor to raise awareness about particle physics in the education sector.

For additional information see:

[http://www.sharjah.ac.ae/en/academics/Colleges/Sciences/dept/ap/Pages/ppl\\_detail.aspx?mcid=35&clt=en](http://www.sharjah.ac.ae/en/academics/Colleges/Sciences/dept/ap/Pages/ppl_detail.aspx?mcid=35&clt=en)

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