

Biography of Ghassan Omar Shahin

Dr. Ghassan Omar Shahin has obtained his PhD in **E-Learning** from University of Malaya in 2012. He has an **MBA in Information Systems** from Maastricht School of Management, and a BSc. in **Computer Science** from INTERCOLLEGE (now University of Nicosia). He served as the **Dean** of College of Administrative Sciences & Informatics (CASI), Palestine Polytechnic University (PPU) from 1999 to 2004 and from 2012 to 2014, and as the **Information Manager** for 2 years at PPU. He has more than 20 years of work experience in private sector and academia in different countries including **Cyprus, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and Palestine**. He is a **certified e-commerce consultant** since 2002. Currently, he is a **Master Trainer** for faculty development at Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning at PPU, in addition to his role as Assistant Prof of E-Learning and Information Systems at CASI.

Dr. Shahin possesses qualities and characteristics of an Intrapreneur, where his initiatives and creative ideas have materialized at PPU as new academic programs and others. Some of such include him being the **founding Dean** of CASI at PPU. He has founded three Bachelor Degree programs of CASI, namely **Information Systems, Contemporary Business Administration, and Information Technology** in 1995, 1999, and 2000 respectively. In addition, he has a major role in founding other programs such as Multimedia / Graphics program, Project Management – both are Undergraduate programs - Office Automation & Administration, and Software and Databases (Associate degree programs). He represented the university in various committees on national levels.

Dr. Shahin's diverse academic background and experience, in addition to his continuous efforts for self-development through attending several professional training programs and workshops, enable him to smoothly integrate and utilize technology with, and, for business purposes and applications, in addition to employ technology for the enhancement of education at higher education institutions.

Dr. Shahin is a member of **Editorial Boards and Reviewers** of International Journals, local and international conferences, also as **committee member** and **session chair**. He has a number of conference and journal papers. He has acted as internal examiner for Master thesis at University of Malaya and at PPU, and has supervised many undergraduate projects and Master Thesis. His research interests are mainly in E-Learning, particularly in Blended Learning. He is currently working on some research papers related to Learning Style Test on using BL model, Applying usability heuristics principles and usability evaluation of web-based systems on BL model for evaluation purposes.



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Ghassan O. A. Shahin

(Assistant Prof of E-learning and IS, Faculty Developer)

Education

2012: Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

PhD – Computer Science, Field of research: E-Learning.

Research Title: “DEVELOPMENT OF A MODEL FOR BLENDED LEARNING IN TRADITIONAL UNIVERSITIES IN PALESTINE”

**1994 Maastricht School of Management, Maastricht, Netherlands.
MBA – Information Systems**

**1987 INTERCOLLEGE, Nicosia, Cyprus
B.Sc. Computer Science**

Work Experience

Sept. 2012 – Present

Assistant Prof of E-Learning and Information Systems, College of Administrative Sc. & Informatics (CASI), Palestine Polytechnic University (PPU)

Sept 2014 – Present

Master Trainer (Faculty Developer) at Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU

Dec 2012 – Jan 2015

Information Manager, PPU

July 2012 –August 2014

Dean, , CASI, Palestine Polytechnic University, Hebron, West Bank, Palestine

Sept 2011 – July 2012

Lecturer, Administrative Sciences Dept., College of Administrative Sc. & Informatics, Palestine Polytechnic University.

Jan 2009 – May 2010

Part-Time Lecturer, Dept. of Information Science, Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology, UM, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Taught Web Commerce and Web Development for Masters (IT) students.

Sept. 3, 2007- December 31st , 2008

Visiting Lecturer, Dept. of Information Science, Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology, UM, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Taught Advanced Topics in Programming, Web Commerce, Web Development for Masters students, Systems Analysis and Design, Open Source Programming courses for undergraduate students (Computer Science and IT)

Semester 2 and Short (special) Semester 2007

Part-Time Lecturer, Kulliyyah (Faculty) of Information and Communication Technology, International Islamic University in Malaysia. Taught Introduction to Networking for non ICT major.

Semester I, 2005

Part-time Lecture (substitute), Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology, UM, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

July 1st, 2004 - Feb. 2005

Lecturer, College (Faculty) of Administrative Sciences & Informatics (CASI), Palestine Polytechnic University (PPU), Palestine.

(Sept. 99 - July,1st,2004)

Founding Dean, College (Faculty) of Administrative Sciences & Informatics, PPU.

(July 97 – August 99)

Vice Head, Dept. of Administrative Sciences & Information Systems, PPU.

(Oct. 94-June 97)

Instructor, Department of Computer Engineering & Information Systems, PPU.

During teaching career at PPU, I have taught a variety of subjects including: Management Information Systems courses, Decision Support Systems, Computer Networks, DBMS, Software Engineering, Information Systems, E-Commerce.... In addition, I have supervised many graduation projects for computer systems engineering and information systems students.

Apart from teaching, I had the honor of founding the CASI at PPU through the development and implementation; and through championing the launching of its first three degree programs (Information Systems, Contemporary Business Administration and Information Technology) and by being its first DEAN for the first five years of its official establishment (1999-2004). Within this capacity I was responsible for developing the college (faculty), through planning and implementing its strategies and in achieving its objectives. I have supervised the development and implementation of the ISO 9000, and the QAA standards at the college, which were expected to be fully implemented by the end of 2005. In addition to that, I have participated in many activities and committees, and have successfully completed many projects and tasks; including, but not limited to:

- **Headed** the Committee for the self evaluation report of the Contemporary Business Administration Program, submitted to the Ministry of Higher Education in Palestine
- Initiated the process for adopting the **ISO 9000 quality system** at "College of Administrative Sciences & Informatics" at the university, as a pilot project to be adopted then on university level.
- **Liaison person** between the university and The Middle East Chapter of The

Institute of Certified E-Commerce Consultants (MEICECC).

- Prepared the complete Academic Curriculum of a four-year program in **Information Systems**.
- Prepared the complete Academic Curriculum of a four-year program in **Contemporary Business Administration**.
- Prepared the complete Academic Curriculum of a four-year program in **Information Technology**.
- Participated in the preparation of Academic Curriculum of a four-year program in **e-Marketing**
- Participated in the preparation of Academic Curriculum of a four-year program in **Project Management**
- Participated in the design and implementation of an academic curriculum of a two years program in **Office Automation and Administration**,
- Represented the college in different meetings regarding the new two years program in **Software and Databases**.
- **Member** of The Local Organizing Committee of the Palestine Computer Conference (PCC'95)

1999 - 2000 Omega-Management Consultants, Hebron, Palestine.

ISO 9000 and MIS Consultant

1999 – 2002 Institute for Graduate Studies in Business & Economics, Alquds University, Jerusalem, Palestine.

Part-Time Lecturer, teaching MIS for MBA students

Oct. 1996 – 2001 Alquds Open University, Hebron, Palestine

Part-Time Lecturer,

teaching a variety of courses including DBMS, MIS, Data Structures, Information Systems Security and Control, Systems analysis & Design

Jan. 1990 - July 1994: Computer Center, INTERCOLLEGE, Nicosia, Cyprus.

Senior Computer Supervisor (Director).

Sept.1988 To Jan 1990: Applied Computer Services Company (HASIB), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

- **Analyst/Programmer. Duties include:** Analysis, design, programming and training of several applications, for both single and multi-user. Some of these applications:
 1. Variety of programs for King Abdul-Aziz Military Cantonment in Tabouk
 2. Patient-Keeping Records for Riyadh Medical Center.
 3. Program for the Central Record Keeping (Archive) Dept., Ministry of Finance and National Economy/Saudi Arabia.
 4. System for the Dept. of Student Affairs, Imam Mohd. Bin Saud Islamic University in Riyadh
- **Junior SysOp** for a number of VAX mini computers serving both company employees and customers.

**Additional
Professional
Activities**

MEMBER OF THE E-LEARNING NATIONAL COMMITTEE in charge of drafting a law for e-learning based programs offered at Palestinian Institution of Higher Education, and to draft a law for the recognition of degrees offered through e-learning by universities abroad.

FOUNDING MEMBER AND BOARD MEMBER OF THE PALESTIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ACADEMIC DEVELOPEMENT

PROJECT LEADER, COLLEGE OF ADM SC. & INFORMATICS, PPU. Headed the team for preparation of a new **BSc program in e-Marketing**; work include managing the team and activities and involved directly in several activities.

MEMBER OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE INDUSTRIAL INCUBATOR PROJECT WHICH INVOLVES THREE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AT PPU WITH PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR, PPU. Sept, 2013 – on going.

PROJECT COORDINATOR REPRESENTING PPU IN the project “Upgrading Packaging Knowledge in Palestine; Bridging the Gap between education & the private sector”, a joint project initiated by Palestine International Business Forum, included Paper Industry Union, Broby Grafiska (Sweden) and a number of Palestinian Higher Education Institutions

CONSULTANT- FUNDS GRANTS EVALUATOR (PROJECT-BASED), World Bank, International Development Association, Quality Improvement Fund for Palestinian Tertiary Education, through **Tertiary Education Project (TEP)**, Ministry of Education & Higher Education, Palestine. **Duties include: Evaluating grants proposals** submitted by institutions of higher education to QIF board, for funding. Report and final conclusions and recommendations are given to QIF Board, to make final decisions regarding the approval of funds.

EVALUATION COMMISION MEMBER, CHAPTER MEMBER International Accreditation Organization, USA

PROGRAM EVALUATOR, Ministry of Education & Higher Education-Palestine. Assisted in, and evaluated many Associate and Bachelor degree programs of various Palestinian Institutions upon the request of the Ministry.

TRAINER, authorized by ICECC through MEICECC for e-commerce training sessions leading to the CEC certificate.

Member, Editorial Board, American Journal of Information Systems, published by Science and Education Publishing, appointment for 2 years, Dec,2012 – Dec, 2014

Member, Editorial Board, American Journal of Educational Research, published by Science and Education Publishing, appointment for 2 years, Dec,2012 – Dec, 2014

REVIEWER, Journal of Information and Organizational Sciences (Indexed in Scopus), published by **Faculty of Organization and Informatics**, University of Zagreb, Pavlinska 2 HR-42000 Varaždin Croatia

REVIEWER, American Journal of Information Systems, published by Science and Education Publishing.

Member, Technical Committee for Student Innovation Conference, Palestine Polytechnic University, June, 2012

REVIEWER, Educational Research Journal, published by International Research Journals org.

REVIEWER, African Educational Research Journal, published by NetJournals.

REVIEWER, World Applied Science Journal, published by the International Digital Organization for Scientific Information (IDOSI)

MEMBER of the Advisory Committee, International Conference for Learning and Teaching in the Digital World, An-Najah National University, Nablus, Palestine, 30/3/2014

SESSION CHAIR, First National Conference in Teaching and Learning; Toward Creative Initiatives in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, organized by Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, Hebron, 2-3rd Dec. 2014

REVIEWER, 2nd Palestinian International Conference on Computer and Information Technology 07.

REVIEWER, Journal of Information Systems Research and Practice (JISReP), published by Department of Information Science, Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, University of Malaya, KL, Malaysia.

**Supervision
and
Postgraduate
Teaching**

- **Supervisor, Master of Informatics Thesis, PPU**
 - ✓ Thesis by Dalal Al-Adrah, and Lubabah Tomizeh (on going)
 - ✓ **Thesis: Students Evaluation in Educational Chat Sessions Based on Neural Network, by AbdelRahman Bassam Haddad (Completed 2015)**
- **Internal Examiner, Master of Informatics Thesis, PPU**
- **Internal Examiner, Master of Information Technology Dissertation, University of Malaya**
- **Supervisor and Examiner for several undergraduate projects in Information Systems, CASI, PPU**
- **Teaching, Master of Informatics program, PPU**
- **Taught, Master of Information Technology, FCSIT, UM**
- **Taught, MBA, Institute for Graduate Studies in Business & Economics, Alquds University**

Awards received

- **Special Award for Exceptional Performance/BEST OF SUBJECT** , from INTERCOLLEGE, 1987
- **Special Award** for the service as Senior Computer Supervisor of the Computer Center and for organizing the 1994 Information Technology Exhibition, from INTERCOLLEGE, 1994
- **Recognition in 1997 for the special effort in preparing and implementing the Information Systems Program at the university in 1995.** PPU
- **Special recognition by PPU in 2000 for exceptional performance** which resulted in being promoted two steps on the Cadre scale. PPU
- **Recognition for outstanding performance in 2005** for the overall efforts and especially for the preparation of the **self assessment report** of the Contemporary Business Administration Program submitted to the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Palestine. PPU

Languages

ARABIC: Mother Language

ENGLISH: Fluent

MELAYU: Poor

Hobbies

Reading, Playing Chess.

Interests and activities

Professional Qualifications

Master Trainer (Faculty Developer) at CETL, PPU

Institute of Certified E-Commerce Consultants USA (Middle East Chapter), Certified E-Commerce Consultant (CECtm), November 2003

Fields of Interests

Main fields - among others: E-Learning, E-Business, Information Systems, Quality Assurance in Higher Education

Publications/Research/Conferences

- Shahin, G., and Sharabati-Shahin, M. (2014), *Technopreneur and Knowledge Economy as a Driving Force for the Economic Development in Palestine, Competitiveness, Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Tools for Economic Development Conference, BirZeit University, 20-11-2014.*
- Shahin, G. (2014), *Blended Learning: Guidelines and Recommendations for Implementation at Palestinian Universities, International Conference for teaching and Learning in the Digital World, An-Najah National University, Nablus, Palestine, 30-3-2014.*

• عمرو، مروى؛ ارجوب، نجاح؛ حجه، هدى؛ شاهين، غسان (2012)، تطوير أداء وخدمات مديرية داخلية جنوب الخليل من خلال تطبيق الحكومة الالكترونية من وجهة نظر موظفيها، مؤتمر ابداع الطلبة، جامعة بوليتكنك فلسطين، الخليل، فلسطين، 2012-7-3

Amr, M., Irjoub, N., Hejjeh, H., & Shahin, G. (2012), Improving Services and performance of South Hebron District of Ministry of Interior through the adoption of e-government; a staff perspective, Student Innovation Conference, Palestine Polytechnic University, Hebron, Palestine, July 3rd, 2012

- **Shahin, G., Singh, D., and Wah, T. (2007), AN ACTIVITY-LEVEL INTERNET-BASED E-LEARNING MODEL FOR UNIVERSITY LEVEL COURSES**, *International Journal of the Computer, the Internet and Management, Special Issue Vol. 15, No. SP\$, November 2007, Online at http://www.ijcim.th.org/v15nSP4/P28SEARCC_AnActivityLevelInternetBased.pdf*
- **Shahin, G. and Singh, D. (2007), Perceptions of Faculty Members at Palestinian Universities Towards E-Learning**, *UiTM Conference on E-Learning 2007*, UiTM, Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia, 12-14 December 2007
- **Shahin, G. Singh, D., and Wah, T. (2007), Factors in Blended Learning in Higher Education**, In *Proceedings of APRU Distance Learning and the Internet Conference 2007*, 12-15 December 2007, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, pg 104-110.
- **Shahin, G., Singh, D., and Wah, T. (2007), AN ACTIVITY-LEVEL INTERNET-BASED E-LEARNING MODEL FOR UNIVERSITY LEVEL COURSES**, in *Proceedings of 24th South East Asia Regional Computer Conference - SEARCC07*, 18-19 November, 2007, Bangkok, Thailand, pg 28.1-28.8, Online at http://www.searcc07.com/SEARCC07/Proceedings/P28SEARCC_AnActivityLevelInternetBased.pdf
- **Alsaheb, M. & Shahin, G. "Information Bank for Higher Education in Palestine"**, *Conference on Information Technology in Higher Education in Palestine*, Alquds University, 5-7/3/1997

Conferences:

- # **National Conference on Innovative Education: from Policies to Practice**, organized by Palestine Technical University – Kadoorie, Tulkarm, Palestine, 14-16 Dec, 2014. Member of the Steering Committee
- # **First National Conference in Teaching and Learning; *Toward Creative Initiatives in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education***, organized by Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, Hebron, 2-3rd Dec. 2014. Role: Session Chair.
- # **The International Conference on Sustainable Economic Development; The Role of Chambers of Commerce and Related Organizations**, organized by Hebron Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Hebron, June, 2013
- # **Student Innovation Conference**, organized by Palestine Polytechnic University, Palestine, June, 2013, Member of the organizing committee.
- # **Second Tri Partnership Conference: Academic Government Industry Partnership**, organized by Palestine Polytechnic University, Palestine, 3rd July, 2012
- # **Student Innovation Conference**, organized by Palestine Polytechnic University, Palestine, June 13, 2012, Member of the scientific committee.
- # **International Conference on Information & Communication Technology for the Muslim World (ICT4M)** organized by International Islamic University Malaysia, 21-23 November, 2006
- # **10th Pacific Asian Conference on Information Systems 2006**, 6-8 July, 2006, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- # **5th International Conference on Web-Based learning (ICWL 2006)**, 19-21 July, 2006, Penang, Malaysia
- # **UM Graduate Symposium**, 1-2 Jun. 2006, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Chaired 2 sessions for PhD student presenting their research.

Training & Workshops Conducted

- Workshop on “New innovative teaching methods: Experiential Learning, Community-based Service Learning, Cooperative learning, and Critical Thinking” organized by Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, Jan. 2016.
- Workshop on “E-learning and Technology in Education” organized by Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, Jan. 2016
- Workshop on “Course Design” organized by Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, September 2014.
- Workshop on “E-learning and Technology in Education” organized by Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU on 10th and 17th June, 2014.
- Workshop on Follow up on Information Technology Program Evaluation at Palestinian Universities, organized by AQAC- Ministry of Education and Higher Education and Palestine Ahliyyah University, Bethlehem, April 2012. Gave a *presentation on “Improving Quality Through E-learning”*.

Training, Workshops & Seminars Attended

- Training of Trainers: Designing Teaching for Higher Education (including courses online – BL, Project-based learning, case-based learning, integrative assessment, technology innovation and learner experience), 8-12 June 2015, Oxford Center for Staff and Learning Development (OCSLD), Oxford Brookes University, UK, through the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, funded by USAID through AMIDEAST.
- Training of Trainers: Advancing & Sustaining Academic Development in Palestinian Universities (Advanced Workshop), 11-14 May 2015, Ramallah, Palestine, through the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, funded by USAID through AMIDEAST, and given by Trainers of Searle Center for Advancing Learning & Teaching, Northwestern University.
- Seminar on E-Learning Policies for Higher Education in Palestine, organized by AQAC, AMIDEAST at An-Najah National University, 14-4-2015, **represented PPU president**.
- Training of Trainers: Academic Development (Constructivism learning, approaches to learning, assessment & feedback as teaching tools, approaches to teaching, developing as academic developer), 6-9 Jan 2015, Center for Educational Development, Faculty of Engineering, Lund University, Lund, Sweden, through the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, funded by USAID through AMIDEAST.
- Training of Trainers: Building Faculty Capacity on Designing and facilitating workshops on learning and teaching in Higher Education (Advanced Workshop), 4-7 Dec 2014, Jericho, Palestine, through the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, funded by USAID through AMIDEAST, and given by Trainers of Searle Center for Advancing Learning & Teaching, Northwestern University.
- Training Of Trainers: Course Design and Student Assessment, 25-29 August, 2014, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary, through the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, funded by USAID through AMIDEAST.
- Community-Based Learning workshop, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, 2014
- Student Assessment workshop, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, PPU, 2014
- Sixth Palestinian Faculty Development Program National Roundtable Seminar titled **“The University Teacher as Reflective Practitioner”** from February 11 -12, 2012 in Ramallah, organized by AMIDEAST and Ministry of Education and Higher

Education.

- Three workshops on faculty development related to learning theories and teaching practices at Palestine Polytechnic University during Jan 2012.
- Fourth Palestinian Faculty Development Program National Roundtable Seminar titled "***Distance Learning and Quality Assurance***" from December 3-4, 2011 in Ramallah, organized by AMIDEAST and Ministry of Education and Higher Education.
- Workshop on WRITING YOUR JOURNAL ARTICLE, organized by Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, UM, February- April, 2010.
- Workshop on Service Oriented Architecture (SOA), organized by Dept of Information Science, Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, University of Malaya, December 2008, duration: one week,
- Workshop on SMARTBOARD in Education, organized by Academic Development Center, University of Malaya. 2008
- Workshop on "Moodle" organized by Academic Development Center, University of Malaya. 2008
- Workshop on "Using Tablet PC in Teaching" organized by Academic Development Center, University of Malaya. 2008
- Workshop on "Towards Quality Information Systems Research". Organized by Dept of Information Science, Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, University of Malaya, at Holiday Villa, Subang Jaya, Selangor-Malaysia, 24-25th October, 2007
- Workshop on **Implementation of E-Learning**. Organized by Universiti Sains Malaysia, Pinang, Malaysia, 25-27 June 2007
- Workshop on **Scholarly Publishing**. Organized by Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 4-8 June 2007, facilitated by Prof. Dr. Amanda Spink, Faculty of Information Technology, Queensland University of Technology, Australia
- Participated in a joint seminar with a number of key persons in Hebron, on "**e-commerce prospect in Palestine, what firms should do**" organized at PPU, spring 2001.
- Invited to deliver a lecture for MBA students at An-Najah National University, Nablus, Palestine, topic: "**The role and effect of Information Systems on organizations**"
- Workshop on **Information Technology curriculum in Higher Education in Palestine**. Organized jointly by ANERA, Ministry of Higher Education-Palestine, and UNDP. March 13th 2000, Ramallah-Palestine.
- Training course on **Novell Netware 4.1 Administration**, at College of Engineering & Technology, Hebron, December 1996 - February 1997.
- Two Workshops on **implementing SCOTVEC system** in Palestine, at Ministry of Higher Education, in August and November 1996.
- Short course on **UNIX Systems Administration**, at the dept. of continuing education, Bir Ziet University, May 1995

References

Academic

- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Diljit Singh, Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, 50603, Malaysia, Tel 603-79676357 email: diljit@um.edu.my
- Dr. Teh Y. Wah, Faculty of Computer Science & Information Technology, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, 50603, Malaysia, Tel 603-79676370, tywah@um.edu.my

■ Prof. Dr. Christos N Schizas (Vice Rector), University of Cyprus, 75 Kallipoleos St., P.O.Box 20537, 1678, Nicosia-Cyprus, Tel. + 357-22-892705. email: schizas@cs.ucy.ac.cy

Employment

■ Dr. Nicos Peristianis, University of Nicosia (formerly Intercollege), BOX 4005, Nicosia-Cyprus, Tel (357)-22-357736. email: peristianis.n@unic.ac.cy

■ Dr. Ibrahim Al-Masri (Ex-President) , Palestine Polytechnic University, BOX 198, Hebron-Palestine, Tel +(970/2)-2-2228912 and +(970/2)-2-2233050. email: imasri@ppu.edu