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Editors and Contributors

About the Editors

Prof. Osama Tayeb served as president of King Abdulaziz University (KAU), Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, from 2003 to 2015. He is a professor of pharmacology at KAU. During his presidency at KAU, Prof. Tayeb also served as acting president of various newly established Saudi universities, including Taiba University, Jazan University and the Northern Borders University. As president of KAU, Prof. Tayeb spearheaded and presided over the major transformation that KAU underwent in order to achieve its current internationally recognized world-class university status. During this process, the majority of KAU's academic programmes were awarded accreditation from international accreditation agencies. KAU has consequently achieved its rightful ranking amongst the World's top 400 universities in the international ranking lists of Shanghai, QS, and the Times. Prof. Tayeb was the founder of the KAU International Advisory Board (IAB) and served as the chairman of IAB.

Prof. Adnan Zahed has been the vice-president for Graduate Studies and Scientific Research at King Abdulaziz University (KAU) since 2009. He is a professor of chemical engineering at KAU. As vice-president for Graduate Studies and Scientific Research, Prof. Zahed has maintained a high profile and has played a proactive role in the transformation of KAU into a university that is currently ranked as being of world-class status. Prof. Zahed's tenure has witnessed a huge increase in the numbers of scholarly publications of academic staff of KAU featured in ISI-ranked journals, which increased from 260 in 2009, up to 3600 in 2014. Various incentive programmes, initiated and implemented under Prof. Zahed's supervision and guidance, have resulted in notable increases in citation numbers, which also increased from 1100 in 2009 up to 21,000 in 2014. Prof. Zahed is the secretary general of the KAU IAB.

Prof. Jozef Ritzen a Dutch national, has been an honorary professor at Maastricht University since 2011 (chair at the International Economics of Higher Education, Science and Technology). Prof. Ritzen was president of Maastricht University from February 2003 to January 2011 and special adviser and vice-president of the World Bank from 1998 to 2003. He served as Minister of Education, Culture, and Science of the Netherlands from 1989 to 1999. Prof. Ritzen has academic appointments at Nijmegen University, Erasmus University in the Netherlands, the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, in the US. Prof. Ritzen is a member of the KAU IAB.

Contributors

Prof. Dr. Yücel Altunbaşak has served as the 9th president of the Scientific and Technological Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) since 2011. He has a BS in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from Bilkent University (1992) and an MS (1993) and PhD (1996) from University of Rochester. He started his early career in Hewlett-Packard's Palo Alto Laboratories in Silicon Valley and at Stanford University. His research work has focused on the intersection of key scientific advances and industrial application with over 200 papers and 50 patent and grant applications. He obtained his professorship from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology. From 2009 to 2011, Prof. Dr. Altunbaşak was president of TOBB University of Economics and Technology in Turkey where he licensed and successfully prototyped an MPEG processing device for a satellite and cable TV company. Prof. Altunbaşak initiated and was the driving force behind an image processing technology called "Pixellence" that has been awarded the Special Jury Award of the Turkish Industry and Business Association. Prof. Dr. Altunbaşak is a member of the KAU IAB.

Prof. Michael Arthur is president and provost of University College London (UCL). Prior to this, he was vice chancellor of the University of Leeds (2004–2013), and formerly dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences in Southampton. He is a hepatologist with research interests in liver cell biology. These interests developed initially at the University of California, San Francisco (1986–1988), and further developed whilst he was a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York (2002). Prof. Arthur became a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 1998. He was a member of the Medical Research Council (2006–2014). He has also been a US/UK Fulbright commissioner and is a former chair of both the Worldwide Universities Network and the Russell Group of Universities. Prof. Arthur is a member of the KAU IAB.

Prof. Guaning Su is president emeritus and professor of electrical and electronic engineering at Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. As president from 2003 to 2011, he led the transformation of NTU from an engineering and business teaching-focused university into a research intensive, science and technology-focused comprehensive university. Prof. Su is a member of the KAU IAB.

Chancellor Thomas Wilhelmsson Thomas Wilhelmsson, Doctor of Legal Science, has been professor of civil and commercial law at the University of Helsinki, Finland, since 1982. From 1998 to 2008, he was university vice-rector, in charge of international affairs. Prof. Wilhelmsson served as university rector from 2008 to 2013 and has served as university chancellor since 2013. As rector, Prof. Wilhelmsson presided over comprehensive university reforms, which transformed the university from a state institution into an independent public legal entity. He has been awarded the title Doctor Iuris Honoris Causa by the Uppsala, Oslo and Tartu universities. Prof. Wilhelmsson is a member of the KAU IAB.

Prof. Georg Winckler was appointed professor of economics at the University of Vienna in 1978 and has held visiting professorships at universities in the USA, Switzerland and Austria. In 1999, Prof. Winckler was elected as rector of the University of Vienna and served in this position for 12 years from 1999 to 2011. From 2001 to 2005, he was vice-president of the European University Association (EUA), the umbrella organization of nearly one thousand European universities. He was EUA President from 2005 to 2009. From 2004 to 2012, he was a member of the European Research Area Board, a top advisory board for the European Commission on Research Strategies. Prof. Winckler is currently president of ERSTE Stiftung, Vienna, Trustee of the Educational Testing Service (ETS), Princeton, and serves on boards of German and Austrian universities. Prof. Winckler is a member of the KAU IAB.