



Ghassan Aouad

Chancellor of Abu Dhabi University, Past President ...

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Introducing Myself

Many colleagues have asked me to introduce myself after I have introduced so many others on [LinkedIn](#). Initially, I was reluctant, but I realized it was important to do this. It is not about being self-centered but about reminding colleagues of my academic background.

I have been the Chancellor of [Abu Dhabi University](#) for over two years. Before joining ADU, I served as President of [Applied Science University Bahrain](#) for over eight years.

Regarding my academic qualifications, I hold a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from [Beirut Arab University](#) and a Master's in Construction and PhD in Construction IT from [Loughborough University](#) in the UK. In 1992, I joined the [The University of Salford](#) as a Research Fellow and progressed to the role of Pro Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation and Dean of the College of Science & Technology, before leaving in December 2011. During that time, I successfully supervised 24 PhD students, externally examined 52 PhD students, authored 4 major research books, generated more than £18M in research funding. I have published over 100 papers in top-rated refereed journals, delivered more than 50 keynote speeches and invited lectures, and presented my work in over 42 countries.

I then broadened the geographical scope of my academic leadership by serving as President of the [University of Wollongong in Dubai](#) (UOWD) and Vice President for Academic Affairs at [Gulf University for Science and Technology](#) (GUST) in Kuwait.

Along the way, I had the honor of serving as Vice President and President of the [The Chartered Institute of Building \(CIOB\)](#) from 2010 to 2014. Additionally, I have served as Chair of the [QS Quacquarelli Symonds](#) Global Advisory Committee for the last four years. Together with colleagues, we organized the QS Middle East Higher Ed Summit in Dubai (twice), Kuwait, Ras Al-Khaimah, and the next summit will be hosted by GUST in Kuwait.

In July 2016, I received an Honorary Doctorate of Technology from Loughborough University. I am also a member of the [Advance HE](#) Leadership and Management Strategic Advisory Group. Moreover, I am a Fellow of Advance HE and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Building. My h-index is 45, and I have 8,189 citations on Google Scholar.

Throughout my academic career, I have achieved significant milestones, with one notable accomplishment being ADU's win of the [Times Higher Education](#) Awards Arab World 2024: the Leadership and Management Team of the Year Award.

I am fortunate to be surrounded by decent and hardworking people at ADU and assisted by a loyal and dedicated Executive Office Operations Manager ([Khulud Abdallah](#)) and we are all envisioned by a great leader, our Chairman Dr Ali Bin Harmal Aldhaheri, Ph.D. My eternal mentor remains Professor Peter Brandon.

My favorite quote is by Helen Keller: "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

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