#### King Abdullah University of Science and Technology

## FACULTY RECOGNITION DINNER

Monday, November 06, 2023 Celebrating Excellence

Distinguished Teaching Award Nominees 2023





Leena Ibrahim Assistant Professor BESE



Joaquin Ortega Sanchez Instructional Professor CEMSE





Kyle Lauersen Assistant Professor BESE



Shadi Fatayer Assistant Professor PSE



Suhaib Fahmy Associate Professor CEMSE



Gyorgy Szekely Assistant Professor PSE



## Leena Ibrahim

Assistant Professor Bioscience BESE

- A seasoned mentor developed through years of guiding graduates and undergraduates in the lab and classroom.
- She employs an interactive teaching style, focusing on critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and active engagement.
- She encourages group activities to foster a collaborative learning environment and identifies misconceptions early through end-oflecture reviews.
- Dr. Ibrahim views science as an ongoing learning journey, emphasizing communication skills through oral presentations, written assignments, and conference participation. As an educator, she's dedicated to instilling her passion for science in students, equipping them with the confidence and tools to excel academically.

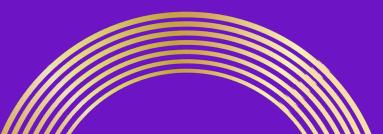




## Kyle Lauersen

Assistant Professor Bioengineering BESE

- A distinguished educator with experience in innovative teaching methods that cater to diverse learning styles.
- His passion for teaching began as a martial arts instructor, later extending to biological literacy and critical thinking in the scientific arena.
- Recognizing the importance of non-academic skills, he co-developed a "Scientific Soft Skills" course.
- Dr. Lauersen's philosophy prioritizes student engagement, critical thinking, and soft skills, preparing students for success beyond the classroom. His dedication to enriching student learning experiences makes him an inspiring figure in bioengineering education.





#### Suhaib Fahmy

Associate Professor Computer Science CEMSE

- He is a dynamic educator specializing in the ever-evolving fields of computer architecture and digital design.
- He prides himself on nurturing intellectual development and fostering a passion for learning, ensuring his teachings are grounded in real-world applications.
- His teaching materials are meticulously crafted, blending key points with engaging diagrams and animations. He promotes active learning through interactive lectures, posing questions and problems for students to solve and catering to various learning styles.
- Dr. Fahmy offers ample student support and constantly seeks to improve his teaching methods.

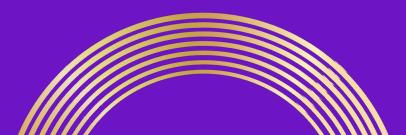




#### Joaquin Ortega Sanchez

Instructional Professor Statistics CEMSE

- He has a distinguished career teaching Applied Mathematics, Computational Science, and Statistics.
- He adeptly transitioned to new teaching methodologies during the pandemic, successfully implementing a flipped classroom approach for his Applied Statistics and Data Analysis course and creating high-quality digital materials. This innovative method, which involves independent learning supported by videos, written material, and software, received positive student feedback.
- Dr. Sanchez firmly believes in the power of passion in teaching, seeing it as a tool to engage students and inspire a love for science and understanding.

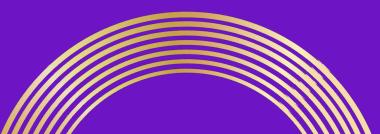




## Shadi Fatayer

Assistant Professor Applied Physics PSE

- He has an impressive track record in teaching, where he displayed a solid commitment to education, having taught courses, including Condensed Matter Physics and Advanced Nanoelectronics, which he created from scratch.
- His innovative teaching methods have earned him high praise from students across all divisions at KAUST.
- Known for his engaging and inclusive teaching style, he is celebrated for his ability to create a stimulating learning environment that encourages critical thinking and active participation.
- Outside the classroom, Dr. Fatayer makes significant contributions through his mentorship, shaping students' research approaches and attitudes toward academic pursuits.





## **Gyorgy Szekely**

Assistant Professor Chemical Engineering PSE

- He is a distinguished educator with exceptional teaching skills; he consistently receives high evaluations and is lauded by students for his engaging teaching methods and dedication to student success.
- His adaptability was highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic, where he leveraged various innovative techniques, including descriptive videos and QR codes, to enhance the remote learning experience.
- As a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, Dr. Szekely's focus on student support and course design has significantly impacted the program. He has also contributed substantially to advancing education for sustainable development at KAUST by integrating sustainability concepts into his teaching and creating courses on sustainability.

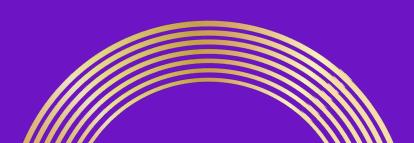


# Faculty Awards 2023



#### Salim Al-Babili

Professor Plant Science Elected as a Fellow of the International Carotenoid Society (ICS)





#### **Michael Berumen**

Professor Marine Science Outstanding Alumni Award - 2022 College Recipient - James Cook University College of Science and Engineering

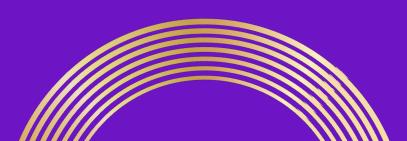




#### **Peiying Hong**

Professor Environmental Science and Engineering

#### Finalist - 2023 Letten Prize Award

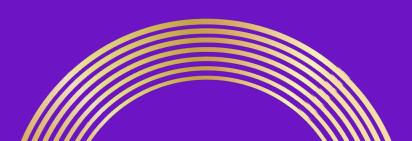




#### Leena Ibrahim

Assistant Professor Bioscience







#### Sahika Inal

Associate Professor Bioengineering

- 2022 PMSE Young Investigator Symposium Honoree - American Chemical Society (ACS) Polymer Materials and Science and Engineering Division
- > 2022 Beilby Medal recipient



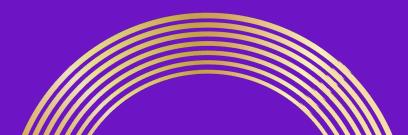


#### Himanshu Mishra

Associate Professor Environmental Science and Engineering "Top Innovator for Food Ecosystems in Arid Climates" Challenge Winner for startup Terraxy LLC - Let by the World Economic Forum Uplink Platform - Awarded by the Ministry of Economy and Planning of the

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (2023)

First Place ITAS Arab Youth Competition -University of Doha for Science and Technology - Awarded by the Prime Minister of Qatar (2023)





#### **Suzana Nunes**

Professor & Vice-Provost Environmental Science and Engineering

#### 2023 L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Laureate

2022 Honor from the American Institute of Chemical Engineering (AIChE) - Separation Divisions (SEP) for a lifetime of dedication and contributions to the fundamentals and application of membrane surface science and technology

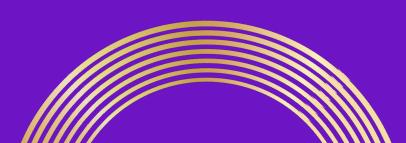




#### **Raquel Peixoto**

Associate Professor Marine Science

- 2022 Coral Champion Lewis Pugh Foundation
- Appointed Vice-President International Society for Microbial Ecology (ISME)
- Appointed Chair International Coral Reef Society (ICRS)





#### **Pascal Saikaly**

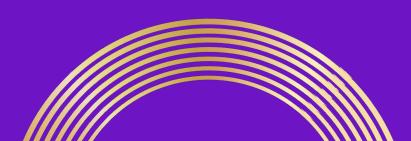
Professor Environmental Science and Engineering Inaugural 2021 Excellence in Review Awards
- ACS ES&T Water Announced in 2023





#### **Mark Tester**

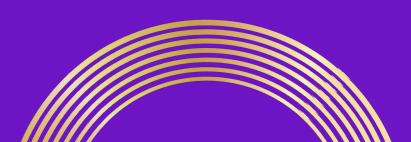
Professor Plant Science AE50 Award and Davidson Prize Winner for "Iyris Heat Blocking Greenhouse Roof, RedSea" - American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE)





#### **Yoshihide Wada**

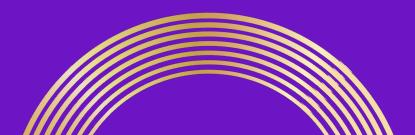
Professor Plant Science 2022 Rising Star of Science Award -Research.com





#### **Roberto Di Pietro**

Professor Computer Science

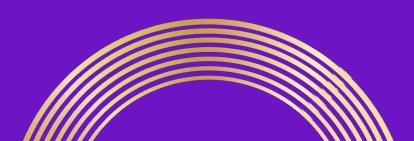


> 2023 Elected Member - Academia Europea



#### **Marc Genton**

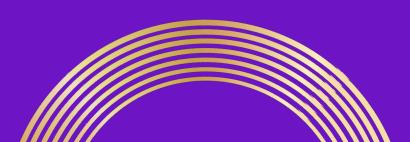
Professor Statistics 2023 Barnett Award - Royal Statistical Society (RSS)





#### **Wolfgang Heidrich**

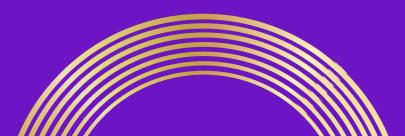
Professor Computer Science 2023 Computer Graphics Achievement Award - ACM Siggraph





#### **Peter Markowich**

Professor Applied Mathematics and Computational Science 2023 Elected Member - Academia Europea

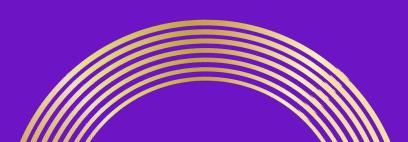




#### Paula Moraga

Assistant Professor Statistics

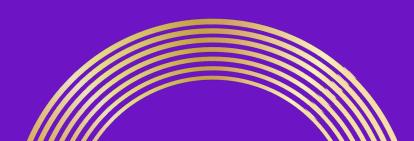
#### 2023 Letten Prize Award





#### **Atif Shamim**

Professor Electrical and Computer Engineering Selected Distinguished Lecturer - The IEEE AP-S Distinguished Lecturer Program (2022-2024)





#### **Athanasios Tzavaras**

Professor Applied Mathematics and Computational Science 2022 Elected Fellow - European Academy of Sciences (EurASc)





#### Jinchao Xu

Professor Applied Mathematics and Computational Science 2023 Elected Member - Academia Europea





#### Dana Al-Sulaiman

Assistant Professor Material Science and Engineering 2023 L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science (FWIS) Middle East Regional Young Talents Program Grant Winner - L'Oréal-UNESCO FWIS





#### **Tariq Alkhalifah**

Professor Earth Science and Engineering 2023 Kauffman Gold Medal Award - Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG)





#### **Husam Alshareef**

Professor Material Science and Engineering 2023 Elected Fellow - National Academy of Inventors (NAI)





#### **Derya Baran**

Associate Professor Material Science and Engineering

- AE50 Award and Davidson Prize Winner for "Iyris Heat Blocking Greenhouse Roof, RedSea" - American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE)
- "20 Women Behind Middle Eastern Tech Brands 2023" - Forbes Middle East





#### Min Suk Cha

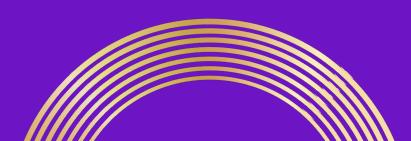
Associate Professor Mechanical Engineering  > 2023 Elected Fellow - Combustion Institute (CI)





#### **Aamir Farooq**

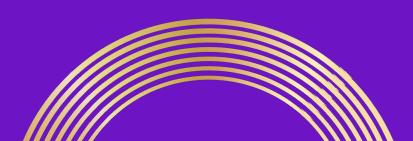
Professor Mechanical Engineering > 2022 Elected Fellow - Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC)





#### **Shadi Fatayer**

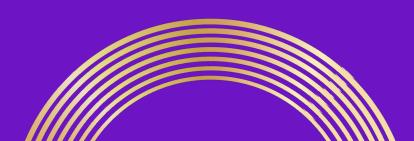
Assistant Professor Applied Physics 2022 High-profile paper Ernesto Vieitez Cortizo Award from the Royal Galician Academy of Science





#### **Qiaoqiang Gan**

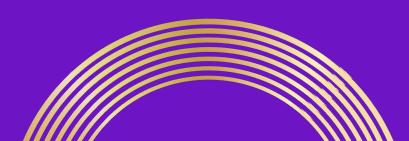
Professor Material Science and Engineering 2023 Elected Fellow - International Society for Optics and Photonics (SPIE)





#### **Carlos Grande**

Associate Professor Chemical Engineering 2022 Elected Member - International Adsorption Society Board of Directors





#### **Niveen Khashab**

Professor Chemistry 2023 Cram Lehn Pedersen Prize in Supramolecular Chemistry - ChemComm Journal, the Royal Society of Chemistry (ChemComm, RSC)





#### **Omar Mohammed**

Professor Material Science and Engineering  > 2023 Elected Fellow - Institute of Physics (IOP)





#### **Gyorgy Szekely**

Assistant Professor Chemical Engineering

- 2022 Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research's (I&ECR) Class of Influential Researchers Award - American Chemical Society (ACS)
- > 2023 Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering (SCE) Lectureship Award - American Chemical Society (ACS)
- 2022 Sustainability Award International Association of Advanced Materials' (IAAM)
- 2023 Elected Fellow Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC)

