



GCES 2021 Conference Schedule

Rethinking Educational Reform in the GCC: Reflecting on the Past to Inform the Future

Day 1: Sunday, March 21, 2021

Theme: *Bridging Past and Future Perspectives*

9.15 – 11.00 AST	Workshop: Collective Impact: Systems Theory and Shifting Paradigms through Grassroots Community Engagement Eleanor Burton – en.v, Kuwait Layan Al Dabt – en.v, Kuwait	Zoom
11.00 – 11.30 AST	Opening Remarks and Introduction to GCES Ahoud Al-Asfour, College of Basic Education, Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Kuwait N'Dri Thérèse Assié-Lumumba, Africana Studies and Research Center at Cornell University, World Council of Comparative Education Societies	Zoom
11.30 – 12.30 AST	Keynote 1: Learning to Live Futures through Re-Reading Pasts and Negotiating Presents Chair: Natasha Ridge Susan L. Robertson, Professor, University of Cambridge	Zoom
12.30 – 13.30 AST	Lunch Break	

<p>13.30 – 14.45</p> <p>AST</p>	<p>Panel 1: Addressing Student Performance in Literacy and Numeracy</p> <p>Chair: Abdullah Alajmi</p> <p><i>Perceptually Enhanced Textbooks for Early-Grade Reading: Why They Get Results</i></p> <p>Helen Abadzi, University of Texas at Arlington</p> <p><i>Exploring Attractor States that Impact Motivation Among L2 Learners of Arabic in the UAE</i></p> <p>Juwaeria Siddiqui, Carleton University</p> <p><i>The Effect of Home and School Characteristics on GCC Student Academic Achievement: Insights from TIMSS 2015 Data</i></p> <p>Abdulaziz Alenezi, Virginia Tech Ayeshah Alazmi, Kuwait University</p> <p><i>Measuring Quality of Privately-Owned Early Childhood Care and Education Centers in the United Arab Emirates: A Ras Al Khaimah Case Study</i></p> <p>Priti Verma, Higher Colleges of Technology</p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>14.45 – 15.45</p> <p>AST</p>	<p>Keynote 2: “Educational Cross-Currents” – A Recent Perspective</p> <p>Chair: Ahoud Al-Asfour</p> <p>Ahmed Al-Shahi, Research Fellow, University of Oxford</p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>15.45 – 16.00</p> <p>AST</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>	
<p>16.00 – 17.00</p> <p>AST</p>	<p>Panel 2: Rethinking Leadership Frameworks in Educational Institutions</p> <p>Chair: Aisha Alharthi</p>	<p>Zoom</p>





	<p><i>An Exploration of School Leadership in International Schools in Kuwait</i></p> <p>Mary Ellen Kelly, University of Toronto</p> <p><i>Investigating High School Students' Perceptions of Effective Leadership Practices in a Private School in Dubai, United Arab Emirates</i></p> <p>Azza Gamal El Din, The British University in Dubai</p> <p><i>Teacher Leadership in Qatari Government Schools: Opportunities and Challenges</i></p> <p>Rania Sawalhi, Qatar University</p>	
17.00 – 17.05 AST	<p>End of Day 1 Remarks</p> <p>Max Eckert, Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research</p> <p>Ahoud Al-Asfour, College of Basic Education, Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Kuwait</p>	Zoom

GCES 2021 Conference Schedule

Rethinking Educational Reform in the GCC: Reflecting on the Past to Inform the Future

Day 2: Monday, March 22, 2021

Theme: *Potential for Development and Educational Exchange*

9.10 – 9.15 AST	Announcements David Dingus , Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research	Zoom
9.15 – 10.15 AST	Keynote 3: The Need for a National Teacher Framework in Kuwait: A Situation Analysis of a Hidden Project Chair: Esra Aleisa Fatimah Alhashem , Assistant Professor, Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST)	Zoom
10.15 – 11.30 AST	Panel 3: The Nexus Between Education and State-Led Development Chair: Ahoud Al-Asfour <i>Sustaining the Relationship between Education and Development: An Analytical Vision and Practical Solutions to Promote Educational Development in Kuwait (Arabic)</i> Salwa Al-Jassar , Kuwait University <i>Vocational Training Centers' Attempts to Achieve Sustainable Development in Oman in Accordance with National Education Strategy 2040 from the Perspective of Employees and Trainees in Such Centers (Arabic)</i> Amal Alharmali , Ministry of Education, Oman <i>Educational Development in Light of Children's Rights Laws: Taking the Child-Friendly Schools Initiative in Sultanate Oman as a Model (Arabic)</i> Omer Hashim Ismail , Sultan Qaboos University	Zoom



	<p><i>The Role of Knowledge Economy in Building Development Plans of the State of Kuwait (Education as Case Study)</i></p> <p>Fawaz Al-Husainan, Georgetown University</p>	
11.30 – 12.30 AST	<p>Panel 4: Regional and International Comparative Studies About the Teaching Profession</p> <p>Chair: Salwa Al-Jassar</p> <p><i>Learning From Japan and Finland: What GCC Education Systems Could Adopt to Attract Citizens to the Teaching Profession?</i></p> <p>Khalaf Al'Abri, Sultan Qaboos University</p> <p><i>The Intention to Leave the Teaching Profession among Teachers in the Arab Gulf States: A Comparative Study (Arabic)</i></p> <p>Yasser Al-Mahdy, Sultan Qaboos University, Ain Shams University</p> <p><i>The Social Status of Teachers in Arab Social Milieus: A Comparative, Descriptive and Analytical Study (Arabic)</i></p> <p>Ali Said Almatari, Ministry of Education, Oman</p>	Zoom
12.30 – 13.30 AST	Lunch Break	
13.30 – 14.30 AST	<p>Keynote 4: Learning From Failure: Drawing Lessons from Educational Reform in the Global North</p> <p>Chair: Marvin Erfurth</p> <p>Diego Santori, Senior Lecturer, King's College London</p>	Zoom
14.30 – 15.45 AST	<p>Panel 5: Privatization and Collaborative Endeavors in Higher Education</p> <p>Chair: Khalaf Al-'Abri</p> <p><i>Role of Private Sector in Education: GCC Context</i></p>	Zoom

	<p>Kameswari Peddada, Arab Open University, Kuwait</p> <p><i>Privatizing Higher Education in The Arab Gulf States: A Comparative Examination of the Higher Education Systems in Kuwait and Oman</i></p> <p>Ahoud Al-Asfour, College of Basic Education, Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Kuwait</p> <p><i>Exploring the Rationales of Establishing a Bi-national ‘Made in Germany’ University in the Middle East</i></p> <p>Hayfa Jafar, University of Toronto</p> <p><i>A Proposed Mechanism to Enable Collaborative Research Partnerships Between Universities and Educational Departments in Saudi Arabia to Solve Educational Dilemmas in Light of Contemporary, Global Experiences (Arabic)</i></p> <p>Wafa Alahmadi, Imam Muhammad Ibn Saud Islamic University</p>	
<p>15.45 – 16.00</p> <p>AST</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>	
<p>16.00– 17.00</p> <p>AST</p>	<p>Panel 6: The Use of Education to Promote Inclusion, Emotional Intelligence, and Conflict Resolution</p> <p>Chair: Auhoud Albulushi</p> <p><i>Citizenship and Peace Learning in Muslim-Majority Contexts: Understandings of Lived Social Conflicts from Bangladeshi Schools</i></p> <p>Ahmed Kaderi, McMaster University</p> <p><i>Intersections Between School Culture, Curriculum, and Student Diversity: Making Sense of the Tolerance Discourse in UAE Schools</i></p> <p>Naved Bakali, American University in Dubai Mariam Alhashmi, Zayed University</p> <p><i>Strategies to Integrate Emotional Intelligence into Curricula (Arabic)</i></p> <p>Zainab AlAjmi, Ministry of Education, Oman</p>	<p>Zoom</p>





<p>17.00 – 18.15</p> <p>AST</p>	<p>Panel 7: Teachers’ Experiences, Perceptions, and Educational Performance</p> <p>Chair: Fatimah Alhashem</p> <p><i>A Quantitative Approach to Assess the Perceptions of Pre-Service Teachers and Their Instructors About TPACK Capabilities of Pre-Service Teachers: An Explanatory Study Among Selected UAE Universities</i></p> <p>Laila Mohebi, Zayed University</p> <p><i>Teachers’ Experiences of Marketization in the United Arab Emirates</i></p> <p>Emily Winchip, Zayed University</p> <p><i>General Education Pre-Service Teachers’ Perceptions and Knowledge of Inclusion and Students With Disabilities in Kuwait (Arabic)</i></p> <p>Bedoor Alazemi, Kuwait University</p> <p><i>Location as a Factor for Teacher Retention: Teacher Migration in K-12 Schools in the United Arab Emirates</i></p> <p>Tiffany Lachelle Smith, University of Minnesota</p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>18.15 – 18.20</p> <p>AST</p>	<p>End of Day 2 Remarks</p> <p>David Dingus, Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research</p>	<p>Zoom</p>

GCES 2021 Conference Schedule

Rethinking Educational Reform in the GCC: Reflecting on the Past to Inform the Future

Day 3: Tuesday, March 23, 2021

Theme: *Moving Forward and Learning from COVID-19*

9.10 – 9.15 AST	Welcome & Announcements Janaan Farhat , Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation for Policy Research	Zoom
9.15 – 10.30 AST	Panel 8: Higher Education and Schooling in the Gulf: A Historical, Social, and Political Examination of Educational Policies in the Region Chair: Khalaf Al-'Abri <i>The Institutional Framework Behind Kuwait's Educational Development in the Pre-Independence Period</i> (Arabic) Talal Al-Rashoud , Kuwait University <i>From National to International University: How has Internationalization Affected Academic Diversity and Production of Knowledge at Qatar University?</i> (Arabic) Esraa Al-Muftah , University of British Columbia, Qatar University <i>The Silent Voice in the Reform: Teachers' Role in Educational Reforms in Kuwait, Qatar, and Bahrain</i> (Arabic) Ibrahim Alhouti , UCL Institute of Education <i>On the Genealogy of the Ideal Girl: Schools, Girls, and Nation-building in Bahrain</i> Sara J. Musaifer , University of Minnesota	Zoom
10.30 – 11.30 AST	Panel 9: Learning from Teachers' Experiences Chair: Fatimah Alhashem <i>Voices Needed to be Heard: A Qualitative Exploration of Physical Education Teachers' Professional Learning Experiences in Post-Basic</i>	Zoom



	<p><i>Schools in Muscat</i></p> <p>Durayra Al Maqbali, Sultan Qaboos University</p> <p><i>Empowering Teachers to Lead the Reform Toward Promoting Genuine Change</i></p> <p>Ayman Hefnawi, Ministry of Education, UAE</p> <p><i>Teacher Reflection as a Catalyst for Intercultural Pedagogical Transfer</i></p> <p>Emily Anderson, Florida International University</p>	
11.30 – 12.30 AST	<p>Panel 10: The Need for Educational Reform in Curricula, Schools, and Universities</p> <p>Chair: Dr. Esra Aleisa</p> <p><i>Evidence-Based Curriculum Evaluation: The Much-Needed Link in Educational Reform Efforts</i></p> <p>Bechir Oueslati, Center for Excellence in Educational Development</p> <p><i>Comprehensive School Reform in Kuwait: Policy, Practice, and Performance</i></p> <p>Munirah AlAjmi, Kuwait University</p> <p><i>The Reality of Schools' Corruption and its Effects on Educational Reform in Kuwaiti Public Schools (Arabic)</i></p> <p>Meznah Saad Alazmi, Kuwait University Salma Faleh Alazmi, Kuwait University</p>	Zoom
12.30 – 13.30 AST	<p>Lunch Break</p>	
13.30 – 14.45 AST	<p>Panel 11: Tackling Challenges and Using Innovative Educational Practices</p> <p>Chair: Marvin Erfurth</p> <p><i>Impact of Peer Mentoring Role on Mentors' Personal Development and</i></p>	Zoom

	<p><i>Leadership Practices: A Study Among Undergraduate Emirati Female Students at a Higher Education Institution in the United Arab Emirates</i></p> <p>Sandra Baroudi, Zayed University</p> <p><i>The Impacts of Collaborative Works on Developing Critical Thinking: A Study Among High School Students in Two Private Schools in Abu Dhabi</i></p> <p>Maryana AlRabadi, The British University in Dubai</p> <p><i>Exploring the Use of Digital Storytelling in the GCC Educational Context: Evidence from a Literature Review</i></p> <p>Nilofar Noor and Manaal Syed, University of Toronto</p> <p><i>21st-Century Pedagogical Challenges in Higher Education: A Case Study of Dubai (UAE)</i></p> <p>Kanishka Bedi, Indian Ocean Comparative Education Society</p>	
<p>14.45 – 15.45</p> <p>AST</p>	<p>Panel 12: Educational Challenges During COVID-19</p> <p>Chair: Naif Daifullah Alsulami</p> <p><i>GCC Student Mothers' Challenges in Accessing Higher Education During the COVID-19 Pandemic</i></p> <p>Martina Dickson, Emirates College for Advanced Education</p> <p><i>Learning Online During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Survey About Emirati Undergraduate Students' Perceptions and Difficulties</i></p> <p>Annalisa Pavan, University of Padua</p> <p><i>Schooling Challenges in the Sultanate of Oman During and After COVID-19 Pandemic: Resilience and Sustainability (Arabic)</i></p> <p>Bushra Al-Ghaithi, Ministry of Education, Oman</p>	<p>Zoom</p>
<p>15.45 – 16.00</p> <p>AST</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>	
<p>16.00 – 17.00</p>	<p>Panel 13: Coping with the Pandemic: Students' Perceptions and Learning Mechanisms</p>	<p>Zoom</p>





AST	<p>Chair: Janaan Farhat</p> <p><i>A Framework for Selecting and Assessing e-Learning Tools</i></p> <p>Rashita Puthiya, Middlesex University Dubai</p> <p><i>Higher Education Students' Experience of Distance Learning During COVID-19</i></p> <p>Olga Samsonova, Higher Colleges of Technology</p> <p><i>The Educational Impact of the UAE's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Student Approaches to Studying, and Perceptions of the Distance Learning Environment</i></p> <p>Philip Anderson, Middlesex University Dubai Dawn England, Middlesex University Dubai</p>	
17.00 – 18.00 AST	<p>Panel 14: Lessons Learned From the Pandemic</p> <p>Chair: Auhoud Albulushi</p> <p><i>Positive Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Saudi Education System: My School Platform as a Model</i></p> <p>Naif Daifullah Alsulami, Umm Al-Qura University</p> <p><i>Prospects of Homeschooling in the UAE After the COVID-19 Pandemic</i></p> <p>Nafila Mahdi Al Ahababi, Ministry of Education, UAE</p> <p><i>The Career Development of Educational Bodies in the Gulf States During the (COVID-19) Pandemic: Cause and Effect (Arabic)</i></p> <p>Amthal Al Oraifan, Ministry of Education, Kuwait</p>	Zoom
18.00 – 18.20 AST	<p>End of Day 3 Remarks</p> <p>Ahoud Al-Asfour, College of Basic Education, Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Kuwait</p>	Zoom