Abstract

Doing research is in part art and in part science. In this lecture, Professor Aouad will share his 25 years experience in order to demonstrate that doing research requires artistic as well as scientific skills. In this lecture, issues related to key performance indicators (KPIs) of research, PhDs and methodological approaches, publications, research bidding process, creating research capacity, linking research and innovation, and linking research and teaching will be addressed with practical examples. This lecture will be useful to established as well as early career researchers and PhD students.

About the Speaker

Professor Ghassan Aouad is the President of Applied Science University in Bahrain. Prior to this he was Vice President for Academic Affairs at Gulf University for Science & Technology (GUST) based in Kuwait. Prior to joining GUST he was the President of the University of Wollongong in Dubai (UOWD). During his time at UOWD, he led the development of the Strategic Plan 2013-2018 and the preparation of the documentation for the institution licensure renewal and the University achieved an increase of 13% in student recruitment. Prior to his role at UOWD, he was the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation and Dean of the College of Science and Technology at the University of Salford in the UK.

During his time in Salford, Professor Aouad successfully supervised 24 PhD students, externally examined 52 PhD students, authored 3 major research books and co-authored one book, generated more than £10M in research funding as Principal Investigator and £8M as Co-Investigator, published 92 papers in top rated refereed journals, delivered more than 50 keynote speeches and invited lectures, and presented his work in more than 42 countries. He joined the University of Salford in 1992 as a Research Fellow and has progressed through to the role of Pro Vice Chancellor Research and Innovation and Dean of the College of Science & Technology before he left in December 2011.

Prior to joining Salford, he spent five years in the Department of Civil and Building Engineering of Loughborough University (sponsored by Hariri Foundation), where he obtained his MSc in Construction (1987) and his PhD entitled Integrated Planning Systems for the Construction Industry (1991). Professor Aouad was appointed as Vice President of the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) in March 2010 and became President in June 2014. The Chartered Institute of Building is the world’s largest and most influential professional body for construction management and leadership established in 1834 with a membership of 45,000 from across the globe. Professor Aouad is the first president with a Middle Eastern background.