



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Navigating Digital Skills and Decent Work Conference

AND

SOHAR UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CONFERENCE SURC8

Organised by

Sohar University, UNESCO (Regional Office-Doha) and
the National Commission for Education, Science and Culture

DAY1 | 09th February 2025

08:30 – 09:30 AM **Registration**

09:30 – 10:30 AM **Opening Remarks**

› **Royal Anthem**

› **Sohar University Short Video**

› **Welcoming Speech**

Dr. Hamdan Sulaiman Al Fazari
Vice Chancellor, Sohar University

› **UNESCO Address**

Dr Anasse Bouhlal
Regional Programme Specialist for Higher Education and TVET
UNESCO Regional Office for GCC and Yemen

› **The National Commission for Education, Science and Culture Address**

Dr. Mahmood Abdullah Al Abri
Secretary - General
The Oman National Commission for Education, Culture and Science

10:30 – 10:50 AM **Keynote Speaker 1: Ethics and Rational AI**

Dragan Gasevic

PhD, Distinguished Professor of Learning Analytics
Faculty of Information Technology, Monash University, Australia

10:50 – 11:10 AM **Keynote Speaker 2: Readiness of Higher Education Educators in the AI Era**

Zian Cao

Chief (a.i.) of the Global Partnership and Programme Office
UNESCO-ICHEI, China

11:10 – 11:30 AM **Keynote Speaker 3: The Future of Skills and Job Transformation with AI**

Prof. Abdulnasir Hossen

UNESCO Chair on AI, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman

11:30 – 11:50 AM **Keynote Speaker 4: Ethical AI for Lifelong Learning**

Dr. Musab Al-Rawi

Director of ICESCO Chair for Artificial Intelligence (AI) Ethics
University of Technology and Applied Science, Sultanate of Oman

11:50 – 12:20 PM Short Break

12:20–12:40 PM Keynote Speaker 5: AI the Future of Skills and Job Transformation

Mr Ville Valtonen
MinnaLearn, Finland

12:40–01:00 PM Keynote Speaker 6: ESCWA Skills Monitoring Tool

Dr. Salim M. Araji
Future of Work, ESCWA

01:00–01:20 PM Keynote Speaker 7: Applications of AI in Oman

Professor Dale Keifer
University of Southern California, USA

01:20 – 02:00 PM Panel Discussion on Opportunities and Q&A

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Faculty of Information Technology, Monash University, Australia
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- Mr Ville Valtonen
MinnaLearn, Finland
- Dr. Salim M. Araji
Future of Work, ESCWA
- Moderator: Prof. Nur Naha Binti Abu Mansor
Dean of Faculty of Business, Sohar University, Oman

2:00 – 2:15 PM Day1 Closing Ceremony

2:15 – 3:30 PM Lunch

DAY1 | 10th February 2025

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09:00 – 09:30 AM Registration

09:30 – 11:30 AM PARALLEL SESSIONS 1 (FACE-TO-FACE AND ONLINE)

Session 1-1: Emerging and Advanced Technology (Focus on AI Applications and Innovations)

Session 1-2: Enterprise and Industry

Session 1-3: Environment

Session 1-4: Connecting Communities

Session 1-5: Postgraduate Track

12:15 – 12:30 AM Short Break

12:30 – 01:45 AM PARALLEL SESSIONS 2 (FACE-TO-FACE AND ONLINE)

Session 2-1: Emerging and Advanced Technology (Focus on AI Applications and Innovations)

Session 2-2: Enterprise and Industry

Session 2-3: Environment

Session 2-4: Connecting Communities

Session 2-5: Postgraduate Track

01:45 – 02:00 PM Day2 Closing Ceremony

02:00 – 03:30 PM Lunch