

Nahla Ahmed Al Qassimi

Dean of Students, Ajman University -Ajman –UAE

Contact Information

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Country: Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

Target Job

Career Level : Executive leadership

Career Objective: High caliber doctorate in Architectural Engineering with specialization in the urban built environment with 15+ years of rich diverse leadership experience in the Middle East. Expertise in managing audit, risk management, governance & fraud prevention domains across business units of a large conglomerate. Adept in developing strategies , formulating, implementing and updating systems, processes, policies and procedures and crises management .Contributing to organizational objectives of sustainable profitable growth . Extensive experience in large projects in the real estate, government & private sectors covering mix use developments, housing, schools and private villas. Skilled in building, reinforcing and sustaining productive relations with all internal and external stake holders. Sound technical & commercial expertise in all areas of real estate and construction business. Active leadership roles in professional bodies leading to continuous upgrades in knowledge, skills and professional network.

Personal Information

Gender : Female
Nationality : United Arab Emirates

Experience (+16 Years)

Dean of Students

at Ajman University, Location Ajman.

Company Industry: Education
Job Role management
Jan 2017-Present

Responsibilities

- Managing and supervising the operation plans of all offices under Deanship student services .
- Redesigned freshman and transfer student orientations and increase student participation and engagement in activities and development programs
- Lead strategic planning efforts for the deanship of student services

- Participate in the hiring, evaluation, performance intervention and retention of faculty and staff members in student services offices , and make appropriate recommendations to the Vice Chancellor office .
- Coordinate the preparation, submission and administration of assigned student services operating budgets and grants
- Responsible for establishing, communicating, and maintaining student support and advising for over 6700 undergraduate and graduate students.
- Manage the budget of all offices under Student services deanship
- Interpret, assess, and make recommendation on university policies and procedures as they relate to the matriculation, retention, and transition of students and disseminate these policies to students, faculty, and staff.
- Coordinate collaborative efforts among administrative and academic departments aimed at strengthening a culture of student success.

Other leadership roles in the university:

- Chair of strategic transformational Student services sub- committee.
- Chair of staff personal affairs committee
- Co-chair of staff legal affairs committee
- Co-chair of Ruler's court scholarship committee

Assistant Professor

at Ajman University, Faculty of Engineering **Location:**

Ajman Company Industry: Education

Job Role Lecturer, Training

Jan 2015-Present

Responsibilities

- Teach a course load appropriate to the field of Architecture and Urban Planning
- Modify where appropriate instructional methods & strategies to meet the faculty & students' needs
- Employ available instructional technology
- Incorporate core competencies into curriculum
- Develop, update. And post course syllabi in timely manner
- Maintain accurate records of student progress & submit final grade roster to division administrator each semester according to establish deadlines
- Participate the collage divisional and program committees.
- Organize workshops and activities
- Contribute in the undergraduate and graduate programs
- Organize workshops, events and activities which help to grow and develop the department reputation

The courses are:

- Architecture design courses
- Housing Theories & Design
- Urban Design
- Real Estate Development Management
- Jury member of graduate projects.

Manager - Special Projects

at Dubai World Corporation **Location:** Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Company Industry: Real Estate, Investment

Job Role: Management

June 2013 –31/ December 2014

Responsibilities

Fraud Investigation & Prevention

- Manage fraud investigation assignments by obtaining, gathering & analyzing evidence. Ensure maintenance of chain of custody for evidence gathered as per IMF, ACFE and other international standards.
- Prepare detailed reviews of fraud investigation assignments including specific reviews of aspects of major investigations.
- Prepare detailed reports of findings with supporting evidence and recommendations for corrective actions to improve operations and follow up implementation of approved recommendations.
- Provide expertise & guidance to audit teams in gathering & analyzing evidence and reaching fact based conclusions.
- Coordinate with external & internal agencies on legal aspects of fraud investigations.

- Contribute to prevention of fraud by reviewing policies & procedures and recommending measures & internal controls to prevent recurrence.

Group Internal Audit activities

- Participate in implementing the GIA Charter to enable Group Internal Audit (GIA) in effective fulfilment of added responsibility of audit oversight.
- Coordinate with & support QACA in implementing projects related to shared best practices, CSA and continuous auditing.
- Conduct and analyze employee surveys and report findings with recommendations for resolving identified issues to GIA management.
- Establish individual objectives, develop & motivate staff to improve performance & productivity and contribute to the effective achievement of GIA objectives.
- Identify & recommend opportunities of continuous improvements of the department's systems, processes and practices to align with international best practices and deliver substantial benefits through cost reduction and productivity improvement.

Assistant Audit Manager - Technical

at Dubai World Corporation **Location:** Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Company Industry: Real Estate, Investment

Job Role: Management

- identify the audit universe and audit plan
- Oversee risk assessment activities and develop a risk-based audit plan
- Identify the controls that mitigate those risks& perform testing of internal controls identified.

June 2011 - June 2013 **Regional Audits**

- DP World Hamriyah Port Development
- DP World Procurement & Contracts, UAE region
- Light Industrial Units for EZ World
- Showroom & Warehouse, JAFZA South for EZ World
- Jumeirah Golf Estates
- JAFZA Convention Centre project, EZ World
- Labour Accommodation projects for EZ World

Responsibilities

Business Unit Risk Management

- Review all key processes of Business Units and recommend revamps & improvements.
- Business plans, feasibility studies, design controls and associated processes
- Value engineering & lifecycle cost management
- Tender documentation, tendering, evaluation & recommendation process
- Contract documentation and review of its risk matrix
- Project management & program management
- Method statements for execution of complex project jobs, QA/QC controls
- Post contract operational controls - valuations, variations, claims & final close-out
- Asset management & community management

Project Risk Management

- Understand the senior management's concerns and identify the inherent & residual risks in order to define the audit priorities. Prepare detailed risk register including the nature of Project, likely hoods and impact.
- Design risk based audit plan for construction projects to evaluate adequacy of internal controls and nature of business operations & assign risk rating.
- Design& implement risk management strategies & solutions for Dubai World real estate business units & construction teams. Led cross-functional teams in high profile projects and provided construction management leadership.
- Review and ensure adequacy of business unit risks & controls across lifecycle of various construction projects.
- Review the approved project budget & responsibility matrix. Review initial & revised plans & budget approvals.
- Participate in the review & selection processes for qualified bidders and award of contracts monitoring adherence to corporate policies & procedures. Evaluate & ensure that construction bills submitted by contractors were appropriated, supported by documents and properly recorded by the Corporation.
- Evaluate construction processes of projects and determined achievement of targeted effectiveness, efficiency and economical objectives.
- Review pricing of specific components of change orders and evaluate their impact on overall value of the contract .
- Prepare Audit findings & recommendations
- Communicate& negotiate the corrective action plan with the auditee

- Track status of audit findings
- Conduct the follow up assignments to ensure the proper implementation of the corrective actions agreed in the report
- Track developments in the business, discuss forthcoming audit

Senior Technical Auditor

- at Dubai World Corporation **Location:** Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Company Industry: Other
Job Role: Management
 March 2010 - June 2011 **Responsibilities**

Technical Audit Operations

- Led a team of auditors and executed audits of real estate development units of the group.
- Planned audit assignments including identification & definition of issues and establishing criteria. Conducted interviews with auditees, reviewed documents, evaluated evidence, conducted technical analysis, approved work papers and composed summary memos.
- Documented & analyzed audited department processes & procedures and evaluated compliance with best industry practices, laws, rules, regulations, policies & procedures.
- Based on the findings of audit, develop conclusions, issues & recommendations and discuss with auditee to elicit response. Compile factual draft audit report and submit for management review.

Technical Evaluation

- Evaluated construction processes of projects and determined achievement of targeted effectiveness, efficiency and economical objectives.
- Reviewed pricing of specific components of change orders and evaluated their impact on overall value of the contract

Audit Management

- Guided & supported the audit team in preparing required paperwork, administrative regulations & security procedures and general audit procedures.
- Enforced strict compliance with all approved processes, policies and procedures across the audit cycle.
- Developed & sustained productive working relations with staff and clients through individual contacts and group meetings.
- Supervise the follow up process with the auditee to ensure implementation of the action plans.

Project & Acting Operation Manager

at Gulf Company for Contracting & General Enterprises under Gulf Group Holding **Location:** Ras Al Khaimah, United Arab Emirates

Company Industry: Construction

Job Role: Management

January 2009 - January 2010 **Highlights**

- Improved customer focus and orientation to business needs by adopting best practices and motivating engineering personnel.
- Reengineered processes and revamped problem areas and enhanced line efficiency across the production line.

Responsibilities

- As a key member of the management team, participated in all production & associated operations related to various projects.
- Led a team of engineers and supervised all on-site project management activities.

Partner

at The Scientific Centre for Urban Consultations **Location:** Cairo, Egypt

Company Industry: Architecture

Job Role: Management

April 1999 - August 2009 **Key Projects to Credit**

- Urban Planning & landscape works at several tourist resorts in Sharm El-Sheikh, Hurgada & Northern Coast, Egypt
- Architectural design & shop drawings for many housing projects & commercial centers in Cairo Egypt & UAE

Interior Design for many bank branches and villas. **Responsibilities**

- Led a team in executing diverse projects - urban planning & design, architectural design and interior design for clients in Egypt & UAE.

Lecturer-- Architectural Engineering Department

Lecturer **Location:** Cairo, Egypt

Company Industry: Education, Training, and Library

Job Role: Education/Training

January 2002 - January 2009 **Subjects taught**

- History & Theories of Planning - 3rd year
- Urban & Human Studies - 3rd year
- City Planning & Housing - 4th year

Lecturer- Faculty of Engineering

at October 6 University **Location:** Cairo, Egypt
Company Industry: Education, Training, and Library

Job Role: Education/Training

January 2001 - January 2002 **Subjects taught**

- Policies of Urban Management - 2nd year
- Housing - 2nd year
- Urban Design - 3rd year
- Feasibility Studies & Managing Urban Projects, 3rd year
- Urban Legislations - 3rd year.

Education

, Architectural Engineer

at Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University

Location: Cairo, Egypt

Completion Date : January 2008

Ph.D. in Architectural Engineering - Town Planning

Thesis: Towards a Development Model for Managing Mechanisms of the Real Estate Market

Master's degree , Architectural Engineering

at Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University

Location: Cairo, Egypt

Completion Date : January 1995

Masters in Architectural Engineering - Town Planning

Thesis: Determiners of Urban Development in Dubai

Bachelor's degree, Architectural Engineering

at UAE University

Location: UAE, Al Ain

Completion Date : June 1990

Bachelor of Architectural Engineering

Training

- Government leadership program ,Executive leaders level UAE Prim Minister office , Oxford Said business school ,Feb2020-May2021
- Awareness session on ISR & Group ISR Policies, Group Information Security Committee (GISC), Jan 2014
- 'Lie to Me' Workshop, UAE IAA, Nov 2013
- Finance for non-Finance Personnel - Management Development Program (MDP), Oct 2013

- CIA Part 1, UAE IAA, Sep 2013
- ISO 31000 Risk Management, UAE IAA, Sep 2013
- The craft of technical & scientific writing & presentation, May 2012
- Construction Audit - Advanced Techniques, UAE IAA, May 2011
- Introduction to Construction Audit, UAE IAA, May 2011
- COSO Enterprise Risk Management - Integrated Framework, UAE IAA, Oct 2010
- Internal Audit Report Writing, UAE IAA, Oct 2010
- How to conduct Operational Audits, UAE IAA, Oct 2010
- How to Conduct Risk Based Audits, UAE IAA, Oct 2010
- Developing women in small projects - a specialized training course, National Centre of Women, Jan 2006
- Real Estate Appraisal - a specialized training course, Centre of Real Estate Appraisal, Cairo University, Dec 2005

Conferences

- WFEO Meetings *Millburn ,Australia*, 18-24 November 2019
- World Engineers Convention(WEC2019),E *Engineering a Sustainable World: the next 100 years, Millburn ,Australia November,20-22,2019*
- International IIA Audit Conference, UAE IAA, Abu Dhabi, Nov 2014Ajman 4th International Environment Conference 2018
- Ajman 4th International Environment Conference “smart cities and Green Innovations”, Ajman, Feb, 2016
- 5th Annual Chief Executive Audit Conference, UAE IAA, Abu Dhabi, Nov 2014
- 1st UAE Project Management Conference ,UAE, Dubai, May 2015
- 16th Annual Regional Gulf Audit Conference, UAE IAA, Apr 2015
- 4th Annual Chief Executive Audit Conference, UAE IAA, Abu Dhabi, Nov 2014.
- GIARA First Annual Audit Conference, Dubai Aviation City, Jun 2014
- .Howkama Governance Forum, Dubai, Jun 2014
- 15th Annual Regional Gulf Audit Conference, UAE IAA, Apr 2014
- 5th Anti-Corruption Summit, American Conference Institute (ACI), Dubai Feb 2014
- Financial Audit Quality Assurance, Financial Audit Department, Dubai, Jan 2014
- 3rd Annual Chief Executive Audit Conference, UAE IAA, Dubai, Nov 2013
- 14th Annual Regional Gulf Audit Conference, UAE IAA, Apr 2013
- 3rd Annual Architectural Conservation Conference & Exhibition, Society of Engineers UAE, Dubai Dec 2012
- 2nd Annual Chief Executive Audit Conference, UAE IAA, Abu Dhabi Nov 2012
- 13th Annual Regional Gulf Audit Conference, UAE IAA, Dubai Apr 2012 12th Annual Regional Gulf Audit Conference, UAE IAA, Dubai Apr 2011
- 14th Gulf Engineering Forum - Intelligent Transport Systems, Society of Engineers UAE, Dubai Sep 2010
- 11th Annual Regional Gulf Audit Conference, UAE IAA, Abu Dhabi, Apr 2010

Technical Paper Presentations

- Towards a Development model for managing mechanisms of the Egyptian real estate market, Journal of the Faculty of Engineering, Helwan University, Matariya Branch Egypt, Volume 117, Jun 2008
- Commercial Centres and their impact on construction between yesterday & today, Architectural Conference, Jordan, 2005
- Renewable Energy & New Cities and their role in Urban Development, Rural Development Conference, Menoufiya University Egypt, 2002
- Role of legislations in the Urban Environment, Conference on Urban Environment, Ministry of Housing Cairo, 2003
- Developing the Urban Environment is a Double-edged weapon, Interbuild Egypt Conference on Housing & Construction Instruments, Cairo
- Engineering Information Bank, Tunisian Conference for Arab Consultative Engineers, Tunisia
- The effect of Israeli settlements on Arab urban structures, Jordan Construction Conference, Amman, Oct 2003

Publications:

- Analyzing the Users' Satisfaction Levels and Perceptions of the Dubai Water Canal for Future Waterfront Development in UAE, *Future Cities and Environment*
- Sep, 2021 - futurecitiesandenvironment.com
- The Analysis of the Japanese “Borrowed Landscape” Concept in Tadao Ando’Architecture
 - International Journal of Advanced Research in Engineering Innovation, Oct. 2021

- The Analysis of the Common Denominators of Tadao Ando's Museum Architecture Asian Journal of Arts, Culture and Tourism,2021
- The Analysis of the Media Façade in Dubai for Community Invigoration, international Journal of Advanced Research in Engineering Innovation,2021
- The Analysis of Multi-sensory Environments for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in United Arab Emirates, Asian Journal of Research in Education and Social Sciences,Aug.2021.
- The Evolution of Dynamicity in Architecture of Frank Gehry, International Journal of Advanced Research in Engineering Innovation, Sep2021.
- The Typology of Water Composition in Tadao Ando's Architecture, Asian Journal of Arts, Culture and Tourism,June 2021.
- An Analysis of Peter Zumthor's Architecture Based on Regionalism,International Journal Advanced research in Engineering innovation,Jan.2021.
- The Typology of Water Composition in Tadao Ando's Architecture, Asian Journal of Arts, Culture and Tourism,June2021.
- The Effect of Air Purifying Plants on the Reduction of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) during the Four Seasons in UAE, Frontiers in Built Environment
- The Evaluation of Residents' Health in High-Rise Residential Buildings in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Frontiers in Built Environment,Nov.2021.

Honors & Awards

- 2020 women leadership in developing Engineering sectors in Arab world , Federation of Arab Engineers ,Jordan Feb,2020
- Women leaders in Engineering sector , Kuwait Society of Engineers , Kuwait , Feb, 2020
- 2018 IAA award for contribution of the success of Institution of Internal Auditors IIA international conference
- 2010-Shaikh Mohamed Bin Rashid Award of Academic Excellence
- 2010-Dubai-World GIA Department Award in Appreciation for contribution towards the savings of 2 million to setting up the GIA office and 9 million overall to Dubai World,
- 2011-Government of Dubai-Department of Finance for participating in a workshop of "activation of the role of Internal Controls in Dubai Government.
- 2013-Certification of Appreciation from UAE Internal Audit Association an IIA Global affiliate for Contribution of Sawyers Translation Project

Languages

Arabic Level: **Expert**

English Level: **Expert**

Rashid bin Humaid award for culture and Science

Role: Member of Board of Governors

UAE Society of Engineers

Role: Vice President of Board of Governance since June 2021

Member of Board of Governors April 2018-present

Chair of UAE SOE Women Engineer
Committee June 2021-Present.

Chair of Youth Engineers council
2018-2021.

UAE Internal Audit Association (UAE IAA)

/Role: Member of Board of Governors
September 2012 to April 2019

**National Association of
Construction Auditors (NACA)**

Role; Membership/
September 2011 to 2015

Professional Certifications

UAE Government leadership Program , Executive leaders ,

Issued in: May 2021

Risk Management Assurance (CRMA), Institute of Internal Auditors (IAA) (Certificate)

Issued in: January 2013

**Construction Control Professional (CCP), National Association of Construction Auditors (NACA)
(Certificate)**

Issued in: January 2011

Certified Construction Auditor (CCA), NACA (Certificate)

Hobbies and Interests

Traveling, reading, networking

