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## The ADU Brief | April 2026: A Month of Achievement and Global Engagement



Abu Dhabi University  
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### Global Rankings and Accreditations Highlights

#### ADU Earns APM Accreditation for Master of Engineering Management Program



Congratulations to our College of Engineering on earning international accreditation from the Association for Project Management (APM) for its Master of Engineering Management. This recognition confirms the program's global relevance and connects students to a respected professional community that supports career development beyond the classroom.

[Learn More](#)

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## Enhancing Finance Learning Through Bloomberg Market Concepts Integration



ADU continues to enhance practical learning opportunities across its finance programmes through the integration of the Bloomberg Market Concepts (BMC) certificate. This self-paced e-learning programme introduces students to key financial concepts, including economic indicators, currencies, fixed income, and equities, using real-time data and tools available on the Bloomberg Terminal. Recognised across the global finance industry, the BMC certificate supports the development of applied market analysis skills and is embedded within advanced courses such as FIN401 (Investment) and FIN407 (International Finance), strengthening students' readiness for careers in the financial sector.

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## Faculty Achievements & Recognition

### A Growing Faculty Community of Advance HE Fellowships

ADU is proud of its growing community of **Advance HE Fellows**, including

**102** Fellows (FHEA)

**2** Associate Fellows (AFHEA)

**6** Principal Fellows (PFHEA)

**19** Senior Fellows (SFHEA)

reflecting a strong institutional commitment to excellence in teaching and learning.

ADU continues to advance its commitment to teaching excellence through its collaboration with Advance HE, strengthening academic practice and faculty development. By integrating innovative, data-informed approaches and future-ready pedagogies, the university enhances the student learning experience while fostering an inclusive and globally aligned academic environment.

[Learn More](#)

### Prof. Raphael Heffron Recognized as Expert on UAE Research Map



The graphic features the UAE Research Map logo on the left, which consists of a stylized map of the UAE composed of colored dots. To the right of the logo is the text 'UAE RESEARCH MAP'. Below this, it says 'JOIN ME AS AN EXPERT ON UAE RESEARCH MAP'. A circular portrait of Prof. Raphael Heffron is positioned to the right of the text. At the bottom, there are logos for the Advanced Technology Research Council, the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research, and the Emirates Research and Development Council, each with its name in both Arabic and English.

Prof. Raphael Heffron, Dean of the College of Law, has been recognized as an Expert on the UAE Research Map. This national platform brings together research capabilities, resources, and infrastructure, supporting collaboration between researchers and stakeholders across the UAE.

[Learn More](#)

### Springer Publishes the First ICASF 2024 Conference Proceedings Volume



ADU marked a key milestone in sustainability research with the publication of the first Conference on Advancing Sustainable Futures (ICASF) 2024 conference proceedings volume by Springer, titled Sustainability Through Multidisciplinary Innovation.

This Scopus-indexed publication reflects the growing impact of ICASF as a platform for research, innovation, and global collaboration. The conference has engaged over 1,900 participants from more than 90 countries and contributed to a strong portfolio of high-quality academic outputs, with additional volumes currently in progress.

A special note of recognition is extended to the two ADU editors who contributed to this published volume:

- Prof Nisreen Hassan Alwan, Professor of Environmental Health and Safety, College of Health Science
- Dr. Constantine Andoniou, Associate Professor of Education, College of Arts, Education & SS

[Learn More](#)

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## ADU Contributes to Global Dialogue on Green Skills at QS Global Skills Week 2026



ADU participated in global discussions on the future of green skills during QS Global Skills Week 2026, with Professor Sherine Farouk representing the university at the Green Skills Leadership Council alongside international leaders from academia and industry.

The session focused on how higher education institutions can better prepare graduates for climate-aligned careers through stronger industry collaboration, reskilling pathways, and structured green skills frameworks.

## Research Institute for Sustainable Futures delivers Y4S Expert Led Session on Sustainability Program



ADU's Research Institute for Sustainable Futures drives interdisciplinary research and partnerships to address key sustainability challenges and support the UAE's long-term resilience.

In collaboration with Masdar's Youth 4 Sustainability program, the Institute delivered a targeted training session for young sustainability leaders, focusing on core principles, global frameworks, and their alignment with national priorities.

The initiative aims to equip youth with the knowledge and skills needed to contribute to sustainable development and support the transition to a more resilient, future-ready economy.

## Industry and On-Campus Partnerships

### ADU Strengthens Industry Collaboration and Experiential Learning in Environmental Health



Abu Dhabi University's College of Health Sciences strengthened its industry engagement with Cleanco through a combined approach of experiential learning and strategic collaboration.

EHS students gained hands-on exposure to advanced waste management operations during site visits to Cleanco Waste Treatment facilities in Al Dhafra and Al Ain, enhancing their understanding of environmental practices and regulatory frameworks.

This was complemented by a collaborative engagement with Cleanco Facility Services, exploring opportunities in student training, academic-industry integration, and joint research initiatives, reinforcing the College's commitment to preparing future-ready graduates aligned with industry needs.

[Learn More](#)

### Driving Dialogue on Renewable Energy and the 2030 Agenda



The panel discussion "Advancing a Sustainable Future: Renewable Energy Developments and the 2030 Agenda," hosted by the Engineering Management Program at Abu Dhabi University's College of Engineering in collaboration with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office in the UAE, brought together expert perspectives on renewable energy and the 2030 Agenda. Moderated by Prof. Rahaf Ajaj, Associate Professor of Environmental Health and Safety, the session highlighted the importance of cross-sector collaboration in advancing sustainable development, with contributions from industry and international organizations enriching the dialogue.

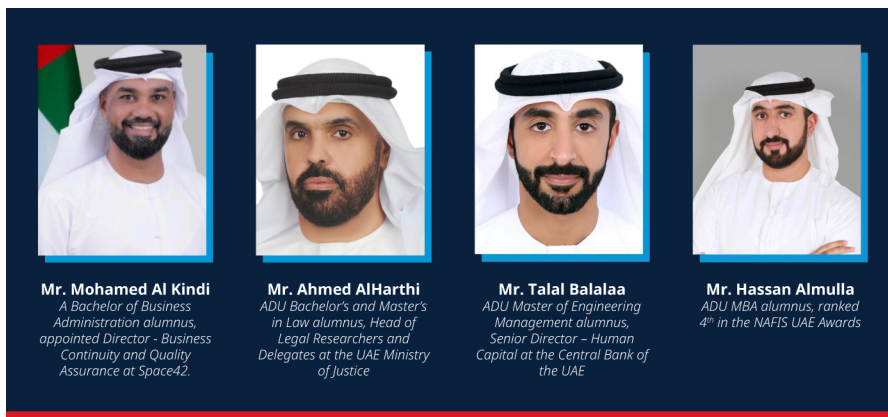
## Showcasing International Excellence

Building on its commitment to collaboration and knowledge exchange, ADU continues to strengthen strategic partnerships with leading institutions and organizations. These collaborations support the university's focus on academic excellence, industry alignment, and real-world impact, creating opportunities for students, faculty, and partners.



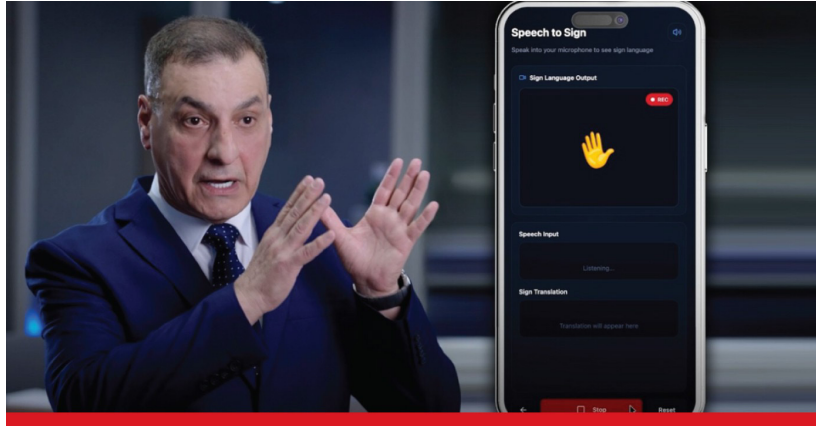
## ADU Alumni

ADU celebrates the achievements of its alumni, whose contributions across sectors reflect the impact of their academic experience and continued professional growth.



## College Achievements and Updates

### ADU Professor and Alumna Granted Patent for AI-Powered Multilingual Sign Language Translation Application



ADU has secured a patent for “HearMe,” an AI-powered sign language translation app developed by Prof. Modafar Ati in collaboration with alumna Ms. Reem Al Bostami. The platform enables real-time multilingual communication, supporting accessibility for People of Determination across education and professional settings.

[Learn More](#)

### ADU Advances Research Collaboration Through Abu Dhabi Biobank Initiative



ADU’s College of Health Sciences participated in the launch of the Abu Dhabi Biobank, a key national initiative supporting advanced healthcare research. The engagement highlights ADU’s commitment to research collaboration, innovation, and improving health outcomes through access to high-quality biological data, with appreciation extended to Professor Achraf Al Faraj, Dr. Afsheen Raza, and Professor Montasir Qasymeh for their leadership and contributions.

## Research Spotlight

### ADU Faculty Featured in Times Higher Education

ADU faculty continue to contribute to global academic discourse, with recent features in Times Higher Education highlighting research and thought leadership across disciplines. Dr. Mohammad AlKhedher, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, explores the potential of programmable wiring systems to advance innovation, sustainability, and remote learning in engineering applications. Meanwhile, Professor Haleama Al Sabbah, Professor of Public Health Nutrition, examines how collaborative approaches and digital health tools are strengthening public health research and supporting improved community outcomes in the UAE.



**Prof. Mohammad AlKhedher**

Professor of Mechanical Engineering



**Prof. Haleama Al Sabbah**

Professor of Public Health Nutrition

[Learn More about Prof. Mohammad's Research](#)

[Learn More about Prof. Haleama's Research](#)

### ADU Researchers of the Month



ADU continues to highlight the impact of its faculty through research and academic leadership. Dr. Muhammad Usman, Associate Professor of Business Analytics and Operations Management and Chair of Research Development and Doctoral Studies, focuses on leveraging AI and business analytics to support sustainable business models, smart supply chains, and healthcare solutions.

In parallel, Dr. Mahmmoud Syam, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Chair of the ASME Club at ADU, contributes to advancements in energy efficiency through his work on cooling systems, nanofluids, and waste-to-energy solutions, with publications in leading international journals.

Further reinforcing this impact, Dr. Erhan Atay, Associate Professor of Management, has published in Business Strategy and the Environment (ABDC A, ABS 3, Scopus Q1). In addition, Dr. Atay's research, co-authored with J. Uddin and titled "How Causal Ambiguity Sustains Competitive Advantage in Family Firms," has been accepted for presentation at the 86th Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, taking place from 31 July to 4 August 2026.

[Learn More About Dr. Muhammad](#)

### ADU Supports Student Well-Being and Community in Residence Halls



Abu Dhabi University's Residence Life team provided comprehensive support to dorm students during a period of global uncertainty, ensuring a safe, stable, and reassuring environment.

Through regular engagement by senior leadership, on-site counseling services, and a range of social and well-being activities, students received both emotional support and opportunities to stay connected. These efforts helped maintain academic continuity, reduce stress, and strengthen a sense of community, ensuring students felt supported throughout the period.

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