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# HCI RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN ARABIC UNIVERSITIES

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**Abstract**

The main topic of this SIG is to discuss how the Human-Computer Interaction subject is present in the universities degrees and research groups from the Arabic countries. The SIG will contribute to disseminate the teaching and research activities from several Arabic universities of reference, and also will allow participants to exchange experiences and research opportunities.

**Keywords**

HCI, Research, Education, Arabic Universities

**ACM Classification Keywords**

H.5.0 General

**General Terms**

Human factors

**Introduction**

The "HCI Research and Education in Arabic Universities" SIG has the ambitious objective of identifying the next century challenges for Arabic universities as a mean to improve the HCI research and education and to promote their international presence in research and cooperation projects.

This SIG is based on the next premise: HCI research and education differ in quality, diversity, impact from European or America universities.

### **Brief Description of the Target Community**

This SIG session is directed to professors, researchers and students working and studying in the Computer sciences education field in Arabic countries. The SIG discusses, as specific topic, the actual situation of Human-Computer Interaction research in Arabic universities in comparison with the European/American research institutes and the possibilities to improve it.

### **Assumed Attendee Background**

The attendee has to be familiar with the general HCI curricula, as professor, student or researcher.

### **Discussion Topics**

The SIG is designed as a highly interactive activity for participants.

Each member of the SIG list (the five invited experts in each topic) has to cover and discuss one of the following topics:

- Studying HCI in Arabic universities
- The presence/absence of HCI domain in the syllabus of Arabic universities
- Overview upon the HCI research groups in Arabic universities
- International cooperation programs promoted by Arabic governments
- The HCI research/education programs in European/American universities

### *Studying HCI in Arabic universities*

In this section, one of the members of the SIG will discuss and present an overview about studying HCI in Arabic universities, faculties, schools.

### *The presence/absence of HCI domain in Arabic universities*

In this section, one of the members of the SIG will discuss and present an overview about the presence/absence of HCI domain in Arabic universities, faculties and schools.

### *Overview upon the HCI research groups in Arabic universities*

In this section, one of the members of the SIG list will discuss and present an overview about HCI research groups in Arabic universities, faculties and schools.

### *International cooperation programs promoted by Arabic governments*

In this section, one of the members of the SIG list will discuss and present an overview about International cooperation programs promoted by Arabic governments, Universities, faculties and schools.

### *The HCI research/education programs in European/American universities*

In this section, two of the members of the SIG list will discuss and present the current way in which HCI is studied in European/American foreign universities, faculties and schools.

### **Informal Schedule**

The aim of this SIG is to promote the active participation of the attendees.

The SIG will be scheduled as follows:

- Presentation of members and community role: 5'
- Each SIG member will present a brief introduction to his subject in 5 minutes (5 subjects, total=25 minutes).
- After that, the attendees is organized into five groups; each group is assigned one of the previous presented subjects to discuss during 30 minutes
  - The objective of this group session is to identify problems, challenges and future plans
  - The organization of this work group session will depend on the number of attendees
- Each group exposes their conclusions during the next 20 minutes (4 min each group)
- Final conclusion

### **Acknowledgements**

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### **Example citations**

- [1] <http://www.kau.edu.sa>
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- [3] <http://www.ul.edu.lb/>
- [4] <http://www.ruw.edu.bh/>
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