

Academic Leadership Forum

Thursday, 16 May 2019, Tartini Theatre

Forum Moderator

Dr. Dušan Lesjak, International School for Social and Business Studies, Slovenia

The Academic Leadership Forum aims to bring distinguished academics around the world to share their views and ideas about higher education challenges and solutions in a network society.

Forum Members



Prof. Giuseppe Cataldi, Professor of International Law, University of Naples "L' Orientale," Italy

Coordinator of the "EU Jean Monnet Network MAPS (Migration and Asylum Policy Systems)" (2018 – 2021)", he is the President of the "International Association of the Law of the Sea", Co-director and co-founder of "Diritti Umani e Diritto Internazionale", member of the Board of Editors of the "Italian Yearbook of International Law", and of EMUNI (Euro Mediterranean University)' Senate. Author and editor of books, papers, and articles on many international law fields. His research interests range from Human Rights and Migration Studies to the Relationship between domestic Law and International Law, and to the Law of the Sea. Vice-President (2008 – 2014) and Director of the Department of Social Sciences (2002 – 2015) in his University.



Dr. Gary DeLorenzo, Professor, Computer Information Systems Fellow and Distinguished Scholar, International Institute for Applied Knowledge Management, California University of PA USA

Dr. DeLorenzo spent more than 30 years in industry as a programmer, analyst, consultant and manager before entering academia at the California University of Pennsylvania. In addition to teaching capstone courses in the Computer Information Systems program, he has served as the Chair of the Business and Economics Department and Director of the Leadership Studies Program. His service-learning contributions include providing database consulting and application support services for the H. J. Heinz History Museum, the largest history museum in Pennsylvania. He has presented and published his research both nationally and internationally, was the recipient of the 2008 IACIS's Ben Bauman Award of Excellence, and was awarded Fellow and Distinguished Scholar, International Institute for Applied Knowledge Management in 2014. Dr. DeLorenzo serves as President to the International Association for Computer Information Systems Executive Board.



Prof. Pekka Kess, University of Oulu, Finland

Pekka Kess is a professor at the Department of Industrial Engineering and Management, University of Oulu, Finland. His research interests include management in general and knowledge, HR and strategic management especially. His special interests are in management of higher education organizations. As a professor, he has supervised some 300 thesis works at master level and in close collaboration with private and public organisations. He also has supervised around 30 doctoral students. He has extensive industrial experiences from chemical, steel, electronics and software companies. He has also started some businesses by being the CEO of the start-up companies. He has also worked on several R&D and education-related projects sponsored by the European Commission. He has acted as project evaluator EU commission and some science academies in Europe.



Dr. Karim Moustaghfir, Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane, Morocco

Karim Moustaghfir is Associate Professor of Human Resource Development and Coordinator of the Mediterranean Program at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane (NEASC Accredited Institution). He is also Visiting Research Fellow at the Centre for Business Performance – Cranfield School of Management (UK), and Visiting Faculty at the International School for Social and Business Studies (Slovenia). Karim Moustaghfir is also a member of the Senate of the Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI). After completing his Masters and Ph.D. degrees, he worked as Research Fellow at the University of Salento (Lecce – Italy). He published different articles and papers in the fields of knowledge asset management, strategic human resource development, entrepreneurial learning, innovation, organizational behavior, and performance. He also coordinates different national and international research/consulting projects in knowledge management, human resource development, knowledge and innovation, e-business management, e-Learning & distance education, and quality assurance in higher education. Karim Moustaghfir is a member of several journal editorial boards and conference boards and also a member of different professional associations in Morocco, Europe, and the US. Before his academic career, he held management positions in the banking and management consulting fields. Karim Moustaghfir speaks four languages (Arabic, French, Italian, and English)



Dr. Zbigniew Pastuszak, Dean of the Faculty of Economics, Chief of the MIS/SCM Department, Maria Skłodowska-Curie University

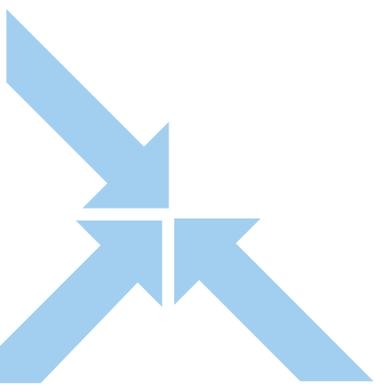
Zbigniew Pastuszak, Ph.D., Associate Professor; Dean of the Faculty of Economics, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Poland. Has been serving in various consulting and teaching posts for more than 25 years. Professor Pastuszak has supervised 5 doctor's (6 in progress), and more than 350 engineer's and master's theses; he has drafted and participated in grants from the Polish Science Committee, and the EACEA. He is the author of more than 90 international publications.

Dr. Pastuszak serves as the Editor in Chief for the International Journal of Management and Enterprise Development, as well as the Editorial Advisory Board member for 2 ISI, JCR listed international journals. He has received the Best Paper Award at the MIC 2007 (Slovenia), Computer Educator of the Year Award from IACIS (2008, USA), Emerald Literati Network 2012 Award for Excellence: Outstanding Paper (USA, 2012), as well as the Elsevier's Certificates of Outstanding Contribution in Reviewing for: Computers & Industrial Engineering; Expert Systems with Applications, and Industrial Marketing Management. He was the visiting professor at the Faculty of Engineering, and the Faculty of Business Administration, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand and International School for Social and Business Studies in Celje, Slovenia. During the two turns of dean's position at the Faculty of Economics at MCSU (2012-2016 and 2016-2019), he managed a team of 150 scientific employees, 20 administrative employees, 4,000 first and second-degree students (including 500 from abroad) and around 160 doctoral students. The Faculty's budget is approximately EUR 10 million per year. While performing the function of the head of the Faculty, the unit obtained about 20 research grants worth EUR 1 million, six new master's and undergraduate programs were launched, and approx. 6,000 graduates were promoted (including about 40 doctors).



Dr. Bordin Rassameethes, former vice rector, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand

Bordin Rassameethes received his Ph.D. in Management of Technology from Vanderbilt University in the United States. He holds an MS degree in Management from North Carolina State University, USA and BS in Computer Science from University of Miami, USA. Bordin Rassameethes was formerly Vice President and Dean of Faculty of Business Administration Kasetsart University in Thailand. He has been working in the field of technology management, which includes electronic commerce, information technology, rural informatics, and supply chains management, served as project managers for numerous research and consulting projects. He has received more than US\$10 million dollars research and consulting grants within the past ten years. Bordin Rassameethes has published more than forty articles in refereed journals, five books, and over 100 articles in magazines, serves as a columnist in Thailand Bloomberg BusinessWeek, advisor editor of three international journals namely International Journal of Business and Development Research (IJBDR), International Journal of Accounting Practice and Research (IJAPR) and International Journal of Sustainable Strategy and Research (IJSSR), and editorial board for many international journals.





Dr. Ali Tarabay, Provost, LIU Educational Group, Lebanon

Ali Tarabay is the Provost at the Lebanese International University (LIU). He has a Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of Kent at Canterbury, England. His academic areas of concentration include war, peace and the course of international geopolitics, cultural and communication studies and history and development of ideas far beyond politics and history. Over the past 18 years, he has gained experience in co-leading the expansion of LIU presence within Lebanon and in countries like in Yemen, Mauretania, and Senegal. As well as collaboratively working with peers in the broader process of academic planning and governance prioritization, partner affiliations, enhancing research, scholarship, and the diversity of program services. He is married with three children.

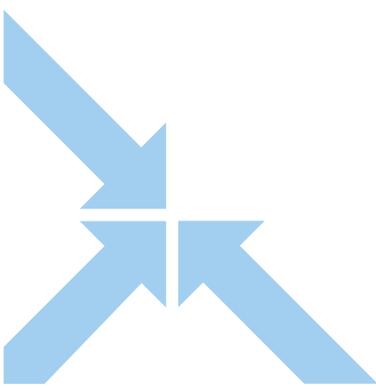


Prof. Dr. Abdelhamid El-Zoheiry, President, EMUNI, Piran, Slovenia

Abdelhamid El-Zoheiry graduated from the Medical School at Cairo University in 1985, obtaining a master's degree in 1989, and a doctoral degree in 1994 and was appointed to the Department of Ear, Nose and Throat Surgery at Cairo University School of Medicine. He was promoted to a full-time professor in 2004. He then pursued a career in education and research management, obtaining a master's degree in Health Professions Education from Maastricht University, the Netherlands in 2006. In the past ten years, he acquired extensive experience in international cooperation in education, research, and innovation, including the development of numerous international partnerships with Euro-Mediterranean institutions and organisations, and the management of numerous collaborative educational and research projects and related activities.

Since 2006, he has been working at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research as the International Cooperation Advisor for the Minister. From 2007 until 2012, he worked as the executive director of the Research Development and Innovation Programme at the Ministry of Scientific Research. In September 2012, he was appointed as the founding President of Heliopolis University in Cairo and the Senior Advisor for the Minister of Scientific Research. He represents Egypt in several regional/international policy committees and councils, including the Monitoring Committee for the Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation in Research and Technological Development (MoCo), the African Ministerial Council on Science and Technology (AMCOST), and the Africa-EU Research and Innovation high-level policy dialogue. He is an active member of several international societies and organisations and the founding President of the non-profit association Forum for Euro-Mediterranean Innovation in Action (FEMA).

The Management Board appointed Prof. Dr. Abdelhamid El-Zoheiry as President of EMUNI at its 24th session that took place in Rome, Italy in December 2013. His 5-year term in office started on 1st February 2014. During its 41st session, which took place in



Piran, Slovenia, in June 2018, the Management Board renewed the President's appointment for a 2nd term of 5 years, starting February 2019.



Prof. Dr. Dušan Lesjak, International School for Social and Business Studies, Slovenia

Dr. Dušan Lesjak, a professor of Management information system (2000) and Management of Education (2010), began teaching at the University of Maribor, Slovenia in 1985, and has been an active researcher, scholar and manager for the past 30 years focusing on Management and Funding of Higher Education, e-Learning and e-Business. He was a Fulbright Scholar, conducting Ph.D. research at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, New York University, and Boston University. In recent years he is engaged in many international research projects dealing with education, higher education and e-learning in EU, Western Balkans and the Middle East. He was a State Secretary at the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology from 2006 until 2008 and a special advisor to the minister, responsible for education, science, sport and culture from 2012 till 2013. He was an acting president of EuroMediterranean University - EMUNI from 2013 till 2014. He is editor-in-chief of the International Journal of Management in Education and member of editorial board of many other international scientific journals. He was awarded »Computer Educator of the year 2003« by the International Association for Information Systems, received a Golden plate from the University of Primorska in 2005 and EMUNI Seal for the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership in 2018.

