

**ACADEMIC
YEAR**

2024-2025



**The Future of Higher Education in the Age of
Artificial Intelligence Forum**

**TEACHING AND LEARNING CENTER
21ST MAY 2025**



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1. Introduction

On the 21st of May 2025, the Teaching & Learning Center at the Australian University organized its sixth Teaching and Learning Excellence Forum entitled “The Future of Higher Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence”, under the patronage of the Private Universities Council (PUC), and in the presence of the Australian Ambassador to Kuwait HE Melissa Kelly, and attendees from various higher education and academic institutions from around Kuwait, as well as online contribution from our auspice partners Center Queensland University, Australia.

The Future of Higher Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence has been a topic of growing interest. The objective of the forum was to explore the various ways in which Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping the global landscape. As AI continues to evolve, higher education institutions must adapt to emerging challenges and opportunities, rethinking their future and operational strategies to ensure sustainability. This forum aimed to examine the evolving role of AI in higher education and its impact on pedagogy, assessments, student engagement, and institutional decision-making.

The Forum included 3 sections: 1- Keynote Speeches; 2- Panel Discussion: The Role of AI In Shaping the Future of Higher Education; and 3- Workshops: AI Applications.

The forum was attended by professionals from various universities in Kuwait, schools, training centers and the ministry of education. The feedback on the forum was very positive from all participating entities and individuals.

2. Speakers' Profile

Prof. Isam Zabalawi

President - Australian University



- Prof. Isam Zabalawi, the President of the Australian University since 2017, an experienced academic leader who holds Ph.D. in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from Leeds University of England. He was the President of The Arab Academy for Banking & Financial Sciences 2009 - 2016, founder of new universities in the region in Syria and German-Jordanian University in Jordan, the former Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research 2003-2005, Chancellor of the University of Sharjah from 1999-2003, Higher Education Reform Expert 2012-2017 with European Union, and Since 2017, he has been the President of AU.

Dr. Fatemah Al Mosawi – Keynote Speaker

CEO of KAFO



- Dr. Fatemah Almosawi is an avid learner who holds Genetics degrees (BSc, MSc, and PhD) from King's College and Imperial College, bioinformatics (from Birkbeck College) and a Masters in Behavioural Science from London School of Economics.
- Her main interest is in skill development and intelligence, with a passion to empower youth into reaching their full potential. She leads several community initiatives and won numerous prizes including the distinction medal for Youth Care from H.H. the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah in 2024.

Mr. Mazen Abdallah – Keynote Speaker

Head of Google Education MENA



- Mr. Mazen Abdallah is the head of Google for Education in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, where he leads efforts to digitally transform the education sector. With over 15 years of experience in IT and business leadership, Mazen has a passion for leveraging technology to enhance education.
- He has previously led EdTech and the publishing sub industry for Amazon Web Services (AWS) across the EMEA region, including the successful launch of the AWS Marketplace within the public sector.
- Mazen's extensive experience spans various countries in the United States and EMEA, providing him with a broad global perspective. He holds degrees in Engineering, Business, and Scientific Research.

Dr. Roksana Tumpa - Keynote Speaker

Lecturer of Project Management, School of Engineering and Technology, CQUniversity Australia



- Dr. Roksana is an accomplished educator and active researcher with both national and international researchers, contributing to cross-disciplinary projects that explore the evolving role of project management in addressing complex societal challenges.
- Her research excellence has been recognized through a series of prestigious awards, including the Research Training Program (RTP) Stipend Award, the Walt Lipke Project Governance and Control Excellence Award, the Student Voice Commendation Award, Best Paper Award, Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Winner Award, People's Choice Award, and multiple Best Presentation Awards.

Panel Discussion: The Role of AI In Shaping the Future of Higher Education

Dr. Mortadha Al Saba - Panel Discussion Moderator

Associate Professor/Head of Petroleum Engineering, Australian University



- Dr. Al Saba holds B.Eng. in Petroleum Engineering from London South Bank University (2007). From 2008 to 2010, he worked as a Drilling Fluids Engineer with Halliburton Baroid in Saudi Arabia.
- He received both his M.S. and Ph.D. in Petroleum Engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology in 2012 and 2015, respectively.
- Dr. Al Saba's research interests include the prevention and mitigation of lost circulation events, laboratory evaluation of wellbore strengthening techniques, the development of environmentally friendly drilling fluid additives, and nano-enhanced drilling fluids.
- In addition to his research, he has been actively engaged in curriculum development, leading initiatives to modernize and align petroleum engineering programs with evolving industry needs and sustainability goals.

Ms. Sara Abdul Samad - Panelist

CEO of RTS (Reinvent. Transform. Sustain)



- Sara Abdul Samad is the Founder and CEO of RTS (Reinvent. Transform. Sustain.) based in Kuwait, offering Advisory, Solutions and Training in Digital Transformation, Artificial Intelligence and Sustainability.
- Sara is also Managing Partner at IPCL, a data management consultancy firm based in UK that provides expertise to stock exchanges, data vendors and financial institutions. Prior to that, she was Director of Data Services at Boursa Kuwait.
- Sara is a Founding Board Member of the Lebanese Business Council in Kuwait, and a Board Member of Womenpreneur Initiative in Brussels.
- She is a holder of Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) from the American University of Beirut, and a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA®) Charterholder.

Dr. Jean El Achkar - Panelist

Assistant Professor of Petroleum Engineering - Australian University



- Dr. Jean El Achkar is an Assistant Professor of Petroleum Engineering at the Australian University in Kuwait. He earned dual PhDs, one in Chemical Engineering from the University of Southern Brittany, France, and the other in Biochemistry from Saint Joseph University, Beirut.
- His research expertise spans biofuel production, solid waste management, and wastewater treatment. His commitment to sustainability has garnered international recognition and awards for his contributions to research and sustainability initiatives.
- He is also certified by the University of Oxford in Leading Sustainable Corporations and has recently become a Fellow of the London School of Economics (LSE).

Dr. Raghid Al-Hajj - Panelist

Assistant Professor - College of Business, GUST



- Dr. Raghid Al Hajj is an Assistant Professor and Chair of the Academic Hub for Entrepreneurial Advancement and Knowledge (AHEAD) at the Gulf University for Science and Technology in Kuwait.
- Dr. Al Hajj holds a Ph.D in Business Administration with a minor in Research Methodology from Concordia University, Canada. A prolific researcher, Dr. Al Hajj boasts a robust publication record, exploring topics such as leadership, stress, workplace ostracism, the psychosomatic roots of behavior, and business education.
- His work is featured in esteemed journals, including Journal of Organizational Behavior, Academy of Management Learning and Education, Hormones and Behavior.

Eng. Khalid Al-Zanki - Panelist

Founder & CEO - ETLAQ CONSULTING



- Khalid Al-Zanki is a launch strategist, entrepreneur, and the creator of ETLAQ GPT, an AI-powered business advisor built on his proprietary launch and growth frameworks.
- With over 20 years of experience in entrepreneurship, marketing, and product strategy, Khalid has helped founders and startups turn ideas into scalable businesses.
- He is the founder of ETLAQ and the author of the LAUNCH book. Today, he's at the forefront of merging AI with strategy to automate clarity, accelerate decision-making, and make world-class guidance accessible on demand.

Workshops – AI Applications

Dr. Fajer Bin Rashed – Workshops Moderator

Assistant Professor, English Language Program - Australian University

Workshops Moderator



- Dr. Fajer Bin Rashed is an Assistant Professor at the Australian University in Kuwait. She holds a PhD in Language and Literacy Studies and has teaching experience in different universities (GUST, AOU and UAEU) in the GCC region since 2007.
- She is a published researcher and is an active reviewer for multi- and interdisciplinary peer-reviewed journals including Review of Education and Springer Nature. Her research interests include (early) literacy education, language teacher/learner identity, bilingualism, multiculturalism, and social-emotional learning in education.

Ms. Hiba Tayara - Workshop Presenter

Senior Instructor, English Language Program – Australian University



- Hiba Tayara received her MSc in English Language Teaching Management from University of Surrey (UK), 2005. She is a dedicated lecturer and certified trainer with 30 years of teaching and leadership experience in academia.
- Currently, she is a senior instructor and a unit coordinator at the Australian University. Hiba coordinates and teaches research writing for Engineering and Business students as well as a “Speech and Presentation skills” course for the school of Aviation.
- As the coordinator for the three courses, Hiba plays a pivotal role in enriching the educational experience and ensuring the success of students at the Australian University.

Dr. Marine Milad - Workshop Presenter

Local Dean of Faculty of Language Studies, Arab Open University Kuwait



- Dr. Marine Milad is the Local Dean of Faculty of Language Studies, Arab Open University Kuwait. She is an associate professor who holds a PhD degree in Applied Linguistics/TEFL, Curriculum and Instructions from Cairo University with the grade of distinction.
- Dr. Marine has facilitated the professional development and career advancement of teachers, managers, and employees of some reputable organizations.
- She has delivered several academic and technical presentations in local and international conferences in the fields of Language Learning, E-Learning, Blended Learning, Multiple Intelligences and Brain Color, Constructivism, Learning by Doing, educational reform and soft skills.

Mohammad Farran - Workshop Presenter

Lecturer and a course chair - Faculty of Language Studies at the Arab Open University in Kuwait



- Mohammad Hani Farran is a dedicated educator with a strong academic background in English language studies. He earned his undergraduate degree from Kuwait University and a master's degree in English Language Teaching Studies from the University of Brighton in England.
- Currently, is a lecturer and a course chair at the Faculty of Language Studies at the Arab Open University in Kuwait, where he contributes to shaping the next generation of language learners and educators.

Ms. Faten Osseili - Workshop Presenter

Manager of Mastermind Management Consultancy and Corporate Trainer, and ICF Organizational Development Coach



- Master's degree in education, majoring in Bilingual Bicultural Education, and minored in TESOL from Wayne State University in Michigan U.S.
- A dynamic educator and thoughtful leader at the forefront of integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) into human capital development
- A background of over 15 years in education, particularly in bilingual education and international schools in both the U.S. and Kuwait
- Faten is passionate about empowering educators and learners to embrace AI as a tool for positive change in education. She inspires audiences to reimagine the future of learning and development, where AI technologies are harnessed to unlock human potential and drive sustainable growth in the knowledge economy.

Ms. Lobna Tarek - Workshop Presenter

Innovative Learning Coach, Academic Software Administrator, Google Workspace Administrator and Trainer



- Lobna Tarek is an experienced educator, Google Certified Trainer, and Innovator with a strong track record of empowering teachers through technology.
- She has trained hundreds of educators across the Middle East, helping them make the most of digital tools from Google Workspace to emerging AI technologies. Known for her practical, engaging approach. Lobna focuses on making tech integration meaningful, efficient, and impactful in real classrooms.

Dr. Mirna Safi - Workshop Presenter

Assistant Professor, Department of Human Resource - Australian University



- Dr. Mirna Safi is an Assistant Professor of Business (Human Resources) at The Australian University – Kuwait, with over 10 years of teaching experience in Kuwait and Lebanon.
- She holds a Doctorate in Business Administration, a master's in business administration, and two bachelor's degrees in human resource management and accounting. Complementing her business background, she also earned a bachelor's degree and a Teaching Diploma in English Literature.
- Her academic work is driven by a passion for exploring effective teaching practices, innovative learning strategies, and the integration of technology in education.
- She served as a board member at TESOL Kuwait from 2013 to 2017 and held the roles of International Liaison and Membership Chair.

Ms. Idole Fayette Ernesta - Workshop Presenter

Trainer, Aviation Engineering - Australian University



- Idole Fayette Ernesta is an Aviation Engineering Trainer at the Australian University, Kuwait, where she has worked for the last 8 years in various roles, as an Aviation English Foundation Instructor, an Ab Initio instructor for MoD ATC students, a TEA Test Examiner and as an EASA Part 147 Instructor.
- She is a dedicated educator with international teaching experience at university level and beyond with a career spanning over 25 years.
- Fayette gained her Bachelors of Aeronautical Engineering from Salford University in the UK, after which she qualified as a teacher. She has worked in academia since graduating, teaching and training in Dubai, Malaysia and the UK before moving to Kuwait.

3. Keynote Speeches

The keynote speeches started by the welcome note of Ms. Rola Mourdaa, Manager of the Teaching and Learning Center at the Australian University.

The President of the Australian University, Prof. Isam Zabalawi, presented a talk titled “Redefining Tomorrow: AI at the Frontiers of Higher Education.” He began his presentation by outlining the key topics he intended to cover: Higher Education & Technology, the AI-Driven World, AI in Higher Education, a Comprehensive AI Competency Framework, and Major Milestones in AI History across the Industrial Revolutions. Prof. Zabalawi noted that Kuwait is progressing at a promising pace toward achieving its vision of becoming a leader in AI innovation and integration by 2028. He elaborated on the role of data analytics, which encompasses machine learning, deep learning, and generative AI. Additionally, he highlighted that the Australian University is currently

developing three academic programs—Artificial Intelligence, Networking, and Cybersecurity—in collaboration with the Private Universities Council (PUC). These initiatives reflect the university’s commitment to cultivating human capital in these critical fields. Prof. Zabalawi emphasized that AI is now embedded in nearly every aspect of life, including healthcare, transportation, sports, households, airports, and manufacturing. This widespread integration defines what he referred to as an “AI-driven world.” He also discussed the transformative potential of AI in teaching and learning, particularly in enabling personalized education. AI can help tailor university programs, assessments, and teaching techniques to individual needs, enhancing relevance at both national and international levels. This personalization is central to improving the student experience—one of the core goals of the Australian University. Finally, Prof. Zabalawi acknowledged the risks associated with AI and stressed the importance of monitoring these risks. He emphasized the responsibility of academic institutions to provide informed guidance on the appropriate use of AI tools.

“Unlocking Purpose, Priorities, and Possibilities” was the next topic presented by Dr. Fatemah Almosawi, CEO of KAFO. Dr. Almosawi primarily studied human intelligence, focusing on the genes involved in it. She mentioned the cloning of “Dolly the Sheep” and how it sparked fear in many people, highlighting the importance of weighing the benefits and risks of every technological advancement. One of the classes Dr. Almosawi attended in the past was titled “Social Impact of the Biosciences.” In that class, she was taught to consider the human consequences of any scientific, technological, or research endeavor. She was constantly asked: How does this affect lives? Health standards? What ripple effects might it have, directly or indirectly? Since then, she has always reflected on how science affects and improves lives

The third speaker was Mr. Mazen Abdallah, Head of Google Education for the MENA region, who delivered a presentation titled “AI-Driven Digital Transformation in Education.” He expressed that it is a privilege to work in education and to help inspire the magic that occurs between educators and students. He noted that we are living in incredibly exciting, and rapidly evolving times. Accelerating Healthcare with AI. To address this, we developed the Automated Retinal Disease Assessment (ARDA), an AI-powered tool designed to support eye care professionals by analyzing retina scans for signs of diabetic retinopathy. ARDA enables clinics to manage a high volume of patients efficiently, helping doctors focus on those who need care most.

Dr. Roksana Tumpa, Lecturer in Project Management at Central Queensland University, delivered the concluding keynote address titled “Beyond the Buzz: Rethinking Higher Education in the AI Era.” In her presentation, Dr. Tumpa examined the growing influence of artificial intelligence on higher education, highlighting developments such as AI-assisted essay grading and the emergence of automated tutoring systems. Dr. Tumpa underscored the importance of ethical AI use, digital equity, and collaborative engagement with both students and faculty in shaping AI’s role in education. Her central argument emphasized that meaningful innovation is achieved when human insight and technological advancement are aligned through shared purpose and intentional design.

4. Panel Discussion:

The panel discussion, titled “The Role of AI in Shaping the Future of Higher Education”, comprised four panelists and was moderated by Dr. Mortadha Al-Saba, Associate Professor and Head of Petroleum Engineering at AU University.

The first speaker, Ms. Sara Abdul Samad, Founder & CEO of RTS, explores how AI is transforming higher education across teaching, learning, research, and administration. She outlines the evolution of education from traditional methods to the current AI-powered era, emphasizing that AI is not replacing education but reshaping it. The presentation concludes with a call for ethical frameworks, clear policies, and strategic adoption to ensure AI makes education less artificial and more intelligent.

Dr. Jean El Achkar explores the evolving role of universities in the transition to Industry 5.0, which emphasizes human-machine collaboration, sustainability, and ethics. He outlines how universities are not just adapting to Industry 5.0 but actively shaping it. Dr. El Achkar emphasizes that universities must lead the way in merging advanced technologies with human-centered values to build a resilient, fair, and sustainable future. Education must prepare students not just for jobs, but to shape a world that is still emerging.

Dr. Raghid Al Hajj’s presentation, “The Why Before the Wow,” emphasizes the importance of foundational understanding in an AI-driven educational landscape. He argues that while AI tools offer speed and convenience, they risk promoting superficial learning if not grounded in conceptual mastery. Educators must prioritize teaching core concepts before introducing AI, ensuring students develop critical thinking, ethical judgment, and contextual reasoning. He advocates for redesigned assessments that test thought processes rather than outputs, positioning AI as a complement to learning not a substitute.

Finally, the session was concluded by Eng. Khalid Al-Zanki Founder and CEO, ETLAQ Consulting. He discussed real life applications in AI. Engineer Khalid argued that using ChatGPT is not as straightforward as it may seem, highlighting the challenges users face in effectively interacting with AI tools. He pointed out that generating meaningful and accurate responses requires clear, well-structured prompts and a solid understanding of the subject matter. Without this, users may struggle to get relevant or useful outputs, making the experience more complex than expected. His perspective underscores the need for digital literacy and thoughtful engagement when integrating AI into academic or professional settings.

The discussion was concluded by questions and answers from the audience, which opened the room for rich discussions.

5. Workshops:

The first workshop entitled “Pedagogical Applications of AI to English Language Teaching in Arab World Higher Education” by Dr. Marine Milad, Hiba Tayara, and Mohammad Farran explores how artificial intelligence is reshaping English language instruction in the region. It outlines the evolution of AI in education and its growing role in addressing challenges such as overcrowded classrooms, limited resources, and the need for personalized learning. The presenters

shared a variety of AI tools and strategies being used in education today. These included intelligent tutoring systems, natural language processing, virtual reality, and autonomous learning platforms. Each of these technologies plays a role in making learning more engaging, flexible, and accessible for students. A case study from the Australian University in Kuwait illustrates positive student responses to AI integration. While the benefits include personalized feedback, real-time practice, and increased learner autonomy, the presentation also addresses challenges such as infrastructure demands, data privacy, and the risk of overreliance. The session concludes with a call for ethical, inclusive, and transparent AI implementation to support the future of language education in the Arab world.

Secondly, “Rethinking Assessments in the Age of AI” by Ms. Faten Osseili explores how artificial intelligence is reshaping the educational landscape and challenges educators to redesign assessments that prioritize critical thinking over rote recall. Ms. Osseili highlights the capabilities and limitations of AI, emphasizing that while AI can generate polished outputs and pass standardized tests, it lacks originality, ethical reasoning, emotional intelligence, and contextual understanding. She argues that traditional assessments such as essays and multiple-choice tests are increasingly vulnerable to AI-generated responses and no longer reliably measure student learning. Instead, she advocates for AI-resilient assessments that emphasize real-world problem-solving, personal reflection, collaboration, and ethical reasoning. Through practical examples and rubrics, the presentation offers strategies for designing tasks that demand human insight, creativity, and judgment skills AI cannot replicate. The core message is clear: educators must shift from testing what students know to assessing how they think, create, and apply knowledge in meaningful, human-centered ways.

Thirdly, Lobna Tarek delivered a highly engaging and interactive workshop that departed from traditional presentation formats. Instead of using slides, she facilitated a live, hands-on session that actively involved participants throughout. The workshop focused on showcasing a range of AI tools that educators can integrate into their teaching practices to enhance classroom engagement and foster a more dynamic learning environment. By demonstrating practical applications in real time, Lobna emphasized how these tools can make lessons more interactive, enjoyable, and effective. Her approach highlighted the value of experiential learning and left attendees with actionable insights to enrich their teaching strategies.

In the fourth presentation, Dr. Mirna Safi’s presentation, “Let’s Talk AI! The Rise of Intelligence or the Fall of Humanity?”, offers a formal and analytical examination of the development and societal implications of artificial intelligence. It traces AI’s evolution from theoretical origins, beginning with Alan Turing’s seminal question in 1950, through pivotal milestones such as IBM’s Deep Blue defeating world chess champion Garry Kasparov in 1997, and Google’s AlphaGo surpassing human strategic thinking in 2016. The presentation underscores the distinction between computational power and human consciousness, noting that while AI systems excel in data processing and pattern recognition, they lack emotional intelligence, ethical reasoning, and self-awareness. Dr. Safi emphasizes that AI should be regarded as a tool whose impact is determined by human intent and governance. The central argument asserts that the future of AI will not be shaped solely by technological advancement, but by the ethical and strategic decisions made by society in its deployment.

Lastly, the presentation titled "AI-Powered Classrooms: Transforming Student Engagement & Interaction in Technical Education" by Ms. Idole Fayette Ernesta provides a formal and structured overview of how artificial intelligence can enhance teaching and learning within technical education environments. It begins by identifying key challenges faced in traditional classrooms, including the complexity of technical content, student engagement difficulties, and issues with knowledge retention. The presentation introduces AI driven education tools such as Quizlet and Quizizz, emphasizing their capabilities in delivering personalized learning experiences, gamified activities, real-time feedback, and performance analytics. These tools are shown to support both in-class collaboration and independent study, thereby improving student motivation, accessibility, and academic outcomes. For educators, the integration of AI facilitates efficient content creation, differentiation, and data-informed instruction. The presentation also highlights the relevance of these tools across STEM disciplines, including aviation maintenance, engineering, and medical sciences. It concludes with practical guidance for educators on how to begin using these platforms, encouraging exploration, customization, and professional development through AI-enhanced teaching strategies.

6. Recommendations

The forum concluded with a set of valuable recommendations for the stakeholders of the education sector in Kuwait to better create an inclusive innovative effective learning environment that implements modern tools. **The recommendations are categorized and listed in the below section:**

6.1 Research

- There is inadequate research about the job market needs and the skills required. Practical research shall be undertaken in collaboration with the industry.
- People from the industry shed light on the gap students possess in regard to the practical readiness to the job market, therefore working on enhancing the employability of graduates shall be a priority.
- Research reflecting the need for training of faculty to be able to incorporate AI tools in their teachings, assessments, and evaluations.

6.2 Collaboration between Universities and Industry

- Internship and Job Shadows: More structure seemed necessary for the internship programs, which call for more collaboration between the universities and the industry,
- Career Centers to be supported and funded to perform their job effectively for the best benefit of students, universities' reputation, employers and the economy at large,
- Professors shall be encouraged to work as part timers in industry, as this will allow gaining practical experience that will definitely reflect on the teaching inside the class.
- Potential collaboration to be discussed between universities and AI providers like Google.

6.3 Government

- Speeding up approval processes and improve efficiency in paperwork,

- Implement strict supervisory role on schools (implement a system of ranking), assessments shall be tested on critical thinking rather than memorization as this will enhance the quality of education at the university level enabling them to produce employable graduates,
- Improving the efficiency of the education system by enhancing the adoption and implementation of AI tools in teaching and learning.
- Support for innovative education.
- Incorporating from early age, critical thinking, problem solving, and analytical skills, to keep human advantage over machines.

6.4 Universities

- Implement new approach towards teaching and learning by accepting AI as a pedagogical tool.
- Educators to consider a different mindset to best interact with the young minds and to provide tools for critical thinking, learning, and focus on Social Emotional Learning,
- Employ professors with industrial knowledge,
- Apply problem-based learning, team-based learning and AI approaches to teaching,
- Reconsider traditional way of assessing students in the presence of AI.
- Provide orientation programs to introduce students to university life with what's expected from them in terms of dedication, maturity and responsibility – approach to learning, and developing well-rounded character
- Emphasize on continuous and independent life-long learning,
- Help students to give and take constructive feedback,
- Building professional identity,
- Encourage interdisciplinary knowledge and projects,
- Create innovative learning environment,
- International exchange programs for both students and faculty,

6.5 Human Aspect in Teaching and Learning

- Need to encourage competitions and diverse cultures within schools and universities,
- Change of Educational Models by learning from successful models, ex: Finland
- Update teaching approaches that address the new millennials, and includes AI tools
- Bloom's Taxonomy (evaluate, analyze, not only focus on memorizing), and copy paste from AI
- Planning, giving higher quality of education and lowering quantity of information,
- Teachers shall understand differences among students, and learn differential teaching styles,
- Having student psychology support centers to raise up balanced personalities, as AI may affect social networking
- Academic integrity: to learn and apply values even if no one is watching or evaluating,
- Change traditional schooling – put students outside classrooms, apply student-led educational approach,
- Role of teacher: Move from teacher to facilitator.
- Accept the role of AI in providing knowledge

6.6 Required skills by the Job Market

- Interpersonal skills,
- Attitude towards work,
- Ability to think (critical thinking),
- Be able to plan and execute,
- Integrity, resilience and empathy,
- Business communication skills,
- Customer service skills,
- Basic knowledge of their field,
- Emotional Intelligence,
- Relations management – Teamwork,
- Self-motivation,
- Self-learning,
- General knowledge of what is going on not just major-focused,
- Productive,
- Time management,
- Coachable,
- Interdisciplinary knowledge.
- Sense of urgency required from them,
- Need to think for themselves,
- Patience,
- Creativity,
- Thinking out of the box,
- Evaluation and problem solving,
- Flexibility - Adaptable to change,
- Knowledge implementation.
- Critical thinking of what AI provides can be questions

7. Conclusion

The 2025 Teaching and Learning Forum brought together a diverse group of educators, industry experts, and stakeholders to reflect on how artificial intelligence is reshaping higher education. Through engaging keynote talks, thoughtful panel discussions, and hands-on workshops, the forum explored both the exciting possibilities and the real challenges that come with integrating AI into teaching and learning. A recurring theme was the importance of using AI responsibly ensuring it supports, rather than replaces, the human elements of education. The forum wrapped up with practical recommendations focused on preparing students for the future job market and encouraging collaboration across sectors. It was a clear reminder that shaping the future of education is a shared responsibility and that with the right approach, AI can be a powerful ally in building a more inclusive, innovative, and sustainable learning environment.

8. Appendix

The Future of Higher Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Objective: Artificial intelligence (AI) continues to reshape the global landscape; higher education institutions must adapt to emerging challenges and opportunities and rethink their future and way of conducting their operations to ensure sustainability. This forum aims to explore the evolving role of AI in higher education and how it affects pedagogy, assessments, student engagement, and institutional decision-making.

Wednesday 21st May, 2025 | 9:00 AM - 3:30PM | AU Auditorium

Keynote Speeches	
9:00 AM	Welcome Note Ms. Rola Mourdaa - Manager of Teaching and Learning Center, Australian University
9:15 AM	Redefining Tomorrow: AI at the Frontiers of Higher Education Prof. Isam Zabalawi - President of the Australian University
9:30 AM	Unlocking Purpose, Priorities, and Possibilities Dr. Fatemah Al-Mosawi - KAFO
9:45 AM	Google's perspective on Higher Education: Transforming Education with AI Mr. Mazen Abdallah, Head of Google Education MENA
10:00 AM	Beyond the Buzz: Rethinking Higher Education in the AI Era Dr. Roksana Tumpa, Lecturer of Project Management, School of Engineering and Technology, CQUniversity Australia
Coffee Break 10:15 AM – 10:30 AM	
Panel Discussion: The Role of AI In Shaping the Future of Higher Education Moderator: Dr. Mortadha Al Saba - Associate Professor/Head of Petroleum Engineering, Australian University	
10:30 AM	Degrees of Intelligence: When AI Meets Academia Mrs. Sara Abdulsamad - Founder and CEO, RTS (Reinvent. Transform. Sustain)
10:45 AM	Sustainable Universities as Catalysts for Industry 5.0 in the Age of AI

	Dr. Jean El-Achkar - Assistant Professor, Department of Petroleum Engineering, Australian University
11:00 AM	Brains Before Bots: Teaching Students the <i>Why</i> Before the <i>Wow</i> Dr. Raghid Al-Hajj - Assistant Professor, College of Business, GUST
11:15 AM	Real Life Applications In AI Eng. Khalid Al-Zanki - Founder and CEO, ETLAQ Consulting
11:30 AM	Discussion
Lunch Break 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	
Workshops: AI Applications Moderator: Fajer Bin Rashed - Assistant Professor, English Language Program, Australian University	
1:00 PM	Pedagogical Application of AI to English Language Teaching in Arab World Higher Education Hiba ElTayara (Australian University), Marine Milad and Mohammad Farran (Arab Open University)
1:30 PM	Rethinking Assessments: The Role of AI In Higher Education Evaluation Ms. Faten Osseili - Manager of Mastermind Management Consultancy and Corporate Trainer, and ICF Organizational Development Coach
2:00 PM	In Practice: Google AI tools in Higher Education Ms. Lobna Tarek - Innovative Learning Coach, Academic Software Administrator, Google Workspace Administrator and Trainer
2:30 PM	Let's Talk AI! - The Rise of Intelligence or the Fall of Humanity Dr. Mirna Safi - Assistant Professor, Department of Human Resource, Australian University
3:00 PM	AI-Powered Classrooms: Transforming Student Engagement and Interaction Ms. Idole Fayette Ernesta - Trainer, Aviation Engineering, Australian University
Closing Remarks 3:30 PM	



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