

Global Marathon, Middle East/Africa

Work-Life Balance for Women in Engineering – A Series of Interviews



IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to promoting women engineers and scientists. The mission of IEEE WIE is to inspire, engage, encourage, and empower IEEE women worldwide.

The IEEE WIE Alexandria AAST affinity group is child to the mother WIE worldwide. It was founded in 2005 by Eng. Sara El Kady, back then an undergraduate student in Power and Computer Department of the AAST (Arab Academy of Science and Technology). Ever since, the WIE AAST has managed to organize several events, technical and personal and engaging many members, females as well as males, in its variant activities.

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Nadia Al Hasani, Director of WISE (Women in Science & Engineering), Petroleum Institute



Dr. Nadia Al Hasani finished her bachelor degree at the college of Engineering at the University of Baghdad. She finished her masters at MIT then she did another masters and PhD in building technology at the University of Pennsylvania. She taught in a number of institutions in the U.S.A. University of Michigan, Notre Dame, University Miami in Florida and finally she taught at the University of Pennsylvania where she was teaching graduate programs only masters and PhDs. Dr. Nadia came to UAE eight years ago with the intention of staying one year. She was a professor at American University of Sharjah (AUS) and was there for eight years. She came in 1999 to the UAE and her last position there was the assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs. She then returned last year and spent her sabbatical year doing research at MIT at Harvard where she was recruited by the Petroleum Institute as the Director of the Women in Science Engineering Program.



Lana Chaar, Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering, Petroleum Institute

During her studies she worked as a Design Engineer at Schott Power Inc. while her main work was to develop an efficient battery charger for the electric vehicle. In 1997 she moved to Lebanon where she became an assistant professor at Beirut Arab University and a Lecturer at the American University in Lebanon. In 2002, she joined the Business and Computer University College as the Chair of the Communication Engineering Department and became a senior Lecturer at the American University in Beirut. In August 2005, she joined the Electrical Engineering Department as Assistant Professor at the American University in Dubai, UAE.



Ghada Bassioni, Research Assistant Professor, Petroleum Engineering, Petroleum Institute

Dr. Ghada Bassioni was born in Cairo, Egypt and spent her childhood in Dortmund, Germany. In 1982 she returned to Cairo to join the German school there. After finishing a high school diploma, she started her studies in the Faculty of Science, Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt. Although she was provided with a position as an assistant lecturer at the same university after her B.Sc., she decided to do a part of her Masters in Germany in the field of organometallic chemistry under supervision of Prof. Dr. F. H. Köhler at the Technical University in Munich, who gave her then the opportunity not only to teach chemistry but also to finish her Ph.D. in the same field. In 2005 she joined the Chair of Construction Chemicals of the Technical University in Munich for postdoctoral studies, where she worked in the research as a postdoc fellow for two years. She is joining us now with the aim to transfer her knowledge in organometallic and construction chemistry to students of the PI and to develop research in the field of petrochemistry.