

SEPTEMBER 2021

# BUID moments

## Campus news

### Formation of the University Council

On 31 July 2021, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, issued new Decree No. (31) of 2021 on the formation of the University Council of The British University in Dubai.

According to the Decree the University Council remains under the Chancellorship of His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum while the Vice Chancellor acts as the head of the University. Other members of the Board include His Excellency Mirza Al Sayegh, His Excellency Ahmad Al Muhairbi, Sheikha Hind Al Mualla, and a representative from Dubai Holding, the British Business Group in Dubai and Northern Emirates, Emirates NBD, Rolls-Royce International, the British Council, and Atkins, a member of SNC-Lavalin Group. The University Council will serve for three years starting from the effective date of this Decree.



Chancellor  
**HH Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum**  
President, Dubai Civil Aviation Authority  
CEO, Emirates Group

### UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Vice Chancellor  
**Prof. Abdullah Alshamsi**  
The British University in Dubai



**HE Mirza Al Sayegh**  
Director, Office of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum



**Hind Al Mualla**  
Chief of Creativity, Happiness and Innovation,  
KHDA



**HE Ahmad Butti Al Muhairbi**  
Secretary-General,  
Dubai Supreme Council of Energy



**Khalid Al Malik**  
Managing Director,  
Dubai Holding



**John Martin St. Valery**  
Chairman and CEO,  
British Business Group  
Dubai and the Northern Emirates



**Steve Thompson**  
Chief Operating Officer,  
Tanfeeth (an Emirates NBD  
Company)



**Omar Ali Adib**  
Vice President, Customers,  
Rolls-Royce International,  
Middle East



**Aida Salamanca MBE**  
British Council Country  
Director, United Arab Emirates



**Campbell Gray**  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Atkins (a member of the  
SNC-Lavalin Group)



**Hugh Martin**  
Registrar and Chief Administrative  
Officer, The British University in Dubai

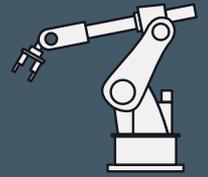
## Campus reopening for the new academic year



BUID welcomed its new and returning students to campus in September 2021. The classes for this year will be delivered in a hybrid mode: online and on campus. A virtual induction was held for new students where they were welcomed by Professor Abdullah Alshamsi, the Vice Chancellor, and Hugh Martin, the Registrar and Chief Administrative Officer. Students were introduced to BUID's facilities and services by the Heads of Student Administration, Library, IT, and the Director of the Doctoral Training Centre. Programme specific induction sessions were scheduled with the Heads of Programmes for detailed information about each programme.



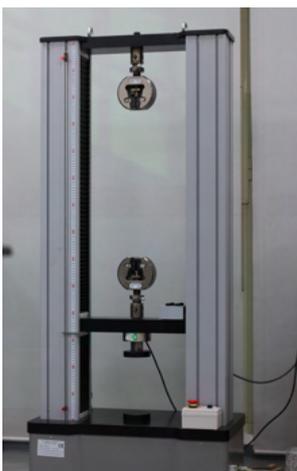
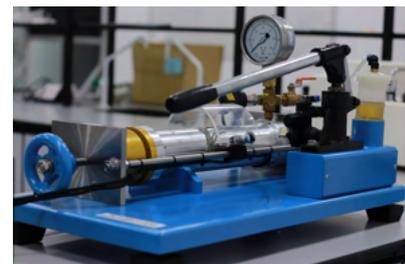
## New engineering lab



The Engineering Lab is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment including high quality measuring, testing and manufacturing equipment such as Lathe and Milling Machines, 3D Printers, Hardness testing equipment, thin cylinders, tensile and compression testing devices.

The lab also has high tech equipment for electrical and electronic technology, such as DC and AC motor kits, FPGA development boards and complete test benches with hundreds of components to give students hands-on knowledge of various electrical and electronics concepts.

The lab provides students with a diverse range of practical skills in Electrical, Mechanical and Electronic sub-domains of the Engineering programme, enabling them to specialise in avionics, manufacturing and process engineering to satisfy the emerging trends and growing engineering demands in the UAE and beyond.



# Faculty news



## Collaboration with Lancaster University

BUIID's Centre for Research in Digital Education collaborated with Lancaster University's Centre for Technology Enhanced Learning (CTEL) and hosted a webinar on 27 April 2021 titled 'Technology Enhanced Learning in the MENA Region'. It was the launch event for a special issue of CTEL's Studies in Technology Enhanced Learning journal. Dr Tendai Charles, Director of the Centre for Research in Digital Education and Dr Chris Hill, Associate Professor of Education, were invited editors for this special issue and speakers at the webinar. BUIID is committed to the advancement of Digital Education in MENA, through international research collaborations.



## BUIID professor wins Dubai Courts competition



Professor Khaled Shaalan, Head of Computer Science programmes, won the third place in the 'Innovate with Human Resources' competition organised by Dubai Courts. Professor Shaalan won the award for his proposal of a Legal Document Classification Model which aims to classify legal files automatically using artificial intelligence.

The main objective of the project is to reduce manual work which will result in reducing costs and errors and making file sorting, saving and referral to cases with similar rulings easier.

# Research news



## The Fifth International Conference on AI Computational Linguistics (ACLing 2021)

ACLing

**BUID organised ACLing 2021 in collaboration with Newgiza University in Egypt. The 2-day conference was held virtually on 4-5 June 2021. Professor Mona Diab, Professor of Computer Science at George Washington University, gave the keynote speech titled 'Faithfulness in natural language generation in an era of heightened ethical AI awareness: opportunities for MT'. The conference was co-chaired by Professor Shaalan and Professor Samhaa El-Beltagy, the Dean of the School of Information Technology at Newgiza University.**

**The scope of the conference encompasses the theory and practice of all aspects of AI in Computational Linguistics with regard to text, audio, image, and video. All accepted papers in ACLing 2021 will be published in Procedia Computer Science by ELSEVIER.**

## Leading Education in Times of Crisis and Beyond

**The Faculty of Education organised a conference under the theme 'Leading Education in Times of Crisis and Beyond' on 29 May 2021. The keynote was delivered by Professor Stephen McKinney from the University of Glasgow.**

**There were 20 international presenters from Australia, Bangladesh, India, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, UAE, UK, Ukraine, and USA. Nearly 20 of BUID's students also participated in the conference.**

**The conference aimed to explore opportunities and challenges of leading education in the pandemic and post-pandemic world and to create a platform to share innovative perspectives and approaches to leading in times of crisis and beyond.**



# Student and alumni news



## BUID student selected as a member of the Youth Council



**Waheed Almasri, student on the MSc in Sustainable Design of the Built Environment, was selected as a member of the Youth Council formed by the UAE Society of Engineers in the role of Strategic Planner and Media Coordinator. Waheed has participated in multiple events in the UAE and abroad and was selected for his active role in promoting sustainability.**

## BUID student selected for his outstanding performance at the speech contest organised by Silk-Road Universities Network (SUN)



Certificate of Award



**Mr. Majid Alamoudi**

British University Dubai, UAE

This certificate proudly recognizes the outstanding performance of the above student in the speech contest held as part of DECOS (Debate Contest of SUN) in 2020.

Conferred  
On this day 14th of June of the year 2021

by  
Sungdon Hwang, Ph.D.   
Secretary-General  
Silk-Road Universities Network (SUN)



**Majid Alamoudi, BSc in Computer Science (Artificial Intelligence), was recognised for his outstanding performance at the speech contest which was organised by Silk-Road Universities Network (SUN) under the theme, 'Speaking hopes in the era of COVID-19'.**

**The debate aimed to demonstrate the skills of the participating students and to improve their knowledge in different topics including multiculturalism, economic development and the Silk-Road origins and relevance in the international horizons.**



## BUID team selected to participate in Solar Decathlon 2021 competition

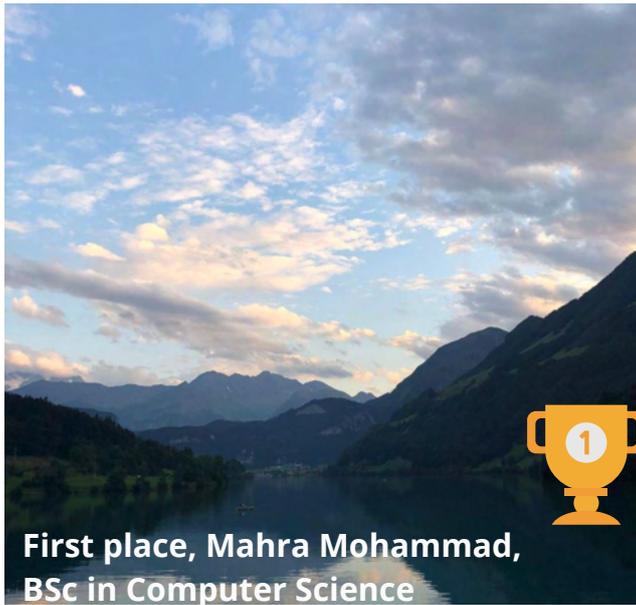
BUID's team 'Harmony', comprising of 18 students and alumni, was shortlisted to participate in the Solar Decathlon ME design competition organised by DEWA which will take place in Dubai Expo 2020. All design proposals entered into the competition focused on solving the issues and needs of sustainable living in the Middle East.

Harmony aims to design the most sustainable and smart net zero house and to find new ways to save energy using renewable resources. The team is inspired by the theme of Dubai Expo 2020 ('Connecting Minds, Creating the Future') which is reflected in the design. The Harmony home will be a space for living and a platform to connect people together. It will use innovative ways to make the space flexible so it can be utilised according to its inhabitants' needs.



Team Harmony members at the construction site of their solar-powered house

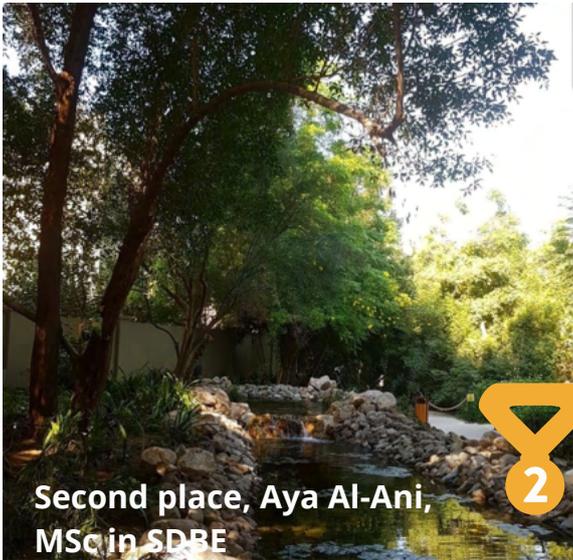
# Capture & Caption It Photography Contest



First place, Mahra Mohammad,  
BSc in Computer Science



The University and the Student Council organised the Capture & Caption It Photography Contest under the theme 'Nature's Best' on 29 March 2021. Our talented students showcased their breathtaking photos of nature in and out of the UAE. Here are the best 3 photos.



Second place, Aya Al-Ani,  
MSc in SDPE



Third place, Zobia Tayyab,  
BSc in Computer Science



## University magazine



The University published the inaugural edition of its magazine, Connections, which features students' articles and contributions by staff. The main objective of launching the magazine was to push the boundaries of students and to get them into the habit of publishing.



# Training news



## Doctoral Training Centre (DTC)

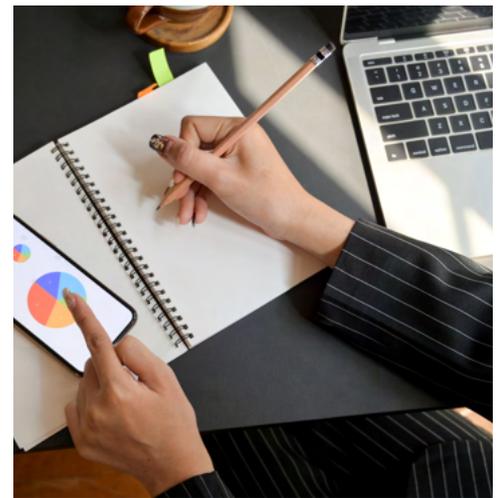
This year the DTC offered its workshops online. Three new workshops, 'Enhance your Research with Philosophy', 'Research Ethics' and 'Qualitative Data Analysis-Thematic analysis' were offered.



## Professional Development & Examinations Centre (PDEC)

PDEC expanded its training portfolio to include cyber security training and certification.

PDEC also delivered exams for the Community Development Authority (CDA), NEBOSH exams and IELTS in partnership with the British Council.



## BUID Achievement & Career Excellence (B.ACE)

BUID's new centre, B.ACE, offers its services to students who are currently registered at BUID and are in their 3rd year of study, and to alumni for up to two years after their graduation.

Different virtual webinars were organised including: Cultivating Relationships for Career Growth, Writing an Effective Resume, and Market Drivers for Evolution of Team Collaboration - The New Normal During Pandemic.



# New campus



To enhance our students' learning experience as well as their campus life, the University is in the process of planning a new campus, which will be our first independent home. With our new campus come plans for an open learning commons which will act as a hub and centre for all research, library, IT, and student affairs. We want our new home to feature state-of-the-art AV-equipped teaching spaces and technology-enhanced facilities for all our programmes. BUIID's new space will be distinctive, focusing on the student experience, encouraging student-staff interaction, and providing a stimulating yet practical environment in which to study and work.

connect with us  
[www.buid.ac.ae](http://www.buid.ac.ae)

